



**MAWAZO  
INSTITUTE**  
WOMEN LEADING RESEARCH IN AFRICA

## **2025 Mawazo Fellowship Programme**

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)**



### 1. When will the call for applications be open?

Our current call for the **2025 cohort of the Mawazo Fellowship Programme** opens on **Thursday 3 October 2024**. The call closes on **Sunday 10 November 2024 at 11:59 pm (EAT)**. To check eligibility and apply, click [here](#).

### 2. How do I apply for the Mawazo Fellowship Programme?

Please click [here](#) for a detailed guide on how to submit your application.

### 3. Can I apply on paper instead of the online application?

**No.** We are only reviewing applications submitted through the provided [SurveyMonkey Apply link](#).

### 4. I am a Social Scientist. Is the Mawazo Fellowship only meant for applicants in STEM fields, or do you also consider social sciences?

The Mawazo Fellowship considers **ALL** fields, including Social Sciences. We strongly encourage you to apply if your project is in the social sciences. All you need to do is show how your project aligns with solving an urgent societal problem. Solutions can include innovations, policy ideas, social services or enterprises, responses to historical injustices, etc across all sectors.

### 5. How is my application reviewed?

The Mawazo Institute has a reviewing committee made up of expert reviewers who democratically consider the merits of each application.

### 6. Can I check the status/progress of my application?

**Yes.** A notification is sent to the applicant upon submission of the application through [the link](#). As the **review process is ongoing**, we will notify applicants who do not proceed to the next stage.

### 7. If my application is unsuccessful, will I get customized feedback?

**No.** Due to the volume of applications we receive, we are unable to give tailored feedback to applicants who have been unsuccessful. Where possible, we will give general feedback to applicants who showed strong potential in their applications.



### 8. May I apply for another cohort if my application is unsuccessful?

**Yes.** As long as you meet **the eligibility criteria** and follow the **application requirements** (listed in previous tabs above), you are welcome to apply for the Mawazo Fellowship Programme again. **However, previously successful candidates cannot apply.**

### 9. Can I submit more than one application?

**No.** You can only make **one** application for the 2025 Mawazo Fellowship Programme Cohort.

### 10. Can I make a joint application?

**No.** We only accept **one application from one applicant** as we are keen to fund individual PhD research projects and not joint projects of any kind.

### 11. Is there someone I can contact should I have any issues signing in and submitting my application?

Yes. Please reach out to the Mawazo Programmes team at [applications@mawazoinstitute.org](mailto:applications@mawazoinstitute.org) if you have any challenges completing your application.

### 12. Does my research project need to focus on an area of African development to be eligible for the Mawazo Fellowship Programme?

**Yes.** We encourage our applicants to **demonstrate that their research is related to African development** and is relevant to **global, regional, national or subnational policy** priorities.

### 13. I missed the application deadline. Will my application still be considered?

**No.** Unfortunately, we are unable to process applications submitted after the deadline. We encourage applicants who have missed the deadline to be on the lookout for future calls.



#### 14. Is there any fee to apply for the programme?

**No.** The Mawazo Institute never charges any fees to its applicants.

#### 15. Can I apply to the Mawazo Fellowship Programme if my project is lab-based?

**Yes.** We accept proposals for lab-based research projects.

#### 16. Is there an age limit for the Mawazo Fellowship Programme?

**No,** The Fellowship does not have an age limit. We however **strongly encourage** applicants **under the age of 35** to apply.

#### 17. I have just started my PhD studies; can I apply to the Mawazo Fellowship Programme?

**No.** To **qualify** for the Mawazo Fellowship Programme applicants must have **completed** their coursework, if applicable, and **passed** their departmental or graduate school proposal defense.

#### 18. Is the Mawazo Fellowship Programme open to researchers outside Kenya?

**Yes.** African women who are pursuing PhDs in any field at an accredited African university are invited to apply.

#### 19. I am based at an institution in a non-English-speaking African country. Can I still apply?

**Yes.** We encourage **Individuals from Francophone countries to apply** with the understanding that the application process will be conducted in English. For **future cohorts**, Mawazo is actively working towards translating its training material and identifying partners and mentors who are fluent in French, Arabic, and Portuguese to ensure the representation of the entire continent within our network of African women researchers.



**20. I am a research fellow who has secured funding to conduct my research in Africa. Can the Mawazo Institute act as my host institution?**

**No.** We do not have the capacity to act as a host institution.

**21. As a Mawazo Fellow, can I apply for more than one Mawazo Fellows Fund grant?**

**Yes.** Fellows can apply for more than **one Mawazo Fellows Fund grant**. Funding for each grant cycle is **competitively awarded** after a thorough selection procedure and is **not** guaranteed.

**22. Does the Mawazo Institute provide travel grants for conferences?**

**Yes.** Mawazo Fellows have access to **flexible grants**, provided via the Mawazo Fellows Fund, to support **research activities, conference travel, specialised training, research translation, and cross-sector** collaborations.

**23. Does the Mawazo Institute offer funding for tuition Fees?**

**No.** Presently we do not offer funding for tuition fees. However, **Mawazo Fellows may be eligible to receive funding for tuition fees** in **extenuating circumstances**, and at the Mawazo Institute's **discretion**.

**24. Where can I find more information about the previous Mawazo Fellowship Programme recipients?**

You can find out more about previous Mawazo Fellows [here](#).

**25. What if I have more questions about the Mawazo Fellowship Programme?**

If you have further questions about the Mawazo Fellowship Programme, please contact our programme staff at [applications@mawazoinstitute.org](mailto:applications@mawazoinstitute.org)

