

Newton International Fellowship Scheme 2021

The following scheme notes set out the eligibility and application process of the Royal Society Newton International Fellowship. Please read through the entire document before proceeding with an application.

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Contents | 1 |
| Overview | 2 |
| Background | 2 |
| Aims of the Scheme | 2 |
| Subjects Covered | 2 |
| Value of Funding and Support Provided | 3 |
| Duration and Start of Fellowship | 3 |
| Global Talent Visa | 3 |
| Alumni Follow-on funding..... | 4 |
| Eligibility | 4 |
| Applicant Eligibility..... | 4 |
| UK Co-applicant Eligibility | 6 |
| Host Organisation Eligibility | 6 |
| Eligible Costs | 6 |
| Assessment Criteria and Review Process | 7 |
| Assessment Criteria | 7 |
| Review Process | 8 |
| Timetable | 8 |
| References and Participants | 8 |
| Contact information | 10 |
| Use of Data | 10 |
| System Guidance Notes | 11 |
| Using Flexi-Grant® | 11 |
| ORCID Identifier | 11 |
| Completing the application form..... | 11 |
| Application Guidance Notes | 12 |
| Application Approvals..... | 12 |
| Question Guidance | 12 |
| Application Submission Process Flow Diagram | 23 |

Overview

Background

The Newton International Fellowship Scheme was established in 2008 to select the very best early career postdoctoral researchers from all over the world and enable them to work at UK research institutions for two years. Newton International Fellowships are made available by the Royal Society and British Academy

In addition to the Newton International Fellowships, the K.C. Wong Education Foundation have generously provided the Royal Society with private funding to support additional Fellowships; candidates for which will be selected from the applications submitted to the Newton International Fellowship scheme. Due to the limited budget of the Newton International Fellowship scheme, it is not possible to support all the high-quality applications that we receive, and the private funding enables the Royal Society to fund further Fellowships

Aims of the Scheme

This scheme focuses on early career international researchers. The aims of this scheme are as follows:

- To support the development and training of postdoctoral researchers at an early stage of their career from any country outside the UK, by providing an opportunity to work at a UK research institution for two years.
- To ensure the best postdoctoral researchers across all relevant disciplines from around the world are supported in the UK.
- To foster long-term relations between Newton International Fellows and the UK research base through the establishment of an alumni programme for former Fellows of this Scheme. The alumni programme includes the possible provision of further funding for Newton International Fellows for follow-on activities, to enable links with UK-based researchers to be maintained and developed.

Subjects Covered

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. For a full list, please see [our guidance page](#).

Submissions from clinically qualified scientists may be considered. The Society does not support clinical or interventional research on humans at the individual or group level, social sciences or humanities, unless otherwise stated.

If there is any doubt about the eligibility of a project, contact the Grants team at info@newtonfellowships.org.

Applicants for social science and humanities should apply to the [British Academy](#).

Value of Funding and Support Provided

Approximate number of Fellowships offered: 25

Funding will consist of:

- £24,000 per annum for subsistence costs (tax exempt)
- up to £8,000 per annum for consumables
- a one-off payment of up to £3,500 for relocation expenses in year one only
- contribution towards the cost of dependents' (partner and children only) visas required to relocate to the UK
- a contribution will also be made to enable the UK host institution to host a Fellowship; this will be equal to 50% of the award (excluding the additional funding for dependents' visas).

Contribution to UK Host Organisation

Newton International Fellowships will not be costed on the basis of full economic costing (FEC). Instead, awards will include a sum of 50% of the award (i.e. up to £33,750 for two years) to enable the UK host institution to host a Fellowship, to cover access for the individual to the institution and department facilities (adequate office and laboratory space and access to essential equipment and facilities, etc.).

For example: if the award value is £35,500 in the first year (£24,000 + £8,000 + £3,500), the contribution to overheads is £17,750; therefore, the overall award value in the first year is £53,250. Newton International Fellows will not have access to overheads funding. The host organisation will not receive an overheads contribution for any extra funding awarded for dependents' visas.

Expectation of the UK Host Organisation

It is expected that your host organisation gives you the necessary departmental and institutional support to complete your Fellowship successfully, including adequate office and laboratory space and access to essential equipment, software and facilities. Newton International Fellows should be appointed on terms that are no less favourable than those of comparable posts in the host organisation.

Duration and Start of Fellowship

Fellowships are expected to commence by 30 June 2022.

Awards cannot start before 01 January 2022. A start date of the first of the month is preferred. Fellowships will be for held for two years, on a full-time basis.

Flexibility during the Fellowship: The Newton International Fellowship is a flexible award. It can be held on either a full-time or on a part-time basis (minimum 0.6FTE) for caring responsibilities. There is also provision for maternity, paternity, shared parental leave, adoptive or extended sick leave as well as financial support for childcare costs that arise from attending conferences etc.

Global Talent Visa

Royal Society Newton International Fellows requiring a visa to work in the UK are eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa under the Fast-tracked process of endorsement. In line with the highly prestigious nature of the award, the Global Talent visa route is designed for people who are internationally recognised as potential leaders and enables the holder to be both adaptable and flexible during their research in the UK. Further details can be found on the Royal Society's website <https://royalsociety.org/global-talent-visa/fellowships/>

Alumni Follow-on funding

Royal Society Newton International Fellows may also be eligible to receive Alumni follow-on funding following the tenure of their Fellowship to support networking activities with UK-based researchers. Information regarding the Follow-on Alumni funding will be sent to successful Newton International Fellows towards the end of the Fellowship.

