

## **Guidelines for the Selection Procedure of the Solitude Fellowship**

### **Preamble**

The Akademie Schloss Solitude supports international artists, researchers, and cultural professionals of all disciplines through the Solitude Fellowship. The fellowship is intended for individuals who, after several years of independent practice, wish to take the next step in their professional development. It provides space for creative exploration, interdisciplinary exchange, and international networking.

These guidelines are intended to ensure a transparent and fair selection process in line with the statutes of Akademie Schloss Solitude, awarding fellowships that foster art, culture, and interdisciplinary dialogue. The selection process is conducted in three stages. This three-stage procedure is designed to facilitate access to the entire application process while guaranteeing equal treatment of applicants. The provisions of the Higher Education Admission Act and the Higher Education Admission Ordinance of Baden-Württemberg have been appropriately taken into account in designing the procedure.

### **§ 1 Scope**

(1) These guidelines apply to the Solitude Fellowship, awarded to international artists, researchers, and cultural professionals.

### **§ 2 Eligibility and Application Modalities**

(1) The Solitude Fellowship is aimed at individuals with several years of independent practice following formal training (minimum 2 years, maximum 10 years after completion of studies), regardless of age, who wish to deepen their professional development and take the next step toward international and interdisciplinary networking.

(2) Excluded from the selection process are applicants still in training or study programs (with the exception of doctoral studies) as well as applicants holding a permanent university professorship.

(3) Individuals who have already received a residency fellowship at Akademie Schloss Solitude are excluded. This applies to residencies awarded to individuals or members of collectives in all programs of the Akademie (e.g., Solitude Fellowships, cooperation fellowships, special fellowships, Solitude Exchange Network).

(4) Each person (also as part of a collective) may submit only one application per call.



(5) Repeat applications are possible. Short applications (Stage 1) may be submitted without limitation. Full applications (Stage 2) may be submitted up to three times. Applications submitted before 2025 are counted as full applications (Stage 2).

### **§ 3 Selection Procedure**

The application process consists of three stages:

#### Stage 1: Open Short Application (online)

(1) Applicants submit a short application online through the application platform during the application period. The short application must include:

- a. Personal data and contact information
- b. Sphere of practice (including any subcategories)
- c. Motivation for applying for the fellowship
- d. Information on the number of (international) fellowships already received

(2) Participation in the application process is only possible via the online form provided.

(3) After submission of the short applications, an anonymous random selection procedure will be conducted in those spheres of practice where the number of applications exceeds a specified threshold, as set out in § 4.

#### Stage 2: Full Application (online)

(1) After the first stage, all applicants will be informed by e-mail whether they are admitted to the second stage.

(2) Admitted applicants may submit a full application on the platform within a given deadline. This includes a completed online form with detailed information on background, motivation, and artistic or scholarly practice, as well as the upload of work samples and links.

(3) Applications not submitted properly through the platform cannot be considered.

#### Stage 3: Jury Selection

(1) An independent international jury will make the final selection on the basis of qualitative, professional, and interdisciplinary criteria. The jury will be announced when the results are published.

(2) In the case of a very high number of applications, the Akademie may conduct a pre-selection procedure in some or all spheres of practice prior to the jury meeting.



(3) Applicants will be informed of the decision in writing, but no reasons will be given. There is no legal entitlement to the awarding of a fellowship. The selected fellows will be publicly announced after the completion of the selection process.

#### **§ 4 Anonymous Random Selection Procedure**

(1) An anonymous random selection procedure is used when, after the short application stage, the number of applications in certain spheres of practice exceeds a threshold that makes reasonable evaluation impossible.

(2) The anonymous random selection ensures openness and accessibility of the application process, guarantees equal treatment of applicants, and enables a careful qualitative review of applications.

(3) The anonymous random selection is conducted electronically. Each properly submitted short application receives an automatically generated registration ID. A predetermined number of IDs are then selected by a standardized random algorithm, simulating an analogue drawing of lots. The available places are allocated according to this list. The data basis for the drawing consists solely of the registration IDs; no other data are used.

(4) Applicants selected through the anonymous random selection procedure will be notified promptly by e-mail. Applicants not selected will also receive written notification.

#### **§ 5 Application Deadline**

(1) Applications for the Solitude Fellowship must be submitted to Akademie Schloss Solitude before the deadline. The deadline will be announced in the call and on the application platform.

(2) Applications received after the deadline cannot be considered.

#### **§ 6 Entry into Force**

These guidelines enter into force on the day following their publication. Previous guidelines for the selection process of the Solitude Fellowship are repealed at the same time.

Stuttgart, 24 September 2025