

Postdoctoral Fellowship 2026-27 Call for Applications

The Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies will award one full-time Postdoctoral Fellowship for the 2026-27 academic year. This fellowship is awarded on a competitive basis. It is designed to provide recent University of Michigan History or joint-History PhDs the opportunity to teach two undergraduate courses while pursuing their own research and writing. This award has been funded by a generous gift from Kenneth and Frances Aftel Eisenberg.

Expectations: The fellow will form an integral part of the institute community and is expected to participate in institute events. The postdoctoral fellow may be given the opportunity to be a participant in one of the Friday faculty symposia that occur in conjunction with Thursday lectures by internal speakers. Fellows also may have the opportunity to workshop an article, chapter, or other project with the institute community during their fellowship term.

Teaching: The fellow will work out the specifics of their two-course teaching load in consultation with the History Department. Each teaching appointment under this Postdoctoral Fellowship offer will be made as a faculty position (i.e., a non-tenure track lecturer appointment), and set at the standard unit workload effort for teaching. The combination of the research fellow and lecturer appointment efforts will equal 100% effort.

Eligibility: The institute invites applications from University of Michigan History and joint-History PhD graduates and candidates who have defended their dissertations by June 23, 2026 (with a degree conferred by August 15, 2026). Individuals may apply for this fellowship no more than two times.

Preference will be given to those who have already defended their dissertations at the time of application or who can confirm a scheduled defense date. Failure to complete all requirements for the PhD by June 23, 2026, will result in withdrawal of the fellowship offer. Fellows are expected to maintain Ann Arbor residency during the fall and winter terms of their award, with exceptions for short research, conference, or personal leaves of absence. Fellows may not combine this award with appointments or teaching obligations at other institutions.

Award: The Postdoctoral Fellowship consists of a salary of at least \$62,652, * full benefits, and a \$2,000 research fund. The salary will be paid monthly from September 2026 to August 2027.

Application: The application consists of the following:

- A statement (500-1000 words) describing the dissertation project and timeline for completion, as well as plans for research and writing during the fellowship year.
- A teaching proposal (500-1500 words), including descriptions of two proposed courses that may be taught during the fellowship year. Please include a lecture course from the current U-M History curriculum along with a new course. Proposals will be evaluated, in part, on the basis of the potential to attract both history and non-history students and to address one of the department's curricular needs. We are open to all fields.
- A brief statement (100-200 words) indicating the applicant's possible contributions to the institute community during the fellowship year as well as any previous involvement with the institute. Also explain why affiliation with the institute would be particularly useful and enriching at this point in the applicant's training.
- Two letters of recommendation, including at least one from the dissertation supervisor(s) and one from a faculty member who has supervised the applicant's teaching. The advisor's letter should address the timeline for dissertation completion. Please list the recommenders in the application.
- A curriculum vitae.

Submit complete applications via email (eisenberginstitute@umich.edu) by March 27, 2026. Institute staff will confirm receipt.

Notification: The fellowship award will be made by the institute's Steering Committee and applicants will be notified in April or May 2026. The institute will contact each applicant regarding the outcome of their application. To ensure that this award strengthens the undergraduate history curriculum, the Postdoctoral Fellow must consult with the Associate Chair as soon as possible after accepting this fellowship offer.

Note: this position is dependent on final budget approval by LSA.

* The combination of the research fellow and lecturer appointment efforts will equal 100% effort. The lecturer salary rate is currently \$51,000 over eight months, as set by the LEO Union contract. The research fellow salary rate for 2026-27 is \$62,652 over 12 months, as set by the NIH NRSA minimum. Since the monthly lecturer salary rate is higher than the monthly research fellow salary rate, assuming the Postdoctoral Fellow teaches their courses as planned, they will earn a higher salary than the advertised amount (\$62,652). This also means that the Postdoctoral Fellow salary will be slightly higher during the months that they teach.