

Early Career Fellowships Categories (updated in October 2022)

Engineering

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Round 7 closed (internal applicants selected). Round 8 to open in 2023 (Summer – TBC)
Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No rules about years of postdoctoral experience. • Welcome applications from candidates who want to move back into research after any type of break from active research. • Choose Postdoctoral, Open or Synthetic Biology Fellowships. • See Guidance on their website. 	Ongoing – panel meets to discuss reviewed applications in Oct/Dec/Feb/May/Jul/Sep.
ESA's postdoctoral Research Fellowship programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference will be given to applications submitted by candidates within 5 years of receiving their PhD. • Be a citizen from one of the ESA Member States and European Cooperating States, or from Latvia and Slovenia as Associated Member States and Canada as a Cooperating State. • ESA job opportunities link, visit the recruiting website. 	To see open Research Fellowships, look for those positions titled Internal Research Fellow among the ESA job opportunities .
L’Oreal UK – Rising stars awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must identify as female. • No more than 10 years' active full-time equivalent postdoctoral experience (discounting career breaks but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). 	Deadline December
Royal Academy of Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Academy welcomes applications from early-career researchers worldwide who have been awarded their PhD in the last four years. The scheme provides funding for five years. 	Applications open in early July-late September

Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 3 years postdoc experience. 	Applications open in October – Deadline February
Brunel Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 3 years postdoc experience. Researchers in the core subjects of civil, mechanical, electrical, or aeronautical engineering seeking to address the primary infrastructure needs of modern society. 	Applications open in October – Deadline February
Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Built Environment Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific themes will be advertised each year. 	Applications announced in May 2023
Royal Society University Research Fellowship (URF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-8 years of postdoc experience. Research must be within the Royal Society’s remit of natural sciences, which includes but is not limited to biological research, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, and physics. 	Open - July Close - September
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country. 	Opens – September Closes - November

Medicine Clinical

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Round 7 closed (internal applicants selected). Round 8 to open in 2023 (Summer – TBC)
Alzheimers Research UK Clinical Research Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Research Fellowships are intended for clinically qualified researchers, who ideally already hold a PhD. • For a detailed description of the skills and training you will be expected to demonstrate, please read our Early Career Researcher Framework. • Frequently asked questions on their website. 	Open in April Close in late July
British Heart Foundation (BHF) Intermediate Clinical Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD/MD plus NTN & More than 2 years specialist training but less than 2 years after CCT. 	Rolling, there are no closing dates – applications reviewed 4 times a year.
MRC Clinician Scientist Fellowship (CSF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinically qualified PhD/DPhil/MD or Vet Med (providing their project is of relevance to human health). • There are no eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience. 	3 times a year with deadlines in January, April, and September
MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship (CRTF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved PhD over 5 yrs ago but have not been research active since due to clinical commitments. • The CRTF supports clinicians, including (but not limited to) medics, surgeons, dentists, clinical psychologists, public health specialty trainees, allied health professionals, nurses, midwives and veterinarians, to undertake a PhD or other higher research degree. 	3 times a year with deadlines in January, April, and September

NIHR Advanced Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a relevant PhD or MD, or have submitted your thesis for examination at the time of application (you must have been awarded a PhD or MD by the time you attend the interview). • Complete the relevant pre-registration training (for clinical academic applicants). 	<p>Opens – April Closes – July Interview – January</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – October Closes – January Interview - July</p>
NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a current member of the NIHR Academy • have completed any relevant pre-registration training (clinical academic applications only). • hold a relevant PhD or MD, or have submitted their thesis for examination at the time of application – applicants must have been awarded their PhD or MD by the time they start. • ensure that any previous NIHR awards undertaken finished no longer than 12 months ago. • have not submitted a DSE application in the previous round. 	<p>Opens – January Closes – March Funding meeting – May</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – May Closes – July Funding Meeting – September</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – September Closes – November Funding Meeting - January</p>
Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Clinician Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career level - Post doc, Clinician, Health professional. 	<p>Opens – April Closes – July Review – November</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – October Closes – March Review - May</p>

Medicine: non-clinical

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Round 7 closed (internal applicants selected). Round 8 to open in 2023 (Summer – TBC)
Alzheimer’s Research UK Research Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD-qualified non-clinical researchers. • FAQs on the Website. 	Opening: April Deadline: July
Alzheimer’s Society Postdoctoral Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will be within 5years of their PhD viva. Allowances will be made for career breaks. 	Early 2023
Alzheimer’s Society Dementia Research Leader Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants should be a minimum of 5 years from the date of PhD viva. 	Early 2023
Versus Arthritis Career Development Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 3 years of postdoc experience. 	Opening: April Deadline: July
Versus Arthritis Foundation Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within one year of completing their PhD at the time of application. 	Opening: April Deadline: July