Eligibility

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants must have a PhD or be in the final stage of their PhD provided that it will be completed (including *viva*) before the start date of the fellowship. Confirmation of award of the PhD will be required before any fellowship award is confirmed.
- Applicants should have no more than seven years active full-time postdoctoral experience at the time of application, including teaching experience, time spent in industry on research, honorary positions and/or visiting researcher positions. Career breaks must be clearly detailed and explained in the application, for example “Start and end dates - career break – maternity/paternity leave”.
- Applicants should be working outside the UK and should not hold UK citizenship at the time of application.
- Applicants who are not currently employed are still eligible but will need to provide details of their previous supervisor.
- Individuals already living, working or undertaking research in the UK are **not** eligible to apply.
- Individuals who have lived, worked or undertaken research in the UK in the 12 months prior to the application deadline are **not** eligible to apply.
- Individuals working outside the UK but employed by a UK organisation are also **not** eligible to apply.
- Applications from individuals who have not studied or worked in the UK previously are encouraged as the scheme aims to establish new links between the applicant and the UK.
- Applicants who completed their PhD at a UK organisation must have been working and based outside the UK for **at least one year** at the deadline for the application.
- Applicants proposing to return to their UK-based PhD organisation and/or PhD supervisor or to their Post-doctoral supervisor will normally be considered to be ineligible and so applicants must have exceptional reasons for proposing to do so.
- Proposed Fellowships must be carried out in the UK at the UK host organisation for the duration of the Fellowship.
- Applicants must be competent in oral and written English. The applicant must confirm their competency on the application form and the UK Co-applicant needs to include the applicant’s competency in their supporting statement.
- Individuals who have previously been in receipt of a Newton International Fellowship are not permitted to apply again.
- Applicants who have been unsuccessful in a previous round of the competition may make another application in this round.

The Society appreciates that there are diverse research career paths and understands the challenges of managing a research career alongside other personal commitments. When reviewing applicants’ eligibility and research experience, the Society consider time spent outside the research environment (e.g. time away due to personal reasons such as maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoptive leave or other caring

responsibilities; ill-health, or working in a non-research environment/role such as industry). Furthermore, where applicants have taken formal periods of maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoptive leave as the primary carer (either the mother, father, partner or adopter), or extended sick leave, the Society will allow an additional amount of time on top of each period of leave when assessing eligibility. Each case will be considered individually as per guidelines below:

- Maternity, paternity, shared parental leave and adoptive leave: In addition to the actual time taken off work, an additional amount of time equivalent to 100% of the duration of leave taken will be added on top, up to a maximum of 6 months.

Example 1: If an applicant took 4 months leave, an additional 4 months would be added and a total of 8 months would be deducted.

Example 2: If an applicant took 18 months leave, an additional 6 months would be added (maximum additional time allowed) and a total of 24 months would be deducted.

- Extended sick leave (defined as more than four weeks off work, as per UK Government's definition): In addition to the actual time taken off work, an additional amount of time equivalent to 100% of the duration of leave taken will be added on top, for up to 6 months. As with parental leave cases will be considered individually and the host institution may need to confirm that the applicant qualifies for this provision. Supporting documents may be requested at the Society's discretion. The Society reserves the right to consider individual requests outside of the outlined policy in exceptional circumstances.

The Royal Society recognises that diversity is essential for delivering excellence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The Society wants to encourage applications from the widest range of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences to maximise innovation and creativity in science for the benefit of humanity. We regularly review and revise processes to help ensure that all talented applicants have an equitable chance to succeed as per the assessment criteria. This includes ensuring all panel members are briefed on unconscious bias in decision making as part of our assessment process.

Support to applicants with disabilities: The Royal Society welcomes applications from scientists with disabilities and provides adjustments to ensure that they can participate fully in the selection process. If you need an adjustment when accessing the application form, attending interviews if applicable, or for any other part of the application process, please contact the Grants team on info@newtonfellowships.org or tel. +44 20 7451 2666.

Adjustments can include but not limited to:

- Extension of the deadline;
- Additional support to complete the application form;

The Grants team will be pleased to answer questions about eligibility and/or points covered in this section.

Privately Funded Fellowships

- **Please note that it is not possible to apply for the private Fellowships directly.** Candidates for these private fellowships will be selected from the shortlisted Newton International Fellowship applications based on the criteria above. The private Fellowships would be for a continuous duration of two years and the project would have to be as outlined in the Newton International Fellowship application.
- **These private fellowships would not be branded 'Newton International Fellowships'.**

| Name of Fellowship | Provider of Fellowship | Eligible residency | Eligible nationality | Max number of available Fellowships |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Royal Society K.C. Wong International Fellowship | The K.C. Wong Education Foundation | China | Chinese | 2 |

UK Co-applicant Eligibility

- The UK Co-applicant must be an established independent researcher of at least postdoctoral (or equivalent) status and must make all the necessary practical and administrative arrangements for the duration of the Fellowship.
- The UK co-applicant must hold a permanent or fixed term contract in a publicly-funded research organisation. In the case of fixed term contracts, employment must continue for at least the duration of the project.

