



ICoNYCh Exchange Awards 2024-5

The ICoNYCh Exchange Awards support building links between researchers at Imperial College London and researchers in the Chicago Quantum Exchange and emerging New York quantum ecosystem, on any aspect of quantum science, engineering and technology.

What we're looking for

The aim of the Award is to build research capability and generate collaborative research and innovation on any topic in quantum science, engineering and technology. The Award should facilitate knowledge exchange, collaboration, or enhancement of expertise. The total budget for the call is £60,000 and we aim to support 30 awards of up to £2,500 each, spread approximately equally between the NY area and the Chicago area.

Coordination

The awards are coordinated by the [Imperial Centre for Quantum Engineering, Science and Technology](#) (QuEST). For all enquiries, contact quantum@imperial.ac.uk.

Who can apply?

The applicant must be a member of staff or a postgraduate student at Imperial College London.

When is the call open?

The call opened on 1 November 2024 and closes on 31 January 2025.

What is eligible?

The award supports travel and subsistence of the awardee for a visit to an institution in the greater NY or Chicago areas, or for the awardee to host a researcher from an institution in these areas at Imperial, up to a maximum of £2,500 each. The Award does not fund research.

The following costs are *not* eligible in this Award:

- Equipment
- Salary
- Research consumables.



All costs must comply with both DSIT and [Imperial expenses policies](#) (see table below). We welcome the combination of these funds with leveraged funding from elsewhere.

How to apply?

Applicants must submit [a completed application form](#). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis up to 4pm GMT on 31 January 2025 (or until funds are exhausted) so early applications are encouraged.

What is the review process?

Applications will be evaluated by the ICoNYCh programme management board. All applicants will be informed of their decision by 5 February 2024. In the event the awards are oversubscribed, criteria for evaluation will be:

- Preference for new collaborations (no joint publications) or a meaningful step forward within an existing collaboration,
- Spread across US partners,
- Spread across quantum research topics,
- Plans for follow-on activity.

General information

- The exchange must be completed and all costs incurred by 31 March 2025.
- Expenses must be submitted before 30 April 2025.
- Recipients of the award are required to provide a short confidential written report on the activities and expected outcomes by 30 April 2025.
- Recipients are responsible for checking the latest travel guidance for their proposed destination and arranging their own travel documents including visas and insurance.
- To reclaim expenses, recipients will need to provide receipts for all expenditure on the trip, according to standard [Imperial College London policies](#).
- Recipients must follow Imperial's guidance on data protection and intellectual property. Further guidance on [Trusted Research](#) is provided by the National Protective Security Authority.
- Recipients must ensure they are aware of, and undertake to abide by, Imperial's current Export Control/research security procedures related to quantum for this award.
- Recipients agree to acknowledge the funding appropriately in future publications (using the grant reference "ICoNYCh"). Recipients agree to notify QuEST of any follow-on funding applications via follow-on questionnaire.



Expenses policies

In most cases the DSIT expenses policy is tighter than Imperial's – the less restrictive policy is struck through.

Spending category	DSIT expenses policy	<u>Imperial expenses policy</u>
Travel	Air travel can be in premium economy if over 4.5hrs flight, economy if under this.	Economy (or Premium Economy) is the default class for all long haul travel (over 5 hours). Premium Economy can be booked if Economy class is not available.
	Trains are preferable if cheaper than flights. Train travel is standard class.	Standard fares only. If rail is taken as the lower-carbon alternative in place of a flight, a higher class of rail travel will be permitted to allow you to work effectively during the longer trip while travelling by train.
Accommodation	Hotels for London and International are maximum of £166 per night	Room rate – UK London £169 Room rate – US £181 (\$102)
	Hotels within the UK not London £118	Room rate - UK outside London £111
Food	Breakfast is up to £6 in UK and international (Not US and Europe)	Breakfast in UK is £10 Single meal max is \$61 (24-hour meal rate is \$102)
	Breakfast is up to £12 in US and Europe	
	Lunch is up to £6 in UK and international (Not US and Europe)	Lunch in UK is £20 Single meal max is \$61 (24-hour meal rate is \$102)
	Lunch is up to £18 in US and Europe	
	Dinner is up to £18 in UK and international (Not US and Europe)	Dinner in UK is £32 Single meal max is \$61 (24-hour meal rate is \$102)
	Dinner is up to £30 in US and Europe	