British Heart Foundation (BHF) Immediate Postdoctoral Basic Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates should have no more than 2 years of postdoctoral research experience from the date of the PhD viva. 	<p>Rolling deadline. There are no closing dates – applications reviewed 4 times a year</p> <p>Please submit the application when it is ready</p>
British Heart Foundation (BHF) Intermediate Basic Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually at least 3 to 6 years successful postdoctoral work. 	<p>Rolling deadline. There are no closing dates – applications reviewed 4 times a year</p> <p>Please submit the application when it is ready</p>
MRC Career Development Award (CDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience. 	<p>Round 1: Opens February Closes April</p> <p>Round 2: Opens August Closes Sept</p>
MRC Senior Non-Clinical Fellowship (SNCF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience. 	<p>Round 1: Opens February Closes April</p> <p>Round 2: Opens August Closes Sept</p>
MRC New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience. • Applicants can hold a lecturer appointment, a junior fellowship, or be in another research staff position. 	<p>Depend on the panel</p>

Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Career Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You should be able to demonstrate that you meet the range of skills and experience as outlined in the 'establishing independence' career stage in our Fellowships Competency Framework 	<p>Round 1: Preliminary submission - April Final submission - July Committee review - November</p> <p>Round 2: Preliminary submission - October Final submission – March Committee review - May</p>
Kidney Research UK Intermediate Fellowships (non-clinical)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 years of postdoc experience to specialise in renal research. 	<p>December</p>
Kidney Research UK Senior Fellowships (non-clinical)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive post-doctoral experience and already have demonstrated a sustained ability to conduct independent research 	<p>December</p>
<p>L'Oreal UK – Rising stars awards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must identify as female. No more than 10 years' active full-time equivalent postdoctoral experience (discounting career breaks but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). 	<p>Deadline December</p>

NIHR Advanced Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold a relevant PhD or MD, or have submitted your thesis for examination at the time of application (you must have been awarded a PhD or MD by the time you attend the interview). Complete the relevant pre-registration training (for clinical academic applicants). 	<p>Opens – April Closes – July Interview – January</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – October Closes – January Interview - July</p>
--	---	---

NIHR Development and Skills Enhancement Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a current member of the NIHR Academy • have completed any relevant pre-registration training (clinical academic applications only). • hold a relevant PhD or MD, or have submitted their thesis for examination at the time of application – applicants must have been awarded their PhD or MD by the time they start. • ensure that any previous NIHR awards undertaken finished no longer than 12 months ago. • have not submitted a DSE application in the previous round. 	<p>Opens – January Closes – March Funding meeting – May</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – May Closes – July Funding Meeting – September</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – September Closes – November Funding Meeting - January</p>
Wellcome Early-Career Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must have a PhD and generally no more than three years postdoctoral research experience. 	<p>Opens – February Closes – June Shortlisting – Sep Interviews - Nov</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – June Closes – Oct Shortlisting – Jan Interviews - Mar</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – Sep Closes – Nov Shortlisting – May Interviews - July</p>

Wellcome Career Development Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completed one or two substantial periods of research after your initial training. • made important contributions to your area of research. • You can already be a fellow. • You may have been appointed to your first permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract within the last three years. If this applies to you, you can't ask for your own salary with this award. 	<p>Opens – Mar Closes – July Shortlisting – Oct Interviews - Jan</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – July Closes – Dec Shortlisting – Feb Interviews - May</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – Dec</p>
--	--	--

		Closes – Apr Shortlisting – June Interviews - Sep
Prostate Cancer UK Travelling Prize Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Within 4 years of their PhD	Closing date June