Host Organisation Eligibility

Eligible host organisations are a university or not-for-profit research institution. Ineligible organisations include industrial, private and commercial organisations, university spin-out companies, and governmental bodies. For information on eligible UK host organisations please see <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemesawards/grants/applications/>

Prior contact with the UK Co-applicant

- Contact between the UK Co-applicant and Applicant prior to the application is essential. This contact should lead to a clearly defined and mutually-beneficial research project proposal.
- **Please note that the Royal Society will not be able to assist in locating a UK Co-applicant.**
- Applicants may only submit one application in a round. The application must be with only one Co-applicant at a UK host organisation.

Eligible Fieldwork

- Applicants cannot conduct their research outside the UK but short fieldwork trips abroad may be possible where appropriate.
- Short fieldwork trips abroad must not normally total more than one month per annum. Please note that fieldwork is defined as “(practical) gathering of material or data specifically for the Newton International Fellowship project”.

Eligible Costs

Subsistence

The annual subsistence rate is fixed at £24,000. Payments to Newton International Fellowship holders are paid as a stipend (tax exempt) and do not constitute a salary. The subsistence can be spent on any living cost at the discretion of the Fellow.

Consumables

Newton International Fellows are entitled to apply for up to £8,000 per annum which can be spent on: equipment, consumables or travel within the UK or internationally (if related to conducting fieldwork or attending conferences). Please be aware that only the amount requested will be allocated, e.g. if you request £5,000 under consumables, this is the amount you will receive. It is not possible to retrospectively increase the award amount. Costs of attending or organising conferences, workshops or seminars for the purposes of disseminating your research must be limited to £3,000 per year; in exceptional circumstances we will consider requests to exceed this limit on a case-by-case basis. In the case of organising conferences, workshops or seminars, only the cost of venue hire, materials and website and printed publications are eligible for support.

Relocation Expenses

Newton International Fellows are entitled to apply for up to £3,500 relocation expenses in the first year of their Fellowship. This can be used to cover the costs incurred from moving from the current institution to the UK host organisation and can include transportation costs and visa charges. A health surcharge was introduced by the UK Government under the 2014 Immigration Act for non-exempt persons, which from October 2020 is £624 per year; this also applies to dependents. This expense can be covered under the relocation expenses costs of the Fellowship. Additional funding is available to cover the cost of dependents' visas. More information is available at the point of being offered an award.

Ineligible Costs

The following costs will **not** be covered by the scheme:

- Consumables may not be used to pay for: publication costs; any personal costs including that of dependents; the cost of travel, subsistence and visas for participants and speakers at conferences and workshops or seminars you organise; and salary costs or other costs of research staff/assistants.

Payments

All payments will be made quarterly in arrears in instalments directly to the UK host organisation. Regardless of your start date, payments will be made to your host organisation at the end of March (Q1), June (Q2), September (Q3) and December (Q4).

Assessment Criteria and Review Process

Assessment Criteria

The primary considerations are listed below. Successful applications should be strong in all respects:

Applicant

The suitability of the individual for the fellowship and their potential to develop an independent research career. Track record commensurate with actual research experience to date including past achievements, research career to date, publication record, awards, datasets held in repositories, software, keynote lectures and current and previous grants; how the candidate intends to use the fellowship to further their research career.

Research Proposal

The importance and scientific merit of the proposed research and the clarity, quality and originality of the proposed project and likely contribution to the research field. If the research plan is clearly defined and feasible.

Host Organisation/Co-applicant

The suitability and strength of the UK Co-applicant including their track record in the area of proposed research as well as in supervising and mentoring early career researchers.

The suitability and strength of the host department and/or institution for the proposed research i.e. access to appropriate expertise/equipment/facilities/resources and space during the award period as well as the suitability of the host organisation for the applicant's career development e.g. appropriate level of support and training opportunities.

Review Process

All applications to the Newton International Fellowships are reviewed and assessed by two members of the selection panel who have the most appropriate scientific expertise using the criteria detailed above.

The subject tags you select on your application play a vital role in matching your application with appropriate reviewers, so it is extremely important to select only the most relevant subject tags on your application.

Please be assured that the Royal Society specifically requests anyone involved in reviewing applications to consider them in confidence. More information on the Review Process can be found in Appendix 1.

All applicants will be notified of outcomes via email.

Timetable

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|------------------|--|
| Opening date | Wednesday, 05 May 2021 |
| Closing Date | Wednesday, 16 June 2021, 3:00 PM (UK Time) |
| Expected results | November 2021 |

References and Participants

To complete and submit the application form, the lead applicant is required to provide supporting statements or references from 5 individuals. The following individuals must included:

1. Departmental support

- Head of Department at the UK host institution (The Head of Department is expected to detail your suitability for the department and the intentions for your career development, as well as confirmation that you will be provided with adequate space and access to resources at the Host organisation.

