



# FAPESP-funded PhD scholarships/Postdoctoral fellowships (*CMM LATAM Unit-specific*) – Round 1

## Application Guidelines

The CMM LATAM Unit secured an important grant from FAPESP, a funding agency based in São Paulo State, to support research development on endemic mycoses in Latin America (for more information, please visit: <https://agencia.fapesp.br/new-center-will-study-endemic-fungal-diseases-in-latin-america/55210>).

We have **a total of six** (three of each type) **FAPESP-funded PhD scholarships and Postdoctoral fellowships available** for **four years** (or **up to five years** if spending one year abroad) to support the development of projects focused on three endemic mycoses in Latin America: histoplasmosis, sporotrichosis and cryptococcosis (*C. gattii*). These PhD (applicant without MSc degree) scholarships and Postdoctoral fellowships also include funds for some consumables and travel. However, the awarded scholar/fellow must work in São Paulo State, and the project must have a collaborator who is a Principal Investigator (PI) of the CMM LATAM Unit based in São Paulo state. You may apply for either **one PhD scholarship OR one Postdoctoral fellowship – not both**.

You can submit a project application:

- ONLY for a FAPESP-funded scholarship/fellowship, by completing **SECTIONS A and C** of the [application form](#).
- To both funding streams (CMM International Fund and FAPESP-funded scholarship/fellowship) by completing SECTIONS A, B and C of the [application form](#).

**Attention!** *In order to be eligible to apply to a FAPESP-funded scholarship/fellowship project:*

- You MUST contact the CMM LATAM director and/or local coordinators before applying for the FAPESP-funded scholarship/fellowship due to FAPESP requirements (details on the section below). You can contact them by emailing [cmmlatam@usp.br](mailto:cmmlatam@usp.br).
- You MUST demonstrate in the application (Section A) that you have additional funding to support your project, since this funding cover a FAPESP scholarship/fellowship for up to five years. **ATTENTION!** *Additional consumables may be requested to develop the project after the award is granted, subject to approval by the CMM LATAM team.*

Any queries regarding the application process should be sent to [cmmlatam@usp.br](mailto:cmmlatam@usp.br).

# Details:

## 1. FAPESP scholarship/fellowship description and amounts:

| PhD (applicant without MSc degree) scholarship  | Amount             |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>4 years</b>  |                    |
| Year 1 and 2: £810.60/month (R\$5790.00/month)  | £ 19,454.40        |
| Year 3 and 4: £999.60/month (R\$7140.00/month)  | £ 23,990.40        |
| + 20% of the annual value of the scholarship for consumables and travel                                   | £ 8,688.96         |
| <b>Possibility of extending for 1 year abroad*</b>  |                    |
| possibility of +1 year abroad: value depends on the country of work ( <a href="#">see FAPESP values</a> ) | £ 22,320.00        |
| + 10% the total amount granted for monthly maintenance abroad for consumables and travel                  | £ 2,232.00         |
| + health insurance  | £ 2,822.40         |
| + allowance for installation  | £ 1,860.00         |
| + allowance for airplane ticket/ economy fare   | £ 560.00           |
| <b>Total (approximately)</b>  | <b>£ 81,928.16</b> |

*\*Subject to FAPESP approval (based on quality of application and justification for the project)*

| Postdoctoral fellowship   | Amount              |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>4 years</b>  |                     |
| £1759.80/month (R\$12570.00/month)  | £ 84,470.40         |
| + 10% of the annual value of the fellowship for consumables and travel                                    | £ 8,447.04          |
| <b>Possibility of extending for 1 year abroad*</b>  |                     |
| possibility of +1 year abroad: value depends on the country of work ( <a href="#">see FAPESP values</a> ) | £ 38,160.00         |
| + 10% the total amount granted for monthly maintenance abroad for consumables and travel                  | £ 3,816.00          |
| + health insurance  | £ 2,822.40          |
| + allowance for installation  | £ 1,860.00          |
| + allowance for airplane ticket/ economy fare   | £ 560.00            |
| <b>Total (approximately)</b>  | <b>£ 141,455.84</b> |

*\*Subject to FAPESP approval (based on quality of application and justification for the project)*

## 2. Requirements:

- Applicants to the FAPESP scholarship/fellowship should review the **FAPESP's Terms and Conditions** for [PhD \(applicant without MSc degree\) scholarship](#) or for [Postdoctoral fellowship](#).
- Each scholarship covers 4 years, with the possibility of extending to 5 years if spending 1 year abroad.

