FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Weatherhead Scholars Program

Who is eligible to apply for the Weatherhead Scholars Program?

The Weatherhead Scholars Program is open to visiting faculty, postdoctoral researchers, and experienced practitioners who plan to conduct research in the social sciences. Faculty and postdoctoral researchers must possess a PhD. Postdoctoral researchers should have received their degree within the preceding three years (and by the start of the academic year for which they are applying). Although a PhD is not a requirement for a practitioner, the applicant should demonstrate a strong interest in conducting academic research.

What is the application process for the Weatherhead Scholars Program?

All applicants should submit the following documents: cover letter; curriculum vitae (five pages maximum); description of research project (three pages or less); two letters of recommendation. Applicants should submit all materials through the online application portal.

How much does it cost to participate?

Participants are expected to secure their own funding from sabbatical salary or external grants. They will cover their own living expenses and may be assessed a program administrative fee. The cost of living varies, depending on the type of accommodation. There is a range of apartments in the Cambridge area, including apartments through the Harvard housing office. Please note that there is a May 1 deadline to apply for Harvard housing.

Is there any funding through the Weatherhead Center?

There is funding (monthly stipend plus health insurance) for a small number of postdoctoral researchers. Applicants interested in funding from the Center should indicate this in their cover letter at the time of application.

Do you accommodate scholars for less than a full academic year?

Applicants must agree to be in residence for a minimum of four months, at least three of these during the academic year (roughly September 1 to May 30).

How much is the program administrative fee?

The standard program administrative fee for the full academic year is $25,000 for practitioners and $10,000 for visiting faculty. The program fee can be adjusted for
research stays of less than a full academic year. The standard fee for a single semester is $12,500 for practitioners and $5,000 for visiting faculty.

What are the expectations for participants in the program?

We expect our scholars and practitioners to spend their time here conducting research. In addition, all program participants are expected to participate in the biweekly Weatherhead Forum; to contribute to some of the Center’s many other intellectual activities; and to engage with the undergraduate and graduate student communities.

How do I connect to one of the Center’s research clusters or initiatives?

You may indicate in your cover letter if you are interested in one of the Center’s research clusters or initiatives.

Where can I get helpful information on living in the Cambridge area?

The Harvard International Office has useful information for all visitors, not just international visitors.