

University Research Fellowships 2010

The University Research Fellowships scheme aims to provide outstanding scientists, who should have the potential to become leaders in their chosen field, with the opportunity to build an independent research career. Those appointed are expected to be strong candidates for permanent posts in universities at the end of their fellowships. This scheme is very competitive with an average success rate of 5%.

Important changes: please note the following which apply to this new round

- The deadline for applications has been brought forward to 17 September 2009
- We no longer require the upload of significant publications. Instead applicants are requested to highlight them on their publication list
- We have reinstated the submission of nominated (personal) references to be submitted as part of an application.

Subjects covered: Natural sciences (including agriculture, mathematics, technology, medical and engineering sciences).

Eligibility: Applicants must have a PhD or equivalent research experience by the time they apply, we will not accept applicants who have just submitted their PhD. Applicants are expected to be at an early to mid-stage of their career. As an example, you could have had between one and three post doc positions.

At the time of application, applicants must either:

- be a citizen of the European Economic Area (EEA), ie European Union, Iceland, Norway or Liechtenstein; or a Swiss citizen
- or have a relevant connection to the EEA or Switzerland (a relevant connection can be established if an individual has a PhD from a university in the EEA or Switzerland, or has worked as a research scientist in a university or research institute in the EEA or Switzerland for at least the past two years, or has done so before taking up an appointment outside the EEA or Switzerland).

Persons holding a permanent post in an EEA or Swiss university or not for profit research organisation will not be considered (includes UK).

Length of tenure: Initially funding is provided for five years – followed by an extension of three years. In exceptional circumstances the Society can consider a further extension taking the fellowship to a maximum of 10 years.

Available from 1 October 2010.

Place of tenure: Fellowships must be held in a UK university or not-for-profit research organisation (except for Research Council Institutes).

Value: Provides funding to cover the research fellow's salary costs, estates costs and indirect costs. Under the full economic costing model, 80% of these costs will be met by the Royal Society. Research expenses (up to £13,000 for the first year and up to £11,000 annually thereafter) will also be provided. The Research Fellowship provides researchers with maximum flexibility and can be held part-time, and allows sabbaticals, secondments or international experience. Successful applicants will be able to apply, competitively, for a £15,000 Research Grant from the Society.

Number offered: Varies. Approximately 30 each year.

Closing date: 17 September 2009. It is expected the results of the competition will be available around May 2010.

Applications can only be submitted online on the Royal Society's e-GAP system: <https://e-gap2.royalsociety.org>. **Applications cannot be submitted on paper.** For further information please contact the UK Grants Section, as below.