- Applicants can **only apply** for 1 scholarship for PhD **OR** 1 fellowship for Postdoctoral (can't be for both).
- We will award one PhD scholarship plus one Postdoctoral fellowship to each thematic group. This means one of each for projects working with histoplasmosis, one of each for sporotrichosis and one of each for cryptococcosis (*C. gattii*).
- When applying for a **PhD (applicant without MSc degree) scholarship, you CAN already indicate a candidate in the application form to speed up the process if awarded.** This scholarship is ONLY for candidates without a Master's degree. The candidate **MUST NOT have failed any classes** during their undergraduate studies. We also encourage suggestions of candidates from Latin America, as our mission is to provide capacity building in the region. **If you do not have a candidate to suggest, you can recruit a PhD candidate after receiving the award. Be aware that you will be required to submit to the CMM LATAM Unit team the supporting documents (check section 4) from the candidate for FAPESP approval. ATTENTION!** Those selected for the PhD scholarship will be required to submit official documents, their project, complete the paperwork for the ethics committee, have an updated [Lattes CV](#) and take an English test (with the exception of native English speakers) to register for the Dermatology Postgraduate Programme at USP Medical School in accordance with the [postgraduate terms](#). International candidates DO NOT need to know Portuguese to apply, but they are encouraged to learn during the first years of the position.
- When applying for a **Postdoctoral fellowship, you MUST describe the relevant skills, qualifications and competencies the candidate must have to carry out the project.** The candidate's recruitment process will be organised after the project approval. An international call for candidates will be open to comply with FAPESP terms and conditions. We expect the project lead will lead and participate in the candidate's selection process.
- Due to paperwork specifications, the **official supervisor will need to be Professor Carlos Taborda or another CMM LATAM Unit PI based in São Paulo State and eligible to supervise under the FAPESP grant agreement.** However, the project lead will be expected to act as co-supervisor and day-to-day lead on the candidate's project.
- **Membership of the [CMM-FAILSAFE Network](#) is a prerequisite** when applying for these scholarships/fellowships. The lead applicant and all co-applicants/collaborators are required to be members of the network (for FREE membership apply [here](#)).
- All applications submitted must always have a CMM LATAM Unit PI based in São Paulo State as a collaborator or co-applicant, which includes the local coordinators and director ([CMM LATAM Unit](#)).

### 3. Remit of the Round 1 for CMM LATAM Unit-related projects

In line with the **CMM LATAM Unit** aims and mission, we are looking for projects focused on tackling challenges on endemic mycoses in Latin America. To be eligible for this **Round 1**, the project needs to cover/demonstrate:

- One of the 3 endemic mycoses (pillars): histoplasmosis, sporotrichosis AND/OR cryptococcosis (*C. gattii*)
- At least one of the research themes: Microbial Evolution and Pathogenesis; Biomarkers and Diagnostics; Burden, Natural History and Clinical Management; One Health; AND/OR Education and Outreach.
- At least one of the following subthemes within each mycosis:

| Histoplasmosis   | Sporotrichosis   | Cryptococcosis   |
|--|--|--|
| Defining epidemiology and socio-economic drivers of Histoplasmosis                     | Characterizing the epidemiology of sporotrichosis                        | Evaluating clinical samples  |
| Evaluating the immune response of hosts developing clinical forms of histoplasmosis    | Investigating the immunity of different clinical forms of sporotrichosis | Creating a registry notification system;                               |
| Establishing new strategies to characterize virulence of <i>Histoplasma capsulatum</i> | Establishing new strategies to characterize virulence of the pathogen    | Applying CRISPR-Cas genetic tools to validate in biological models     |
| Developing vaccines to combat fungal pathogens of endemic diseases                     | Developing base for vaccine studies                                      | Evaluating the susceptibility of clinical isolates to antifungal drugs |
|  |  | <i>Integrating data from gene co-expression networks</i>               |

- Detailed application with scientific excellence
- Collaborative/Network with LATAM researchers
- Multidisciplinary and international collaborations
- A multicentric approach

## 4. Application process:

Applicants **MUST** complete all required sections of the [Application Form](#) and adhere to specified word limits where stated. **Application forms must be submitted in .docx (Word) format.** Application forms submitted in any other format (including pdf documents) will not be accepted.

**Supporting documents (for PhD scholarship ONLY if applicant suggested a PhD candidate):**  
**MUST be uploaded as a single PDF file when submitting the application.**

- Candidate's undergraduate academic record issued as an official document.
- Curricular Summary of the candidate. *Please check the FAPESP specifications here:*  
<https://fapesp.br/6351/instructions-for-the-elaboration-of-a-curricular-summary>

The application form and supporting documents (if applicable) must be submitted via the [submission portal](#) by the deadline. You will receive acknowledgement of your application within seven working days. Please review your application thoroughly before submission to confirm that it meets all specified requirements outlined above.

**Deadline:** Submit your full application and documents by **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026** through our [submission portal](#). Notifications of awards will be made by the end of May 2026.

## 5. Assessment criteria for the FAPESP-funded PhD scholarship/Postdoctoral fellowship project applications:

- Scientific merit: 40% (Project quality, relevance, balance between risk and innovation/impact)
- Contribution to the LATAM ecosystem: 30% (capacity building in Latin America – of people, technology and methods for the region)
- Adequacy of the team: 20% (multidisciplinary, relevant expertise, candidate professional level/development and academic excellence OR detailed project-relevant skill description)
- Adequacy for the timeframe and clear long-term funding/plans: 10%

Applications will be reviewed by the **Peer Review Panel (PRP)**, which will use a standardized scoring template. PRP members will be listed on the website before reviews begin. Members with conflicts of interest will not participate in relevant discussions.

Following a review of all applications, a ranked list will be used to select applications for funding.

## 6. Notification of Review Results

Successful projects will be notified within 2 weeks of the PRP decision.

- **PhD candidates** must complete USP postgraduate registration requirements before starting. Only candidates without a MSc can be accepted.
- **Postdoctoral fellows** will be recruited through an **international call** after project approval. Recruitment and interviews may take up to **two months**, and fellows should begin **as soon as possible** after selection.

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified as soon as possible. Specific feedback may be provided, although not guaranteed.

## 7. Useful Resources

- FAPESP scholarship/fellowship Terms and Conditions: [PhD \(applicant without MSc degree\) scholarships](#) | [Postdoctoral fellowships](#).
- [FAQs](#)



- [CMM LATAM website](#)
- [CMM-FAILSAFE Network Membership](#)
- [MRC CMM website](#)

**You can contact us for any questions at [cmmlatam@usp.br](mailto:cmmlatam@usp.br).**