

Early Career Fellowships Categories (updated in April 2021)

Engineering

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	New dates 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). 	31 May

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. • See guidance on their website. 	<p>Applications will open in early July-late September 2021.</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 2021 – Deadline February</p>
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. 	<p>Applications open in October 2021 – Deadline February</p>
Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 Built Environment Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific themes will be advertised each year. 	<p>Applications open in June 2021</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 - Tuesday 13 July 2021 Close - Tuesday 7 September 2021</p>
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country. 	<p>Opens in September – closes in November</p>

Medicine Clinical

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	New dates 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. 	TBC
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. 	<p>Opens – 12 Feb, 2021.</p> <p>Closes – 7 April, 2021</p>
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. 	<p>Opens – 12 Feb, 2021.</p> <p>Closes – 7 April, 2021</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>
Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Clinician Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career level - Post doc, Clinician, Health professional. 	<p>Preliminary submission – 1 April 2021 Full submission - 15 July 2021 Committee review - November 2021</p>

<u>Wellcome Clinical Research Career Development Fellowships</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Want a clinical academic career and completed your thesis for a higher degree (preferably a PhD).• As a healthcare professional and you want to balance clinical work with a research career (clinical).	Final round in July 2021 Full application deadline – 6 July 2021
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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. 	New dates TBC
Alzheimer's Research UK Research Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD-qualified non-clinical researchers. • FAQs on the Website. 	TBC
Alzheimer's Society Junior Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants will be within 5years of their PhD viva. Allowances will be made for career breaks. 	Currently on hold
Alzheimer's Society Senior Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants should be a minimum of 5 years from the date of PhD viva. 	Currently on hold
Versus Arthritis Career Development Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 3 years of postdoc experience. 	Opening: Wednesday 14 April 2021 Deadline: 16:00 Wednesday 14 July 2021
Versus Arthritis Foundation Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within one year of completing their PhD at the time of application. 	Opening: Wednesday 14 April 2021 Deadline: 16:00 Wednesday 14 July 2021

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, 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, 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>Opens – 6 Aug. 2021.</p> <p>Closes – 15 Sept. 2021</p> <p>Shortlisting date – 13 Jan. 2022</p> <p>Meeting dates – 16/02/2022 – 17/02/2022</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>Opens – 6 Aug. 2021.</p> <p>Closes – 15 Sept. 2021</p> <p>Shortlisting date – 13 Jan. 2022</p>

		Meeting dates –16/02/2022 – 17/02/2022
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. 	Depend on the panel
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 	Preliminary submission - 1 April 2021 Final submission - 15 July 2021 Committee review - November 2021
The Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Intermediate Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should hold a PhD (or equivalent), there are no eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience 	Deadline - 1 July 2021 Meeting - November 2021. Interviews for shortlisted candidates are likely to be in October/November 2021.
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Junior Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-4 years of postdoc experience 	Deadline - 1 July 2021 Meeting - November 2021. Applications for the Junior Fellowships 2022 (ie any awarded are anticipated to start in 2022).

		Interviews for shortlisted candidates are likely to be in October/November 2021.
Kidney Research UK Intermediate Fellowships (non-clinical)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-3 years of postdoc experience to specialise in renal research. 	December
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 	December
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). 	31 May
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). 	Opens – April Closes – July Interview – January <hr/> Opens – October Closes – January Interview - July
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. 	Opens – January Closes – March Funding meeting – May <hr/> Opens – May Closes – July Funding Meeting – September

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – 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>Applications Open August 2021 Deadline November 2021</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>Applications Open August 2021 Deadline November 2021</p>
Prostate Cancer UK Travelling Prize Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 4 years of their PhD 	<p>Closing date 24 June 2021</p>

Natural Sciences

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential. 	Future rounds 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 2021 	<p>Opens - 9 February 2021</p> <p>Closes - 6 May 2021</p>
BBSRC David Phillips Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 3 years postdoctoral experience 	Temporarily paused
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 – April – May 2021
L'Oreal UK – Rising stars awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must identify as female. 	31 May

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No more than 10 years' active full-time equivalent postdoctoral experience (discounting career breaks but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry). 	
NERC Independent Research Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 8 years of postdoc experience 	Opens – TBC
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. 	15 th November
RAS Research and Norman Lockyer Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 5 years of postdoctoral experience. 	October
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 2021 – Deadline February
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 - Tuesday 13 July 2021 Close - Tuesday 7 September 2021
Schlumberger Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing for postdoc, female, from developing country. 	Opens in September – closes in November
Stephen Hawking Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent researchers who will make significant contributions to the field of theoretical physics 	TBC – Usually opens in September and closes in November
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. 	Applications Open August 2021 Deadline November 2021

[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.

Applications Open August 2021

Deadline November 2021

Multi-disciplinary

Fellowship name	Eligibility	Deadline
UKRI - Future Leaders Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential 	Next rounds 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 	August 2021
Leverhulme Early Career Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 4 years from PhD viva • Not have a permanent academic position 	February
Marie Curie Individual Fellowship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD or 4 years research experience 	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 	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 - Wednesday 8 September 2021 Closes - Wednesday 10 November 2021
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). 	31 May
London Mathematical Society – Grace Chrisholm 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 	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 	TBC

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	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 – April – May 2021
Wellcome Clinical Research Career Development Fellowships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Want a clinical academic career and completed your thesis for a higher degree (preferably a PhD).• As a healthcare professional and you want to balance clinical work with a research career (clinical).	Final round in July 2021 Full application deadline – 6 July 2021