Natural Sciences

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Round 7 closed (internal applicants selected). Round 8 to open in 2023 (Summer – TBC)
BBSRC Discovery Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no limit on the number of years of postdoc experience. • You must have completed a successful PhD viva by 30 November 	Opens - February Closes - May
ESA's postdoctoral Research Fellowship programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference will be given to applications submitted by candidates within 5 years of receiving their PhD. • Be a citizen from one of the ESA Member States and European Cooperating States, or from Latvia and Slovenia as Associated Member States and Canada as a Cooperating State. • ESA job opportunities link, visit the recruiting website. 	To see open Research Fellowships, look for those positions titled Internal Research Fellow among the ESA job opportunities .
Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a PhD • Must have at least one lead author, full-length research paper (in an international peer-reviewed journal or published on a pre-print server such as bioRxiv) 	Opens – May Closes - September
L'Oreal UK – Rising stars awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must identify as female. • No more than 10 years' active full-time equivalent postdoctoral experience (discounting career breaks but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). 	Deadline December
NERC Independent Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 8 years of postdoc experience 	Opens – July Closes - November

Ramsay Trust Memorial Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postdoctoral chemists who have already had some postdoctoral experience of research. • Full eligibility criteria here. 	<p>Opens - August Closes - November</p>
RAS Research and Norman Lockyer Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 5 years of postdoctoral experience. 	<p>Closes – October Applications for RAS Fellowships will be sought in the years 2021, 2024 and 2027 and for the Norman Lockyer Fellowship in 2022, 2025 and 2028</p>
Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 3 years postdoc experience. 	<p>Applications open in October – Deadline February</p>
Royal Society University Research Fellowship (URF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-8 years of postdoc experience. • Research must be within the Royal Society’s remit of natural sciences, which includes but is not limited to biological research, chemistry, engineering, mathematics, and physics. 	<p>Open - July Close - September</p>
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country. 	<p>Opens – September Closes - November</p>
Stephen Hawking Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent researchers who will make significant contributions to the field of theoretical physics 	<p>TBC – Usually opens in September and closes in November</p>
Wellcome Early-Career Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must have a PhD and generally no more than three years postdoctoral research experience. 	<p>Opens – February Closes – June Shortlisting – Sep Interviews - Nov</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – June Closes – Oct Shortlisting – Jan Interviews - Mar</p> <hr/> <p>Opens – Sep Closes – Nov Shortlisting – May Interviews - July</p>

[Wellcome Career Development Awards](#)

- completed one or two substantial periods of research after your initial training.
- made important contributions to your area of research.
- You can already be a fellow.
- You may have been appointed to your first permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract within the last three years. If this applies to you, you can't ask for your own salary with this award.

Opens – Mar
Closes – July
Shortlisting – Oct
Interviews - Jan

Opens – July
Closes – Dec
Shortlisting – Feb
Interviews - May

Opens – Dec
Closes – Apr
Shortlisting – June
Interviews - Sep

Multi-disciplinary

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Round 7 closed (internal applicants selected). Round 8 to open in 2023 (Summer – TBC)
ESRC postdoctoral fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed their PhD at a research organisation that is part of a DTP or CDT and who are within 12 months of passing their viva voce. 	See DTP/CDT preliminary rounds Full applications March
Imperial College Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 4 years postdoc experience 	Closes - August Interviews - November
Leverhulme Early Career Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 4 years from PhD viva • Not have a permanent academic position 	Opens – January Closes – February
Marie Curie Individual Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD or 4 years research experience 	Opens – April Closes - September
Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Ernest Rutherford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD and some postdoctoral research experience (no years since PhD). • Check department requirements 	Opens – July Closes - September

Support for specific groups

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
Daphne Jackson – scientists re-entering after a career break.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have had a career break of two or more years, taken for family, caring or health reasons. • have at least 3 years research experience and/or a PhD • wish to return to a research-based career 	Rolling (except sponsored calls)
Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin – scientists who need to work flexibly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 6 years of postdoc experience 	Opens - September Closes - November
L'Oreal UK – Rising stars awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must identify as female. • No more than 10 years' active full-time equivalent postdoctoral experience (discounting career breaks but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). 	Deadline December
London Mathematical Society – Grace Chisholm Young Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a PhD and be returning from a career break 	31 December and 30 June
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country 	Opens – September Closes - November
Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) - Return to research support bursary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually returning from a break of 2 years or more 	Rolling
Wellcome Sanger Janet Thornton Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 1 years' postdoctoral experience returning after a break of 1 year or more, for any reason 	Closes - July

Moving countries

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO) – Postdoctoral Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 2 years of postdoctoral experience.• Must move between countries.	No deadlines (panels meet in February and August)
Marie Curie Individual Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PhD or 4 years research experience	Opens – April Closes - September
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country	Opens – September Closes - November

Training/Transitional

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have a PhD• Must have at least one lead author, full-length research paper (in an international peer-reviewed journal or published on a pre-print server such as bioRxiv)	Opens – May Closes - September