Head of Departments must confirm that the host organisation will give the fellow the necessary departmental and institutional support to complete their Fellowship successfully, including adequate office and laboratory space and access to essential equipment, software and facilities, including that Newton International Fellows will be appointed on terms that are no less favourable than those of comparable posts in the host organisation).

- UK Co-applicant
- Lead Applicant's current supervisor overseas (if the applicant is an independent researcher or in industry please use your direct manager or the most recent academic supervisor, if the applicant is currently unemployed please use your most recent academic supervisor)

2. Two Nominated references

- It is requested that one referee be nominated by the Applicant and one by the UK Co-applicant.

The guidelines for choosing 2 nominated referees are as follows:

- The primary consideration is that they are able to comment independently and authoritatively on your application (i.e. someone in your field, who is as independent a researcher as possible from the applicant/co-applicant). You do not need to know them personally, but you should make sure they are able to provide a reference before adding them to your application.
- It is requested that one referee be nominated by the Applicant and one by the UK Co-applicant.
- At least one nominated referee must be based in the UK. A UK-based researcher is defined as someone who holds a permanent or fixed term contract at a UK research organisation.
- Nominated referees from the same institution as the Applicant or Co-applicant will not be accepted.
- Nominated references from the Applicant's former/current supervisor (including PhD supervisor) will not be accepted.
- The referee must not be a member on the [assessment panel](#) for this programme or a member of the Royal Society's [Council](#).
- References must be submitted in English. If a reference is not submitted in English, it will not be accepted and may render the application ineligible.
- No two references can be from the same person. If this is the case the application will be made ineligible.

These individuals can be invited through the 'participants' tab displayed on the application form summary page, where you will find each of the required participants as described above.

Please select 'invite' and enter the e-mail address of the person you wish to invite to provide the relevant statements and send the invitation.

The recipient will need to accept your invitation before they can participate in the application.

You can monitor the progress of your participants' activity through this section of the application form, and issue reminders as required. Once the recipient has accepted your invitation, their status will be displayed as 'active'. Upon completion of their section of the application form, their status will be displayed as 'complete'.

You will not be able to submit your application form until the status of all participants shows 'complete'.

Please note that once an applicant submits an application on Flexi-Grant®, it is then directed to the designated Approver for the UK Host Organisation at which the applicant has applied to host an award (see Application Approvals in the 'Application Guidance Notes' Section). It is recommended that referring and supporting participants fulfil their requirements **at least 5 working days** before the submission deadline (Wednesday, 16 June 2021) to ensure there is sufficient time for organisational approval. The UK Host Organisation approver must approve the completed application by the submission deadline.

It is the applicant's responsibility to liaise with the nominated referees, the UK Host Organisation's Approver and the Heads of Department to ensure that the required tasks are completed by the deadline. Please contact the Royal Society before the deadline if there is any issue. Alternatively, the UK Host Organisation's Approver, the Heads of Department, and the nominated referees can contact us directly.

The Royal Society will not be held responsible for emails that are not received due to address errors or spam filters and no provision is made for non-receipt of emails sent by the Royal Society.

Once participants have completed all their sections of the application form, please remind them to select **'Save & Submit'** on the application form page or select **'Submit your contribution'** on the summary page.

Re-opening the Application form to Participants

On the occasion that an invited participant accidentally submits their section of the application form prematurely, the Lead Applicant has the ability to re-open the application form for the participant. To do this, the Lead Applicant should return to the Participant tab on the application form summary page. You will find a 're-open' button alongside the name of any participant who has completed their section of the form. Once you click this button, the form is reactivated and available for participants to amend.

Research Support Role

The Research Support role displayed under the participants tab is an optional role, which allows you to invite an individual from the relevant UK Host Organisation research support team to review and amend the application prior to submission. The primary purpose is to ensure that the requested finances have been recorded correctly for this specific grant programme. As this is an optional role, it will not affect your ability to submit your application for approval.

Additional system guidance can be found in the 'Systems Guidance Notes' Section.

Contact information

Enquires about this scheme can be made using the contact details below. Before contacting us, please check whether your question is answered by these scheme notes.

For Royal Society enquiries email: info@newtonfellowships.org or telephone +44 (0)207 451 2220 or +44 (0)207 451 2565 or +44 (0)207 451 2238.

For British Academy enquiries email: newtonfund@thebritishacademy.ac.uk (please read British Academy Scheme Notes)

Please quote your application reference number in all correspondence to the Royal Society.

Use of Data

Please note that information regarding your application for a Newton International Fellowship may be shared with the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), British Academy and K C Wong Education Foundation, for data monitoring and scheme evaluation purposes. You may also be contacted by selected third parties such as independent evaluators, consultancy groups, and career development organisations. If successful, the Royal Society will contact you regarding the administration of your award throughout the course of your funding and after its completion. You may also be contacted by the Royal Society, BEIS, British Academy and K C Wong Education Foundation or an agent acting on their behalf, for reporting and evaluation purposes throughout the course of your funding and after its completion.

System Guidance Notes

Please read these guidance notes carefully as you complete the application form.

