

REAL COLEGIO COMPLUTENSE AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

(Complutense University – Harvard University)



Call for **Postdoctoral Research Fellowships** at Harvard
University for Distinguished Junior Scholars

2022 Call (Academic Year 2023-2024)



26 Trowbridge Street - Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
Ph: + 1 (617) 495-3536 – www.rcc.harvard.edu - rcc@fas.harvard.edu

INTRODUCTION

Real Colegio Complutense at Harvard University (RCCHU) is a Complutense center affiliated to Harvard University (HU) since 1990, under the presidencies of Gustavo Villapalos and Derek C. Bok. It is the result of the agreement between Harvard University and the Universidad Complutense (UCM, Madrid, Spain). As part of an expansion project, RCCHU has incorporated four [Partner Universities](#), namely Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM, 2013), Universidad de Alcalá (UAH, 2014), Universidad de Sevilla (US, 2015), Universitat de València (UV, 2015), and Universidad de Oviedo (UOVI, 2022).

RCCHU is the only *World Class Excellence Center* in the US and has an exclusive relationship with the Ivy League university. It is a non-profit organization, aimed at providing academic, scientific, and cultural cooperation between Harvard University and the Spanish system of Higher Education. It promotes and develops activities in every realm of the knowledge triangle.

In accordance with articles II and IV of the General Establishment Agreement of Real Colegio Complutense, its Academic Council has decided to open the following call for Research Postdoctoral Grants to do research at schools, departments, or research centers at Harvard University during the Academic Year 2023/2024, starting from December 30th, 2022 to March 31st, 2023. The research stays must begin on September 1st, 2023.

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Postdoctoral Research Fellowship program offers two-year (24 months) fellowships for junior scholars who have recently earned their PhD with honors (or the highest equivalent academic distinction) during the period of full Academic Year 2021–2022 (from September 1st 2021 extended until December 2022). The candidates must come from Complutense University or any of the RCCHU Member Universities participating in the program; the PhD must have been done in these universities or in any research centers related with the Spanish CSIC Institutes; candidates must have enjoyed a FPU scholarship or equivalent in order to obtain their PhD title.

The program supports the development of a research project at any of the Harvard University Schools, Centers, or Departments in the fields of the sciences, humanities, law, medicine, public health, political science, economy, sociology, education, engineering, environmental sciences, natural resources, architecture, landscape studies, or any other field of

study offered by Harvard University.

After the two-year Harvard University research stay the candidate pristine university must accept its reinstatement for another two-year period with teaching duties as postdoctoral fellow (from 8 minimum to 12 suggested credits) in each academic year.

The number of fellowships in each call is limited and they will be conditioned yearly by the budgetary availability.

2. COVERAGE

Fellows will receive the HU approved official stipendium for a postdoctoral position of \$54,480 for first year and \$55,224 for second year. This award may be complemented through any other public and private sources of funding and will be compatible with any other public or private financial aid, funding, and income from any source and for the same purpose.

Before the end of the first academic year of the corresponding fellowship, and to have access to funding for a second academic year, the following requirements must be met:

- A.** Favorable report from the Director of the Department or Center where the fellowship is being carried out. Should the report be negative, the fellowship will be terminated.
- B.** A positive report from the RCCHU Director regarding the activities carried out by Fellows with the goal of the institutional strengthening of the RCCHU.
- C.** A positive evaluation from the Academic Council. This evaluation should consider the above-mentioned reports as well as a detailed performance report submitted by the candidate.

Upon completion of the second academic year, the following requirements must be met:

- A.** A favorable report from the Director of the Department or School where the fellowship is being carried out.
- B.** A positive report from the RCCHU Director regarding the activities carried out by Fellows with the goal of the institutional strengthening of the RCCHU.
- C.** A positive evaluation from the Academic Council. This evaluation should consider the above-mentioned reports as well as a detailed performance report submitted by the candidate.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Candidates must have completed their PhD (having enjoyed an FPU scholarship or equivalent) during the period of full Academic Year 2021(September 1st) – 2022, extended until December 2022. The candidates must come from Complutense University and any of the RCCHU Member Universities participating in the program; the PhD must have been done in these universities or in any research centers related with the Spanish CSIC Institutes; candidates must have enjoyed a FPU scholarship or equivalent to obtain their PhD title.

3.2 Provide a Formal Letter from department at the candidate´s university of origin, acknowledging its re-incorporation at the end of the two-year Harvard University postdoctoral research stay and under the contractual terms that better suit the university of origin´s policies and goals. This letter must include the teaching duties of the candidate (80-120 credits) during two academic years, and it must have the approval of the Departmental Council and be signed by the Department Head or the authority that the Member University designates.

