

Request for Applications: Scholars-in-Residence Program at the Columbia Global Centers

RFA issue date: January 20, 2026

Deadline for submissions: March 9, 2026 at 11:59pm EDT

Purpose

[Columbia Global](#) aims to advance knowledge and foster global engagement to address complex global challenges through interdisciplinary research, education, collaboration, and directed action.

We invite Columbia University faculty and researchers to apply for funding to **engage with one or more of the Columbia Global Centers during Summer 2026, Fall 2026, or Winter 2026/2027** on projects designed to advance research, build partnerships, and/or create new learning experiences for students. Specifically, projects may focus on:

- The development or planning of **educational experiences** for Columbia University students (such as immersive global learning or travel-study tours)
- The planning and/or convening of **events** that aim to foster collaboration between Columbia University and local, regional, and/or global partners
- Exploring and/or deepening **partnerships** with local institutions, non-profits, or governments, with the goal of advancing collaborative initiatives
- The planning, implementation, and/or dissemination of **research**

[Previous Scholars-in-Residence](#) have:

- Designed a travel seminar on Qing imperial architecture in Beijing
- Led a glacier field trip and film event as part of a future “Santiago Water Crisis” course in Santiago
- Conducted dozens of interviews with NGOs, scholars, and government officials on HIV prevention services in Nairobi

Please note:

- We welcome proposals from faculty and researchers across Columbia University schools and research institutes, including in the humanities, social sciences, arts, and architecture.
- Previous experience in the country/region or with the Global Centers is not required.
- We strongly encourage proposals for interdisciplinary work.
- Depending on the number of proposals received, priority may be given to faculty and researchers who have not yet visited a Global Center.

Overview of the Columbia Global Centers

The [Columbia Global Centers](#) are the University's physical and intellectual gateway to the world. Located in 11 cities across four continents, the Global Centers serve as regional hubs for research, education, training, collaboration, and social impact programming. With staff who have deep connections in their respective countries and regions, the Global Centers drive transformative connections between the University and the world, advancing knowledge exchange, deepening global dialogue, and building local partnership networks to advance innovation and impact.



Program Benefits

This program provides Columbia University faculty with a unique opportunity to advance their teaching, research, and professional work within an international context, while immersing themselves in the academic and cultural environment of a Columbia Global Center. Each Scholar-in-Residence will be awarded up to \$5,000 to support travel, accommodation, and project-related expenses.

Before their residency, faculty will receive pre-departure support—including logistical guidance and consultation(s) to support advance project planning—to ensure that they are well-prepared for their stay.

During their residency, faculty will have access to a workspace, the chance to establish connections with local/regional institutions and partners, and the opportunity to collaborate with Global Center staff on events, workshops, and other means of scholarly exchange. Faculty will also have the opportunity to establish partnerships with various institutions in the country/region.

Upon their return, scholars will be encouraged to share their experiences with others at Columbia.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be full-time faculty or researchers at Columbia University. This includes full-time Officers of Instruction and Officers of Research, except those with "adjunct" or "visiting" in their title. Postdoctoral researchers are not eligible for this opportunity.
- Applicants must apply to serve as Scholars-in-Residence at one of the following eligible Global Centers:
 - [Amman, Jordan](#)
 - [Athens, Greece](#)
 - [Beijing, China](#)
 - [Istanbul, Turkey](#)
 - [Mumbai, India](#)
 - [Nairobi, Kenya](#)
 - [Rio de Janeiro, Brazil](#)
 - [Santiago, Chile](#)

- o **Note:** Faculty interested in serving as a scholar-in-residence at the Global Center in Paris should apply through the Paris Center's distinct [application process](#), which will open in early 2026.
- The duration of residencies may be anywhere from **ten days to eight weeks**.
- Applicants are encouraged to consider the thematic focus areas of the relevant Global Center as they develop their project idea (please refer to the links above).
- Scholars-in-Residence are encouraged to participate in relevant events organized by the Global Center.

Application Process and Deadlines

Eligible faculty are requested to submit applications via the Submittable Platform, which can be accessed [here](#).

Applications are due March 9, 2025 at 11:59pm EDT. Award announcements are anticipated in early April.

Key Application Elements

- Project overview
- Description of how the proposed project will foster collaboration with local, regional, and/or global partners
- Description of how the relevant Global Center's resources, expertise, and networks will enrich your project
- Brief schedule of activities
- Budget (please use [this template](#)) and brief rationale
- CV

Questions

If you have questions about this call for applications, please contact Becca Leaman at rl35411@columbia.edu using the following subject line: "Scholars-in-Residence RFA question."