Using Flexi-Grant®

Applications can only be submitted online using the Royal Society's Grants management system (Flexi-Grant®) via <https://grants.royalsociety.org>. Further information about the Grants management system can be found via <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/flexi-grant/>. If you have not previously used Flexi-Grant®, please follow the registration process from the Flexi-Grant®, homepage. ***Paper-based applications will not be accepted.***

Before completing the online form, all applicants should check that they comply with the eligibility requirements and ensure all necessary information is presented in the application. These requirements are strictly adhered to and applications without all the necessary information, or evidence to show the assessment criteria are met, will be rejected.

All applications must be approved by the UK Host Organisation and the applicant's departmental support must be completed before you can submit via Flexi-Grant®. Late applications will not be accepted.

Further guidance and support can be found through the [applicant and approver knowledge base](#).

ORCID Identifier

All applicants should submit an ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifier if they have one before their application is submitted. ORCID maintains a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research funding, research publications, research data and any other research outputs to these unique identifiers. This is a mandatory requirement at the application submission stage only. You can register for an ORCID identifier via <https://orcid.org/register>.

Completing the application form

The application can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

Summary

Eligibility Criteria

Contact Details

Lead Applicant Career Summary

UK Co-applicant Career Summary

Research Proposal

Data Management and Data Sharing

Use of Animals in Research

Use of Human Patients or Tissue

Financial Details

Applicant Declaration

Nominated Referees Support
Head of Department Support (of the UK Co-applicant)
Lead applicant's Supervisor Support

A full list of question fields to be completed as part of the application can be found in the Question Guidance in the 'Application Guidance Notes' Section.

Application Guidance Notes

Application Approvals

It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that approval of the application by the UK Host Organisation is completed before the closing date.

The person responsible for approving your application will be the delegated authority at the UK Host Organisation where you are applying to hold your award. This may be someone within the research office, Faculty administration, Vice-Chancellor, or other administrative or management role.

The approver must be someone with the authority to confirm that the potential award can be hosted within their organisation, confirm that there is the capacity to deliver the proposed research and assure the proposed budget is appropriate and eligible for the scheme.

You will only be able to submit your application for approval by the UK Host Organisation's Approver once all sections of the application form have been marked as complete and all participants have marked their work as complete AND have submitted their section. The Lead applicant must check the status of the UK co-applicant's Head of Department, two nominated referees, the Lead applicant's supervisor and the UK co-applicant under the 'Participants' tab on the summary page of the application form. **Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.**

Question Guidance

Please read the following guidance notes carefully as you complete the form. In the table below, each box represents a page of the application form; the left-hand column contains the questions within each of these pages as set out in the form; the right-hand column contains useful guidance on its completion.

Note that questions with * are mandatory fields.

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| Summary |
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| Summary page | <p>The summary page of the application form provides instructions for submission of your application for approval from the UK Host Organisation. In addition, you are provided with an overview for each section of your application form, including the approximate length of time it will take to complete each section.</p> <p>The summary page also allows applicants to manage and invite participants (e.g. Head of Department and Nominated Referees etc) who are required to contribute to the application form. Instructions for inviting participants can be found under the 'participants' tab on the application summary page.</p> <p>Note: you will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation once all sections of the form have been completed.</p> |
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| Eligibility Criteria | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Eligibility Criteria * | <p>Please provide confirmation that you meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Details of the eligibility criteria can be found in the 'Eligibility' Section of these Scheme Notes.</p> |

| Contact Details | |
|---|---|
| Title, Names, address, organisation and country * | <p>Review and complete your personal details accurately. Errors in this section can cause difficulties in processing your application. Errors will not be corrected after submission.</p> <p>Under this section, you should edit the of contact type the participants who will partake in your application form. The system default contact type is set as 'collaborator'. To amend the contact type of your Head of Department, click 'edit', and under the contact type field, select the 'Head of Department'.</p> <p>Organisation: this table will automatically display details of the intended Host Organisation (marked by a tick) which you selected previously and your current organisation, if different from the organisation where the award will be held and administered.</p> |
| Email address * | <p>This field defaults to the account in which the application has commenced and is where all correspondence pertaining to the application throughout the application process will be sent. The applicant must therefore commence the application using the login email address used to register a user account on Flexi-Grant®.</p> |

| Lead Applicant [and Co-Applicant] Career Summary | |
|---|---|
| Full name * | Please enter your full name, including title. [Co-applicant only] |
| Title of Current Position * | Please state the title of your current position. |
| Current Employer * | Please enter the official organisation name of your current employer (e.g. University of Bath). |
| Current Department * | Please enter details of your current department (e.g. Department of Astrophysics). |

