

VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAMME : CALL 2026

Applicant Guide

The University of Bordeaux offers funding through the Visiting Scholar programme within the framework of the France 2030 plan.

The aim of this programme is to enable the University's research laboratories and departments as well as its training components to benefit from the presence of scholars with recognized international careers and/or great expertise. Regardless of their length, these visits should benefit research laboratories, as well as students of the University of Bordeaux.

The ambition of this programme is to structure sustainable international collaborations in research and/or training between the University of Bordeaux and institutions abroad.

This programme is open to all fields of research, training and the impetus of new international partnerships.

Candidates' projects must focus primarily on **collaboration in research** or **educational transformation projects**, while also include a component related to teaching and knowledge dissemination.

In accordance with the legal status of visiting professor/researcher, a successful applicant will commit to **devote up to 16 hours per month to teaching and knowledge dissemination activities** in parallel with research activities (see "Application form" below).

Teaching and knowledge dissemination activities will be part of the guests' duties. These **are evaluated** during the selection process and must be proportional to the length of the requested stay.

Special attention will be given to the following elements:

- Contribution to **the research projects or educational transformation project** of the host structure in line with the scientific priorities of the University of Bordeaux
- Contribution to the teaching offer (16 hours per month to teaching and knowledge dissemination activities mentioned above) and **pedagogical innovation** policy of the University of Bordeaux
- **Candidate's home institution**, with the aim of initiating or strengthening one or more collaborations defined by the international and partnership strategy of the University of Bordeaux

Duration

The programme can fund stays ranging **from 1 to 10 months**.

Short stays (under one month duration) are not eligible to the programme.

Applications for longer stays (3 months or more) will be given priority and examined with particular attention.

Visits have to be scheduled between **September 2026** and **July 2027** and have to take place over **a single period**.

Eligibility

Eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Be employed by a foreign research and/or higher education institution
- Hold the title of Full Professor, Research Director or at least Senior Lecturer, Senior Research Fellow or Associate Professor in their home institution

- Provide a letter of support from the hosting training or research unit of the University of Bordeaux explaining the terms and objectives of the visit. The letter has to be co-signed by the host team leader and the director of the hosting unit (see « Application » part below)
- The age of the visiting scholar must not be over 67 years at the beginning of the contract
- The candidate must be legally able to be formally employed by the University of Bordeaux during the stay.

Funding and support services

Financial support of the programme covers:

- Visiting scholar's **salary** (equivalent to the salary of a university professor in France amounting to 4 775€ gross/month or 3 860€ net/month before tax)

Accommodation is not included.

Some non-exhaustive information about the cost of living in Bordeaux can be found following this link:

<https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Bordeaux>

- **A round trip** from the scholar's place of residence within the limits of :
 - 800€ for travel within Europe
 - 1000€ for North Africa and Turkey
 - 1500€ for North America
 - 2000€ for the rest of Africa and the rest of the world

Any other travel(s) during the visit (conferences, seminars, other institutions visits etc.) must be agreed upon and paid for by the host structure from its own budget or financed by the guest.

Visiting scholars will have access to the libraries and restaurants of the University of Bordeaux.

They will also be able to benefit from a 75% subsidy on public transport passes (bus, tram, bicycle).

Health insurance

For short stays (less than 3 months) scholars from non-EU countries must take out a travel insurance covering the entire duration of their stay.

Scholars who have a health coverage in another European Union country may apply for the European Health Insurance Card which will enable them to cover their potential health expenses in France.

Holders of a "Passeport Talent-Chercheur" visa (stay of more than 3 months) and their dependents (spouse and children) present in Bordeaux will be able to benefit from basic French health coverage (70% of health expenses covered).

All candidates are also required to take out repatriation insurance for the whole stay.

Support provided by the university

For long stays (more than 3 months), the laureates may benefit from :

- Support from the Welcome Center for International Researchers for their administrative procedures : immigration formalities, social security affiliation, taxation, school enrollment of minor children, opening a bank account, etc.
- Free attendance to French as a foreign language courses (also open to spouses) organized by the Welcome Center
- Consultancy or assistance from the Research, International, Partnerships and Innovation Department if the mobility includes a partnership or project development component

Schooling for children aged 3 and over

In France, schooling is compulsory for all children from 3 to 16 years old. Education is provided mainly by public establishments which are free of charge with the exception of canteen fees and extracurricular activities. Enrolment is open all year round and is based on the city and neighborhood of residence.

The Welcome Center for International Researchers is available to assist programme laureates with school registration procedures. It can also provide information on childcare options for children under 3.

Application

Preparing your application

Letter of support

First and foremost, the candidate must identify and establish contact with the research laboratory and/or training unit within the University of Bordeaux that would like to welcome him/her in the framework for a joint project.

