

Closing date: 30 April 2019



This call for applications is aimed at researchers wishing to leave temporarily their usual national, institutional and disciplinary frameworks in order to pursue an ambitious project. The Nantes Institute for Advanced Study does not exclude any discipline (from social sciences and humanities to theoretical physics, biology, medicine, etc.) but encourages works enlightening the institutional underpinnings of our societies and their evolutions (especially in the relation to territory, body, work, economy, etc...).

Every academic year, the Nantes Institute for Advanced Study, a state-approved public benefit foundation, invites about thirty Fellows selected for the quality and originality of their work. It offers 9-month-research stays (see exceptions below), **from October to June, during which research Fellows can pursue a project of their choice, freed from their administrative or teaching obligation.** Fellows are only asked to actually reside in Nantes during their fellowship, to take part into the weekly seminars in which each of them is expected to present the state of their works, and to participate to the three weekly meals giving them opportunities for fruitful conversations.

The IAS-Nantes provides its Fellows with high quality personalized assistance (logistic and scientific). Its library hosts the personal collection of books, journals and archives of Emile Poulat, one of the founding French sociologist and historian of religion. The Library also works in collaboration with all local and national university libraries, as well as other libraries abroad. The IAS-Nantes is located near the historical part of the city, and the Diplomatic Archives Centre. Accommodation and offices are located at the same site, on the banks of the Loire River; contributing to a unique experience in exceptional surroundings. For additional information about the Nantes-IAS: <http://www.iea-nantes.fr/en/>

How to apply?

Applications must be submitted **online by 30 April 2019**, with the following documents to be uploaded in PDF format:

- An exhaustive and up to date curriculum vitae, including a list of publications;
- A research project for the period of the Fellowship in Nantes (from 5 to 10 pages, in French or in English);
- Two significant publications: articles, books or collective books (if one of the publications is a book, please indicate which chapter(s) the reviewers should pay more attention to and please provide these chapters as pdf files).

Eligibility criteria:

- **Qualification:** candidates must hold a Ph.D or have already published a book
- **Administrative situation:** candidates should be able to be relieved from their teaching and administrative obligations during the period of their fellowships in Nantes.
- **Language skills:** candidates are required to be able to hold a conversation in English or in French (the knowledge of the French language is not compulsory). A linguistic assistance is offered during seminars and conferences.

Further details:

- **Age:** There is no age limit
- **Discipline:** No discipline is excluded. The research proposals must be compatible with the residency obligation (no long absences or field works are possible unless the field work is in Nantes).
- **Administrative conditions:** In most cases, candidates only need to obtain a leave of absence authorisation from their home institutions. The IAS draws a mutual agreement with the selected candidates, setting out all the material, financial and administrative conditions of their stay in Nantes. If necessary the IAS can also draw an agreement with the University employing the Fellow.
- **Financial condition:** Candidates are asked to seek for financial support from their home institution whenever possible. The IAS then compensates, within the limit of remuneration of a French researcher with the same experience level, the eventual loss of absence of income or the difference of living standards. The amount of the allowance depends on each situation and is subject to agreement between parties.
- **Duration of the stays:** Candidates are encouraged to apply for 9-month fellowships, from 1 October 2020 to 30 June 2021. For those who could not take such a long leave, a few 6 or 3-month stays are available. The possibility to arrive at the end of August is offered to Fellows accompanied by children who need to start school in September.
- **Alone or accompanied:** Fellows can reside in Nantes with their partners and children under 18. The IAS provides accommodation adapted to the composition of the families. However pets are not accepted.

Admission procedure

The admission procedure is twofold: a scientific phase (from May to November) followed by an administrative phase for the selected candidates (from December to March).

During the scientific phase, each application is first assessed on the basis of a double expertise using the highest international standards. Then, a member of the scientific advisory board evaluates the adequacy of the application with the Institute's policy. The final selection takes into account the personal commitment of the candidate, the ambition, quality and originality of the research proposal. On top of that, the IAS intends to balance geographical origins, disciplines, ages and sex of the candidates, trying to create connections between the different applicants or projects.

Should you have any queries regarding the admission procedure, please contact admission@iea-nantes.fr