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| Country/Territory * | Please select the country/territory where your current employer (or last employer if currently unemployed or on leave) is based. |
| Current Position Start Date * | Please enter the date when your current position started. |
| Current Position End Date * | Please enter the date when your current position is expected to finish. If you are on an open-ended contract, please enter 31 December 2050. |
| Field of Specialisation * | Enter details of your field(s) of specialisation. (Maximum 20 words) |
| Summary of Your Current Research * | Provide an outline summary of your current research. Please also include a brief comment on the strength of your organisation. (Maximum 200 words) |
| PhD Award Date * | Please enter the date that you were awarded your PhD. If you have not received your PhD, please enter your expected completion date. |
| PhD Institution * | State the name of the institution where you were awarded or are completing your PhD. |
| PhD Country/Territory * | State the country/territory in which you were awarded or will be awarded your PhD. (Lead applicant only) |
| Applicant Career History * | <p>Please provide a full list of your appointments since your PhD in reverse chronological order stating if part-time (and percentage part-time) when necessary.</p> <p>The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible.</p> <p>Please provide full details of any periods of part-time working, career breaks, extended sick leave or maternity/paternity/adoptive leave as your eligibility may depend on the accuracy of this information.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your career history information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p> |
| Impact of Covid -19 | <p>The Society appreciates that the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on researchers and their work will be varied. Please provide a summary of how the pandemic has affected your research activities. (Maximum 500 words)</p> <p>This can include but is not limited to: delays in publishing/submitting a key paper(s) (please note preprints can be included in your publications list), pause on experiments/research plans, reduced ability to work due to additional caring responsibilities.</p> |
| Applicant Qualifications * | <p>Please list all your qualifications in reverse chronological order.</p> <p>The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence of your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your qualification information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p> |
| List your Key and/or Relevant Publications * | <p>Please provide details of authors, titles and references of no more than 20 of your key preprints and publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. You should include those outputs most relevant to the application to support your</p> |

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| | <p>case. Please note that publications will be reviewed on the basis of scientific content, rather than publication metrics or the identity of the journal.</p> <p>Most significant publications - Please identify with asterisks (*) up to five publications which you consider to be most significant.</p> <p>Your list should have three sections: (i) refereed papers in primary journals, (ii) contributions to symposia and compiled volumes (refereed only); and (iii) preprints.</p> <p>For publications arising from large collaborative programmes clearly specify the exact role and contribution made towards large collaborative research programmes that have resulted in multi-authored publications.</p> <p>If your field of research differs in any way from normal conventions, e.g. lead author, first author, and publications in journals being the main gauge of success, please provide a brief explanation at the top of your publication list.</p> <p>If appropriate, give the publisher or where each publication may be obtained, providing a URL if available. Citations for preprints must state "Preprint", the repository name and the articles persistent identifier (e.g. DOI).</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your publications to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p> |
| Applicant Research Funding * | <p>Please list all your current and previous research funding in reverse chronological order.</p> <p>The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p> |
| UK Co-applicant statement of support | <p>Please provide a statement in support of the application as a PDF on headed paper, that includes your name, title, and contact details. Please detail the Lead Applicant's suitability for the project and also set out the intentions for their career development. [Co-applicant only]</p> |

| Research Proposal | |
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| Project Title * | Give the full title of your proposed project. (Maximum 20 words) |
| Start Date * | Please enter the proposed start date of the project. Fellowships must commence between 1 January 2022 and 30 June 2022. When indicating a start date please keep in mind potential visa processing times; please note that the outcome will be announced approximately five months after the closure of the round. |

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| End Date* | This must be two years from the start date. The end date must be exactly two years after the proposed start date. |
| Host Organisation* | Please select the UK organisation where the award will be held from the drop down list. |
| Subject Group/Area * | Please select the subject group/area(s) that most closely defines the research area of the research proposal from the drop-down menu and tick box options. This will enable us to allocate the application to the most appropriate assessment panel. |
| Abstract * | Please provide a scientific summary of your proposed project. This should be a summary of your research proposal, briefly outlining the background and summarising the aims of your project. (Maximum 400 words) |
| Lay Summary * | Please provide a lay summary of your proposed project. This should be understood by a layperson. Explain why you have chosen to work in this subject area and what it is about your proposed research that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. If applicable, please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research. (Maximum 250 words) |
| Research Proposal * | <p>You can either detail your research proposal within this application form (Maximum 1500 words), or alternatively upload it as a PDF file. PDF files must be no longer than 3 sides of A4, portrait orientation, be titled and the text size cannot be smaller than Arial size 10.</p> <p>Your research proposal should provide a general description of the proposed research to be carried out. This should include, but is not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear specification of the context, research objectives and expected outputs of the proposed study; • description of the methodology to be used, including data analysis; • an indication of milestones/timescales |
| Previous Contact * | Please provide details of any previous contact with the UK-based Co-applicant and indicate whether you have met them previously. |
| Training Programme* | Training and mentorship are an important part of this Fellowship and must be included as part of the application. Please outline how the host institution will support the career development of the applicant through training and mentoring activities. (Maximum 500 words). |
| Benefits to Individuals/ Institutions * | Please describe clearly the planned outcomes and any potential benefits that will result from the proposed collaboration for the Applicant and the Co-applicant. (Maximum 200 words) |
| Benefits of Overseas Country * | Describe any potential benefits to the overseas country and/or country of origin that will result from the proposed Fellowship. This may include supporting the development of a well-trained research community and promoting economic development and social welfare of the country through enhanced research and innovation capacity to benefit the wider society. (Maximum 200 words). |

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| Benefits of UK * | Describe any potential benefits to the UK and UK research that will result from the proposed Fellowship (Maximum 200 words). |
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| Data Management and Data Sharing |
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The Royal Society supports science as an open enterprise and is committed to ensuring that data outputs from research supported by the Society are made publicly available in a managed and responsible manner, with as few restrictions as possible. Data outputs should be deposited in an appropriate, recognised, publicly available repository, so that others can verify and build upon the data, which is of public interest. To fully realise the benefits of publicly available data they should be made intelligently open by fulfilling the requirements of being discoverable, accessible, intelligible, assessable and reusable.

