

Mecila: Fellowships FAQ

Q: Who can apply for a fellowship?

A.1: Postdoctoral Fellowship: The applicants need to hold a PhD degree in the humanities or social sciences and show a promising track record of training, research, and / or publication in Mecila's subject areas.

A.2: Senior Fully-funded Fellowship: Applications are welcome from scholars from the field of humanities and social sciences who have a senior position at a university or research institution and/or a track record of relevant research and publications in subjects linked to Mecila's research programme.

A.3: Senior Sabbatical Fellowship: Applications are welcome from scholars from the field of humanities and social sciences who have a senior position at a university or research institution and/or a track record of relevant research and publications in subjects linked to Mecila's research programme and that will keep receiving their income from their home institution.

Q: Will this fellowship be conducted digitally or in person?

A: Since March 2022 all Fellowships are conducted in presence in São Paulo.

Q: What is the amount paid for a fellowship?

A: It depends on the fellow's professional situation:

The Fully Funded Senior Fellowship is oriented to scholars who will not continue to receive their professional pay and the fellowship is calculated on their documented regular professional income, observing certain maximum limits.

The Senior Sabbatical Fellow continues to receive their professional pay and will only receive the allowances mentioned below.

The Postdoctoral Fellowships are oriented to scholars documented regular professional income, observing certain maximum limits. If the fellow does not currently hold a position, the fellowship is calculated according to previously held academic positions at their last institution or the corresponding salary scale of the University of São Paulo according to their seniority.

Housing allowances in São Paulo: Mecila will pay an additional allowance for housing to those who do not live in São Paulo already.

Q: Which further benefits does the fellowship entail?

A: Besides the access to an international community of excellent engaged scholars and a collaborative, interdisciplinary atmosphere, they will receive academic and administrative support. For the duration of the fellowship, all fellows will benefit from Mecila's digital infrastructure. This includes access to Mecila's Research Data Management and the specialised Mecila Library, where proposals for book purchases are welcome.

Q: Will I have a workspace in São Paulo?

A: Mecila provides workspaces for in-person fellowships both at [CEBRAP](#), in the neighbourhood of Vila Mariana, and at the [Centro de Difusão Internacional](#) building at the USP's Butantã campus, located on front of the School of Communications and Arts (ECA).

Q: Is it possible to receive Mecila's fellowship while engaging in other research or professional activities?

A: Mecila's fellowship requires exclusive dedication and a formal confirmation from the home institution that fellows are released from their teaching, research, and all other institutional duties during the fellowship period.

Q: What are Mecila's working languages?

A: Official events and the general colloquium are conducted in English but Portuguese and Spanish are also used, according to each group's specificity.

Q: Does Mecila provide housing for the fellows in São Paulo?

A: No, Mecila and its affiliated institutions do not provide housing for the fellows. However, our fellow's assistant can help you in finding a suitable accommodation.

Q: How is the evaluation process for the fellows structured?

A: After an initial screening made by our directors, applications are reviewed by a member of Mecila and by an external reviewer. Shortlisted candidates are invited for interviews with Mecila's directors and ranked. The Executive Board and the Advisory Board make the final decision. The final decision also considers aspects such as fellows' intersectional positionality and equilibrium in terms of gender, disciplines, and regions.