The U-M African Presidential Scholars (UMAPS) Program brings early career faculty from African universities to Ann Arbor, Michigan for residencies that begin in late August, generally lasting up to six months.

Scholars are paired with a faculty mentor during their stay and have full access to the University of Michigan’s resources to further their work on a research project, an academic degree, publications, grant proposal, or other relevant activity. The program supports the development of the next generation of African scholars by integrating them into international academic networks, and promotes U-M’s international commitment to research and teaching collaborations across diverse disciplines, from engineering to literature to economics.

The African Studies Center (ASC) at the University of Michigan provides strategic guidance and coordination for Africa-related education, research, and training activities on campus, and promotes opportunities for collaboration with African partners on the continent. Founded in 2008, the center administers four initiatives funded by the Office of the President: African Heritage (AHI); African Social Research (ASRI); Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM-Africa); and U-M African Presidential Scholars (UMAPS) Program.

The application deadline is October 15.

For online application, scholar testimonials, success stories, additional info, and updates: ii.umich.edu/asc/initiatives/umaps
UMAPS accepts direct applications from faculty members of colleges or universities in Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, and Uganda.

Faculty members of colleges and universities in all other African countries cannot apply directly to the UMAPS program without first being nominated and invited to apply by a U-M faculty member with whom s/he already has a pre-existing relationship.

All applicants must:
- Be an early career faculty member who has taught in the higher education system for less than ten years, presently teaching in a college or university in Africa
- Be able to demonstrate support from home institution with letter of recommendation from head of department, dean, or vice chancellor
- Be able to remain in residence from four to six months

AWARD DETAILS
Those admitted to the UMAPS Program will receive:
- Four to six months residency at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, paired with a faculty mentor with full access to the university's resources
- Round-trip airfare from their home country to Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Free housing, and a modest stipend to cover living, health care, and research costs while at U-M.
- Important note: The UMAPS program is unable to accommodate spouses and/or dependents
- Office/Laboratory space
- Opportunity to present research to the U-M community

APPLICATION CHECKLIST AND TIMELINE
All applicants must:
- Complete the online application
- Submit a curriculum vitae
- Submit a scholarly program/research proposal (not to exceed five pages)
- Provide a complete name and contact information of the department head, dean, or vice chancellor at the applicant's home institution who will be writing their letter of support

Important note:
Applicants outside of Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, or Uganda must be nominated by a U-M faculty member

with whom the interested applicant already has a pre-existing/established relationship. The nominating faculty must:
- Complete the online nomination form
- Submit a letter of endorsement that indicates his/her willingness to serve as a mentor during the length of the residency, commit to meet regularly, and provide an office space for the prospective participant

Upon receipt of the U-M faculty's nomination form, ASC will send the invitation to apply to the potential candidate.

Residency period: Late August–Early February

For details, online application, and/or guidance on the research proposal, visit ii.umich.edu/asc/initiatives/umaps