The Royal Society does not dictate a set format for data management and sharing plans. Where they are required, applicants should structure their plan in a manner most appropriate to the proposed research. The information submitted in plans should focus specifically on how the data outputs will be managed and shared, detailing the repositories where data will be deposited. In considering your approach for data management and sharing, applicants should consider the following:

- What data outputs will be generated by the research that are of value to the public?
- Where and when will you make the data available?
- How will others be able to access the data?
- If the data is of high public interest, how will it be made accessible not only for those in the same or linked field, but also to a wider public audience?
- Specify whether any limits will be placed on the data to be shared, for example, for the purposes of safeguarding commercial interests, personal information, safety or security of the data.
- How will datasets be preserved to ensure they are of long-term benefit?

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| Outline of data management and data sharing plan * | If the proposed research will generate data that is of significant value to the research community, then please provide details of your data management and sharing plan. (Maximum 200 words) |
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| Fieldwork * | Will you be conducting fieldwork as part of your research? Yes/No * |
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| Fieldwork | <p>Please provide all details of any proposed fieldwork to be carried out. Please ensure you provide details of location, duration and justification for the fieldwork.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants cannot conduct their research outside the UK but short fieldwork trips abroad may be possible where appropriate. • Short fieldwork trips abroad must not normally total more than one month per annum. Please note that fieldwork is defined as “(practical) gathering of material or data specifically for the Newton International Fellowship project”. |
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| Fieldwork (Upload only) | <p>Please upload documents related to the following (if applicable):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Permission Any mandatory documents that show local support has been assured by way of permission from the government concerned to travel to and work in the country. 2. Collection of specimens Any mandatory documents that show: |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific permission has been obtained from the host country to collect and to export specimens and material • The director of the museum or other decision makers where these specimens will be deposited has indicated his/her desire or willingness to have such specimens and material. |
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Use of Animals in Research *

The Royal Society is committed to supporting the development of alternative methods to reduce and/or replace the use of animals in research. Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 and subsequent amendments. Additionally, applicants should continually be aware of developments in best practice, and adopt the principles of the [3Rs](#) when designing and conducting experiments on animals.

As a funder of research, the Society takes its responsibilities towards the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 seriously and requires applicants to consider the questions below when preparing grant applications that include the use of animals.

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| Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue? * | Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you have selected 'Yes' it is mandatory to complete all of the relevant questions on the Use of Animals in Research page. |
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Experimental Design Assistant

The Royal Society recommends that applicants use the [Experimental Design Assistant](#) (EDA), which is a free resource from the NC3Rs to support researchers in the planning of animal experiments. This will help to facilitate robust study design and reliable and reproducible findings.

The EDA helps applicants build a machine-readable diagram representing their experimental plan, following capture of their methodology, and allows the applicant to then generate a PDF report which provides a transparent description of the experimental design in a standardised format, which can be uploaded to the application form.

Please note: Applicants who choose to use the EDA, and subsequently uploads the EDA report to the application form, are advised to enter **see report** or **n/a** into any question fields within this section of the application form that have already been captured in the EDA report, to avoid any duplication.

Use of Human Participants and Tissue

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| Any application for a research proposal involving human participants, patients or tissue and therefore requiring local ethical committee approval will be considered only when accompanied by the necessary permission certificate or proof that ethical permission will be sought, which must be provided in English. | |
| Does your proposal involve the use of human participants, patients or tissue? * | Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you have selected 'Yes' it is mandatory to provide either a certificate or letter, as proof that ethical permission has been, or will be, obtained. Please upload the file as a PDF in portrait orientation. |

| Financial Details | |
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| Budget Table * | <p>The Newton International Fellowship Award will cover subsistence, relocation, and consumables at levels quoted in these notes. We will also make a contribution to enable the UK host institution to host a Fellowship, to cover access for the individual to the Institution and Department facilities (adequate office and laboratory space and access to essential equipment and facilities, etc.); this will be equal to 50% of the award and will be worked out automatically.</p> <p>Payments to Newton International Fellowship holders are classified as subsistence payments and do not constitute a salary. All payments will be made in quarterly instalments directly to the UK host organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please provide details of the funding required for each year of the Fellowship under the relevant headings. Newton International Fellowships are tenable for two years full time, and part time working is also available at a minimum of 0.6 FTE. • Subsistence - The annual subsistence rate is fixed at £24,000. If you enter an incorrect amount this will be changed upon receipt of your application. • Consumables - Newton International Fellows are entitled to apply for up to £8,000 per annum which can be spent on: equipment, consumables or travel within the UK or internationally (if related to conducting fieldwork or attending conferences). Costs of attending or organising conferences, workshops or seminars for the purposes of disseminating your research should be included in the £8,000 for consumables but must be limited to £3,000 per year. In the case of organising conferences, workshops, or seminars, only the cost of venue hire, materials and website and printed publications are eligible for support. • Relocation Expenses - Newton International Fellows are entitled to apply for up to £3,500 relocation expenses in the first year of their Fellowship. This can be used to cover the costs incurred from moving from current institution to the UK host organisation and can include transportation costs and visa fees including immigration health surcharge. Please enter no more than £3,500 under Year 1, in 'Travel'. The amount for 'Travel' must be £0 under Year 2. • Contribution towards costs associated with accompanying dependents' visa costs are covered by the Royal Society and can be applied for at a later stage. • Research expenses may not be used to pay for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ publication costs; ○ any personal costs including that of dependents; ○ the cost of travel, subsistence and visas for participants and speakers at conferences, workshops or seminars you organise; and ○ salary costs or other costs of research staff/assistants. • 'Other costs' for both Year 1 and Year 2 must be 0. 'Other costs' will be calculated by the Royal Society • Expenses for conferences should be included in the Consumables budget and the relocation costs should be covered by the amount entered in the year 1 Travel budget. • The Subtotals and Totals will be calculated automatically. |

