

# International Visiting Chairs Program – 2024

Deadline for applications:  
December 3, 2024, 12.00 PM Paris time

Hi! PARIS is pleased to announce and present our **International Visiting Chairs Program**.

**Hi! PARIS** is the interdisciplinary Center on Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence for Science, Business and Society created by [Institut Polytechnique de Paris](#) (IP Paris) and [HEC Paris](#) and joined by [Inria](#) (Centre Inria de Saclay). The Center supports [Hi! PARIS Cluster 2030](#) (funded within France 2030), a world class research, training and innovation hub in partnership with CNRS, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées and Université de Technologie de Troyes. One of the central aims of Hi! PARIS is to **conduct breakthrough and multidisciplinary research on AI and Data Science**.

Hi! PARIS, as part of its commitment to promoting international scientific exchanges, is launching the "Hi! PARIS International Visiting Chairs" program. **This program is designed to encourage scientists affiliated with international institutions to spend extended periods of time within Hi! PARIS Cluster 20230 affiliated research teams in France.** The duration can range from several weeks to a year. The goal is to facilitate high-quality international collaborations, while at the same time giving greater visibility to our research institutions.

To make this program accessible to a broader spectrum of candidates, three categories of Chairs are proposed:

- 1. International Visiting Chair "Starting Career" (5 to 10 years of post-PhD experience)**
  - Targets permanent researchers with between 5- and 10-years' postdoctoral experience.
  - Offers the possibility of a 4- to 6-month research stay spread over a 3-year period.
- 2. International Visiting Chair "Advanced Career" (10 years plus of post-PhD experience)**
  - For researchers of international stature with established careers.
  - Enables a longer commitment, with a stay of 8 to 10 months spread over 4 years.

These two first initiatives are designed to enrich the research ecosystem in France, by integrating global perspectives and stimulating long-term international collaboration.

- 3. International Visiting Fellow**
  - Targets permanent researchers with 5+ years' post-PhD experience.
  - Offers the possibility of a 1 to 2-month research stay as a unique visit.

## Commitments

Commitments of visiting chairs during your stay in Hi! PARIS:

- **Academic participation:** Visiting chairs and fellows are expected to give lectures, take part in seminars, and, whenever possible, contribute to doctoral courses thereby participating to the scientific vitality of Hi! PARIS
- **Publication and affiliation:** All scientific work carried out during the stay or resulting from the stay must acknowledge the support of Hi! PARIS.

Hi! PARIS commitment to the visiting chairs and fellows:

- **Work environment:** Hi! PARIS is committed to providing a high-quality research environment, conducive to innovation and scientific collaboration.
- **Financial support:** A financial allowance of 4 to 7 K€ per month (depending on the level of seniority of the applicant) will be granted to the laureates of the program for the duration of their stay at the host institution. Specific agreements covering travel expenses can be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

## Eligibility and admissibility

To apply and participate in Hi! PARIS International Visiting Chair Program, the candidates must meet the following criteria to ensure effective and productive involvement in Hi! PARIS research teams in France.

Eligible host research teams are the Hi! PARIS Cluster 2030 affiliated research teams within Institut Polytechnique de Paris schools (École polytechnique, ENSTA Paris, École nationale des ponts et chaussées (ENPC), ENSAE Paris, Télécom Paris, Télécom SudParis), HEC Paris, including Inria (Centre Inria de Saclay) and CNRS.

General Terms & Conditions:

- **Main activity abroad:** Applicants must have a full-time affiliation with an institution outside of France.
- **Employer authorization:** A written authorization from the main employer must be provided. This must confirm that he/she authorizes the candidate's stay in a Hi! PARIS entity and the acceptance of remuneration by Hi! PARIS during the periods of presence.
- **Attendance commitment:** Candidates must commit to the length of stay agreed with the host research team. To the extent possible, the dates of the stays will be planned.
- **Work program:** Each candidate must propose a detailed work program in collaboration with the host project teams.

Specific conditions for candidates in the "Starting Career" category:

- **Development of international collaborations:** Applicants must provide proof of their commitment to establishing and developing international collaborations.
- **Letter of support:** A letter of support from the applicant's home institution is required to confirm that the program is in line with the researcher's career objectives.
- **Letters of recommendation:** While not strictly required, applicants are strongly encouraged to solicit letters of recommendation from international colleagues or experts who can attest to the competence and contribution to the applicant's field or research.

Incomplete applications will not be admissible, and no applications will be accepted after the submission deadline.

## Application requirements

Applicants are asked to apply on the online platform on the Hi! PARIS website <https://www.hi-paris.fr/hi-paris-international-visiting-chairs-program/>.

The project proposal written in English should be composed of **one single pdf file** combining the following documents:

1. **Cover letter**
2. **Detailed Curriculum Vitae:** Provide an up-to-date CV including your academic background, publications, previous research experience and any other elements relevant to your application.
3. **Research project:** Propose a detailed research proposal for the duration of the Visiting Chair, including your objectives, prospects for technological development, and potential applications or technology transfer.

4. **Work plan:** Propose a plan detailing the periods of visit envisaged and the total duration envisaged for the Visiting Chair, as well as a provisional schedule of visits.
5. **Detailed opinion of the host team leader:** Include a detailed opinion from the host team leader justifying the research project and the additional expertise provided by the visiting researcher. If applicable, the letter should be signed by the laboratory director (or project team leader), validating the suitability of the proposed project for the team's and the lab's objectives.

**Complementary document:**

6. **Identity documents:** A copy of your valid passport will be asked at the end of the process to verify your identity and nationality.

**Tips for a successful application:**

- Make sure you satisfy the criteria mentioned above, and make sure that your application is complete and is not lacking any of the requested documents.
- Consider the overall goals and expectations of the Hi! PARIS International Invited Chair program when writing your research proposal. Work with people in charge of your host team to exchange ideas and get help in creating a compelling and comprehensive research project.
- Your research project and work plan must clearly demonstrate how they fit and complement the host team's activities and objectives.

## Evaluation process and selection criteria

The evaluation process is launched as soon as the deadline is passed. The proposals are evaluated by a panel of experts issued from the Hi! PARIS Academic Operating Committee (composed of researchers, academic representatives from the institutions involved in the Center) and members of the Hi! PARIS Scientific Advisory Board. External reviewers could be involved in the evaluation process, if necessary and according to their expertise. The funding decision is validated by the Hi! PARIS Academic Operating Committee under the responsibility of the Hi! PARIS Executive Director.

The project proposals will be prioritized according to the following criteria:

- Profile of the candidate (quality of the CV and excellence of the track record)
- Research project excellence (subject; quality, innovation and feasibility of the project)
- Host research team, supervision, and environment
- Relevance to the program's objectives

## Important dates (indicative)

- December 03, 2024, at noon (Paris Time) – Deadline for applications
- December - February 2025 – Evaluation of applications
- End of February 2025 – Funding decision and notification to applicants
- From March 2025 – Starting date of the Hi! PARIS International Invited Chair position

## Further information

- For any further information on the Center: <https://www.hi-paris.fr/>
- For any further information, please contact [project@hi-paris.fr](mailto:project@hi-paris.fr) with “Hi! PARIS Call for International Visiting Chair Program” in the subject.