In order to meet the eligibility criteria, the applicant has to provide a letter of support. This document must:

- Detail the objectives of the visit and its expected impact for the structure and the institution (specify the duration of the project, and information concerning the infrastructure, equipment and services needed to carry out the activities)
- Be co-signed by the host team leader and the director of the hosting unit

Application

The application must be **jointly drafted by the applicant and the local contact** (the person in charge of hosting the applicant at the host institution).

The co-authors (the applicant and the local contact) have to explain the strategic, scientific and/or pedagogical importance of the visit for the host structure, the concerned research department and/or training component and the University of Bordeaux.

In the framework of the implementation of teaching and knowledge dissemination activities (up to 16 hours per month) the applicant's local contact must contact **the relevant doctoral school (ED)** and **training unit** (UF, UFR, département pédagogique) to ensure that the activities proposed in document C are feasible (in terms of student attendance and the possibility of scheduling courses).

Document C

The names of the persons in charge of training programmes (Bachelor's, Master's) with whom the local contact and/or the applicant have been in contact prior to submission must be entered in document C.

A clear distinction must be made between courses aimed at Bachelor's and Master's students, those offered to PhD students, and seminars and conferences aimed at laboratories and departments.

Some examples of teaching and knowledge dissemination activities that can be proposed as part of the visit:

- Seminar or conference for students and/or staff from the host laboratory
- Courses for Master's and Bachelor's students
- Workshops
- Tutoring for students
- Co-supervision of a trainee in the host laboratory
- Various pedagogical projects (virtual café, round table, battles, Serious game, etc.)
- Exchanges with students (internship or exchange advice, exchanges on a subject concerning the research carried out by the student and/or visiting scholar etc.)

- Any other activity aimed at students (to be specified in document A).

The laureate's local contact will be responsible for setting up the proposed activities and monitoring them during the visit period.

Application submission

Following registration on the platform (<https://aap.u-bordeaux.fr/siaap/pub/appel/list>) the applicant will be able to **download the forms A (Project proposal), B (Ethical issues) and C (Courses and dissemination activities template) in Word format.**

In order to submit his/her application on the platform, the applicant should follow the following steps:

- Fill in 2 online administrative forms (form°1: personal data of the applicant, form°2: administrative information related to the project, see Annex)
- Attach 6 individual documents listed below in PDF format
 1. Letter of support co-signed by the head of the host team and the director of the structure
 2. Document A (Project proposal) completed with the help of the host team
 3. Document B (Ethical issues)
 4. Document C (Courses and dissemination activities template) completed with the help of the host structure
 5. CV and summary of main achievements (list of main publications, patents, grants and other scientific communications and awards) of the applicant on 6 pages maximum
 6. Letter of support from the candidate's home institution written in English or French

Before the validation of the application, the applicant must ensure that it is complete. All the above-mentioned documents are mandatory. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

If you have any problems downloading documents A (Project Proposal), B (Ethical issues) or C (Courses and dissemination activities template), please contact us at accueil.chercheurs@u-bordeaux.fr

Evaluation process

Selection criteria will be based on the project's fit with the objectives of the call as outlined above.

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria :

- Quality of the application
- Quality of the applicant's background (experience and main achievements)
- Objectives targeted by the program
- The applicant's project
- Expected impact for the host team and possible impact for the University of Bordeaux

Project report

Selected candidates will be required to submit a mobility report **no later than two months after the end of their stay**. They will also be contacted two years after their visit as part of a long-term program review.

Deadlines of the 2026 call *

- Start of the application process: October 7, 2025

- Application deadline: January 11, 2026
- Notification of the results: end of April 2026
- Beginning of the stays: from September 2026

* any change to the provisional timetable will be announced on the dedicated web page.

Contact

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VISITING SCHOLARS 2025

ANNEX – Administrative application forms to be filled in within the online application platform.
For information only!

1. General information	
Scholar's personal data	
Family name	
Family name at birth	
First name	
Current position	
Date of first PhD (yyyy/mm/dd)	

Gender (F/M)	
Nationality	
Country of birth	
Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	
Country of residence	
Scholar's contact information	
Current Institution name	
Laboratory/Department	
Street name	
Number	
Town	
Postal code	
Country	
Phone number	
Phone number 2	
Email	
Did you already come to Bordeaux in the past?	Yes/no
Did you already benefit from this financial support?	Yes/no
Does your home institution have a similar funding scheme for visiting scholars?	Yes/no
2. Mobility project information	
The title of your mobility project or the main scientific area of the project	
The duration of the stay (in months)	
Proposed start date (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Host structure	<i>(Department/Team/Unit/Laboratory)</i>
Local host name (person who will supervise your stay within the host structure)	