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| | The Award includes a fixed contribution to enable the UK host institution to host a Fellowship. This will be exactly 50% of the award for the Fellow. You do not need to include this in the financial details table. |
| Justification * | Please fully justify all requested costs by referring to each budget heading. Funding will not be awarded without justification. |

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| <p>Applicant Declaration *</p> <p>Please declare that:</p> <p>You have read the Terms and Conditions of Award under which Royal Society grants are awarded and, if a grant offer is made, you agree to abide by them. The Terms and Conditions for Royal Society applications can be found at https://royalsociety.org/newton-international/.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have access to the necessary facilities to enable you to deliver the research proposed and will continue to have access to the facilities for the duration of the project. You have agreed with your Head(s) of Department that you will be afforded sufficient time and resources to deliver the research project as described in this application. |
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| <p>Nominated Referee Support</p> <p>You should invite two referees who can provide confidential references for your application, by following the instructions under the 'Participants' tab on the application form summary page. Please check with them that they are happy to provide the references, and inform them that they will be contacted by email and asked to provide references via the Flexi-Grant® system by Wednesday, 16 June 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The primary consideration is that they are able to comment independently and authoritatively on your application (i.e. someone in your field, who is as independent a researcher as possible from the applicant/co-applicant). You do not need to know them personally, but you should make sure they are able to provide a reference before adding them to your application. It is requested that one referee be nominated by the Applicant and one by the UK Co-applicant At least one nominated referee must be based in the UK. A UK-based researcher is defined as someone who holds a permanent or fixed term contract at a UK research organisation. <u>Nominated referees from the same institution as the Applicant or UK Co-applicant will not be accepted.</u> Nominated references from the Applicant's former/current supervisor (including PhD supervisor) will not be accepted. The referee must not be a member on the assessment panel for this Scheme or a member of any of the Royal Society's Councils. References must be submitted in English. If a reference is not submitted in English, it will not be accepted and may render the application ineligible. |
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Institutional and Departmental Support *

You should invite the Head of Department from the UK organisation to provide a statement of support by following the instructions under the 'Participants' tab on the application form summary page. Please check that they are able to supply their statement by Wednesday, 16 June 2021 .

Please Check which email address your Head of Department would like to use, as they may already be registered on Flexi-Grant® and mistakes may lead to a delay in processing your application. The Head of Department is expected to detail your suitability for the department and the intentions for your career development, as well as confirmation that you will be provided with adequate space and access to resources at the Host organisation.

Head of Departments must confirm that the host organisation will give the fellow the necessary departmental and institutional support to complete their Fellowship successfully, including adequate office and laboratory space and access to essential equipment, software and facilities, including that Newton International Fellows will be appointed on terms that are no less favourable than those of comparable posts in the host organisation

If the UK Co-applicant is also the Head of Department at the UK organisation, an alternative referee is required to supply the reference, e.g. Deputy Head or Head of School.

Current Supervisor Support*

You should invite your current supervisor overseas to provide a statement of support by following the instructions under the 'Participants' tab on the application form summary page. Please check that they are able to supply their statement by Wednesday, 16 June 2021 .

Please check which email address they would like to use, as they may already be registered on Flexi-Grant ® and mistakes may lead to a delay in processing your application.

No two references provided can be from the same person. If this is the case then it may make the application ineligible. Therefore, alternative referees must be provided in accordance to the guidelines.

Diversity Monitoring

Diversity Monitoring

The Royal Society is committed to promoting diversity in UK science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) by seeking to increase participation from under-represented groups. Please help us to monitor how effectively we are doing this by providing the requested information. All questions are mandatory. The information provided will form a confidential statistical record in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and will not be used for any purpose other than analysis of the Society's activities.

This information will be kept separately from the rest of your application and will not be seen by those involved in the selection process, including referees etc.

You must either complete the form or tick the boxes stating that you 'prefer not to say'. If you do not select a box for each question, the system will regard your application as incomplete and will not allow you to submit it.

Please note, that where an application contains applicant and co-applicant(s) details, all applicants will be expected to complete the diversity monitoring form.

The lead applicant and co-applicant(s) are restricted to completing and viewing the diversity monitoring form that is relevant to them as individuals. You are not permitted to view the information provided by the other under this section of the application.

Appendix 1: Application and Review Process

Application Submission Process Flow Diagram

