

Early Career Fellowships Guidance for Applicants 2024

The Leverhulme Trust Board, through its Research Awards Advisory Committee, is offering approximately 145 Fellowships in 2024. These can be held at UK universities with research degree awarding powers and provide career development opportunities for researchers with a proven record of research. The Fellowships are intended to assist those at a relatively early stage of their academic careers, and it is hoped that the appointment would lead to a more permanent

the closing date if they can make a case for their work having been impacted by the pandemic. Hence those who formally submitted their doctoral thesis for viva voce examination between 22 February 2019 and 22 February 2020 are eligible to apply if their work has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and they should explain their case in their application.

- Applicants must either hold a degree (any degree) from a UK higher education institution at the time of taking up the Fellowship or at the time of the application deadline must hold an academic position in the UK (e.g. fixed-term lectureship, fellowship) which commenced no less than 4 months prior to the closing date. Hence, those who do not hold a UK degree and whose UK academic position commenced after October 2023 are not eligible. The Trust will consider candidates without a UK degree whose UK academic post commenced after October 2023 if they have been in continuous UK academic employment for more than 4 months prior to the deadline. The intention is to support the career development of those building an academic career within the UK.
- Candidates who have been, or are currently a Principal Investigator on a three-year post-doctoral research project, or have held or currently hold a comparable three-year post-doctoral position to pursue their own research are not eligible to apply.
- The Research Awards Advisory Committee believes that the development of an academic career is best served by gaining experience at different institutions. Applicants who have not already moved institutions in the course of their academic career (i.e. between their undergraduate university and proposed host university) should nominate a new host university, or otherwise demonstrate clear evidence of the academic and/or personal reasons for remaining at the same university such as access to highly specialist equipment or a highly specialised research team.
- The matching funding contributed by the host university must be drawn from generally available funds and cannot be associated with any other grants received by the university. The host department must secure the matching funding for the applicant before the closing date and it must be specifically allocated to the individual concerned. Applications that do not meet these conditions are ineligible and will be rejected.
- A candidate may submit only one application per year. Previously unsuccessful applicants can reapply.
- Candidates may not apply for both an Early Career Fellowship and a Study Abroad Studentship in the same year. Candidates who have held a Leverhulme Study Abroad Studentship for postdoctoral research are not eligible to apply for an Early Career Fellowship. Candidates should consider carefully which of these two schemes best suit their requirements. Please note, this only applies to the 2019 award schemes onwards.

Eligible fields

Applications will be considered in all subject areas with the following exceptions:

- studies of disease, illness and disabilities in humans and animals
- research that is intended to inform clinical practice or the development of medical applications

There are two reasons for this: substantial funding is available from other sources for applied medical research; the Trust's priority is -1 (y)(c)-3 ((ub)-2 (p)-1 (lie)-4(it)-1 (c)-3 g)1 (a)0.9 e-2 ()-7 (ia)-
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2024. Institutional approval is required both from the head of the host department and from an administrative officer on behalf of the host university. Nominated referees will also be required to provide their references via the online system. Applicants will be informed of the result of their applications by email at the end of May 2024.

Please note that due to the large number of applications received to this scheme, it is not possible to provide feedback regarding the reasons for rejection to individual applicants.

Practising artists

Practising artists should provide online access to up to 12 images, or a short excerpt of their film or music, as appropriate. Please include the link to your work in your Detailed Statement of Proposed Research.

Applications queries

Telephone: 020 7042 9862/9862/9861

Email: grants@leverhulme.ac.uk

General feedback on unsuccessful applications

Please see below for general feedback on common reasons previous applications were unsuccessful.

For all applicants:

1. In many cases the proposed research is highly original and innovative.