3.3 Provide an Admission Letter from the Harvard University department, center or school stating that they are supporting the applicant´s research project, as well as sponsoring their J-1 Visa during the entire two-year period. The Admission Letter must be signed by a Tenure or Tenure-Track Faculty member that is willing to serve as the supervisor for the applicant. If the supervisor has a Tenure-Track Faculty appointment, the term of the appointment must be enough to cover the two years of the Postdoctoral Fellowship.

3.4 Provide a valid TOEFL iBT with a minimum score of 100 points. To be considered valid, TOEFL iBT scores must be sent directly from ETS to the RCCHU. Without this document the research grant cannot be awarded, as it is a necessary requirement. Expired TOEFL certificates, and any other English proficiency tests, will not be accepted.

Candidates must submit proof that they have taken the test on or before the stated deadline for applications, when completing their online application form.

3.5 Submit their application and annexes online through the RCCHU´s website (rcc.harvard.edu).

Applicants must submit the online application and all required admission materials no later than the stated deadline to be considered for admission. Only applications which fulfill all of the requirements of the call in due time will be taken into account. Those who do not

comply with the procedures and deadlines will not be taken into account.

We strongly recommend all the applicants to visit the webpages of the U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Madrid (<https://es.usembassy.gov/es/>) and Harvard International Office (HIO) in order to assure the viability of their programmed visit (<https://www.hio.harvard.edu/>).

5. DOCUMENTS

- 5.1 Online Application for the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship completed through the RCCHU website.
- 5.2 Certificate of having been granted a PhD, specifying the date of completion and the grade obtained.
- 5.3 *Curriculum Vitae* in accordance with the format required by the Harvard University School or Department that the candidate has applied to.
- 5.4 Departmental Letter acknowledging the re-incorporation of the candidate to their university of origin.
- 5.5 Admission Letter from the Harvard department, school or research center supporting the applicant's research project, as well as sponsoring a J-1 Visa for the entire two-year period. The Admission Letter must be signed by a Tenure or Tenure-Track Faculty member that is willing to serve as the supervisor for the applicant.
- 5.6 A current, valid TOEFL iBT official score report for English knowledge sent directly from ETS to the RCCHU, with a minimum result of 100 points.
- 5.7 Research Proposal for the project that will be carried out during the stay at Harvard University (10 pages maximum).

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applications will be considered and evaluated by the RCCHU Executive Committee, assisted by the Advisory Council and/or invited experts according to the following criteria:

6.1 The relevance and suitability of the Harvard hosting group and its adequacy with the purpose of this call.

6.2 The quality and viability of the research proposal.

6.3 The candidate's *curriculum vitae*.

The RCCHU Executive Committee will make a proposal on selected candidates. The RCCHU Academic Council will decide on selected candidates by the end of the month of May prior to the beginning of the applicable academic year. All the decisions will be based on the principles and procedures of an open, merit, and equal opportunity-based process. If deemed necessary, the RCCHU Academic Council may request an interview with the candidate. In these cases, the candidate will be contacted and given notice with due time.

7. OBLIGATIONS

7.1 Prior to joining the RCCHU, selected candidates must comply with the required mentioned documentation.

7.2 Promote and participate in the RCCHU activities during the period of their fellowship. Among others, these activities and projects may include those aimed at strengthening the RCCHU (such as conferences, seminars, cultural cycles, study groups, set-up, etc.) under the guidance of the RCCHU Director and RCCHU Academic Council members.

7.3 Make noticeable mention in any publication, lecture, presentation, or interview of their status as a Fellow of the RCCHU. This includes any publication, lecture, presentation or interview made during the time of their stay, as well as those published or carried out as a result of their stay.

7.4 Immediately notify the RCCHU of any grant, scholarship or funding obtained from any public or private organization for the same or a different research project.

7.5 Fellows have the obligation of notifying the RCCHU of any periods of travel or absence from the Harvard school, department or research center where they normally carry out their research during the full term of their scholarship. Fellows must fill out an information form available at rcc.harvard.edu where they must state the dates of travel or absence.

7.6 Submit a report, written in English, describing all work carried out at Harvard University

during the research period. The report must be submitted two weeks prior to the end of their stay or whenever they are required to do so by the RCCHU.

7.7 The report must include a letter addressed to the RCCHU Director and signed by the Fellow's supervisor at the Harvard school, center, or department where the Fellow carried out his or her activities and certifying that the Fellow concluded the research stage satisfactorily and within the period of duration of the grant. Both the letter and report must be submitted using the letterhead from the center or department.

7.8 At any point during the fellowship, the RCCHU Director may request a report, written in English, describing all work carried out at Harvard University up until that point of the research period. The report must be delivered electronically no later than one week after the request from the RCCHU Director.

7.9 Be aware that any breach of the above requirements and obligations without justified reason or prior permission will lead to the total or partial loss of rights and privileges granted by this Fellowship, including suspension of any further payments and the obligation to refund any aid already given.

8. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Applications must be submitted by March 31st, 2023, at 11:59 pm (EMT).