

## Imperial AHSC Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT Research Fellowship (APPRF)

### Applicant Guidelines: November 2025

#### Purpose of Fellowship

The aim of the APPRF is to draw on the research and clinical strengths of the Imperial AHSC to attract or retain talented early-stage medical clinical academics to work towards externally funded clinical research mid-level awards. *The key output of the role is to prepare and submit an application for an externally funded intermediate fellowship/clinician scientist programme.* A secondary output of the Fellowship would be appointment to substantive clinical academic posts in the university and NHS.

Whilst undertaking the research component of the Fellowship postholders will also be working 50% clinically, undertaking clinical duties and providing vital input into priority areas identified by the NHS Division providing 50% of funding for the Fellowship.

#### Key Output

The key output of the **maximum 3-year** Research Fellowship is for post holders to prepare and submit an application for an externally funded intermediate Fellowship/Clinician Scientist award.

#### Funding

The funding for the APPRF comes jointly from Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine academic Departments (FoM) and linked NHS Trusts in the NWL area. As FoM Departments and NHS Clinical Divisions are funding the award **all** application proposals must be discussed with the appropriate academic Departmental Research Manager and Head of Department, **and** Director NHS Clinical Division/Department - and requires sign-off from both.

#### Proposed research

Research areas/projects must be agreed with the relevant Imperial Faculty of Medicine department and supported by the Clinical Division/Department. Academic Departments may apply their own rules locally about how research funding can be spent, also working within the following general guidelines:

- No individual items of equipment greater than £5,000
- Work involving patients, volunteers, human data and/or tissue samples must have a clear written protocol and been through appropriate peer and HRA/ethical review, as well as the relevant internal capacity and capability assessment
- No expenditure on University infrastructure, estates, or indirect costs

#### Who can Apply?

- Awards will be made to Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT (medically qualified) candidates who have the potential to become leaders in academic medicine and can demonstrate evidence of high-quality publications from research.
- For the 2025/26 round APPRF Fellowships are only available in the following areas:
  1. **Cardiometabolic medicine** – with clinical work at Chelsea & Westminster NHS Foundation Trust, C&W [for applicants with CCT in Cardiology], research hosted in National Heart & Lung Institute
  2. **General Adult Psychiatry** – with clinical work at Central & North West London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. CNWL [for applicants with CCT in older adult, forensic, general adult psychiatry - but must be discussed and agreed with clinical division and DBS], research hosted in Department of Brain Sciences

3. **Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery** – for applicants with CCT in General Surgery, with clinical work to be agreed with [Head of Department of Surgery and Cancer](#)

- Eligibility requirements include that applicants;
  - Be from within 12 months of obtaining a Certificate of Completion of Training (or equivalent non-UK certification) at time of applying, and have acquired CCT by the time of starting APPRF - up to having been awarded a CCT within the last 5 years, at the time of applying
  - Possess a PhD or MD\* already, or to PhD have been submitted by the time of APPRF application, and awarded before starting the post (\*a research-based MD rather than part of an undergraduate degree)
- Applicants not currently affiliated with Imperial College London or an NHS Trust linked with the Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC) are eligible to apply, but the research proposed **MUST** be undertaken in an Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine academic department and with an Imperial research group, and will require the applicant to move into an Imperial university site, but can be collaborative with other universities.
- Applicants should review the APPRF Award application form **carefully** before applying. They should be confident that they are able to fulfil **all** requirements stated in the APPRF form and have a clear and credible aim of application for an Intermediate Fellowship before the end of the APPRF fellowship.
- Applicants are strongly recommended to approach academic and clinical Departments *as early as possible* to discuss projects and clinical expectations - and obtain all required signatures and supporting materials (including Worktribe Costings)
- Applicants should review the Job Description and Person Specification **carefully** before applying. They should be confident that they are able to fulfil **all** requirements stated in the Person Specification **before** approaching academic and clinical departments to discuss potential support.

## How to Apply

The Application process consists of **two** stages, *Stage 1* is gaining academic and clinical department support and then *Stage 2* is submission of a formal 'job' application. After gaining sign off from 'host' academic and clinical Departments via the APPRF Award form, formal job applications should be submitted to the Job Applicants section of the Imperial website, <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/jobs/>. Vacancy Reference: **MED05545**). The following documents should be submitted at Stage 2:

1. Fully completed Job application form
2. Fully completed/signed APPRF application form (including confirmation of support from a FoM department and clinical research dept/division plus costings/Worktribe)
3. Curriculum Vitae (maximum 5 pages)

## Important Notes for Applicants

- The application process consists of **two** stages. Further details on requirements at each stage are in the Deadlines and Key dates section
  - **Stage 1 Research Proposal (APPRF form) & CV: [Deadline: 18 February 2026]**
  - **Stage 2 Job Application Form plus APPRF form & CV: [Deadline: 25 February 2026]**

**NOTE: Only applicants who receive full support at Stage 1 are permitted to proceed to Stage 2 of the process**

- The Imperial Job Application Form includes a space/option for you to write a 'Supporting statement' to accompany your application. This section should be used to state why you believe you are a suitable candidate for the APPRF Fellowship and explain how you meet the requirements described in the Person Specification at the back of the Job Description. Please follow these instructions when preparing your personal statement. This section should **not** be used as space to simply re-present your CV or research proposal.
- The Job Application Form includes a section for 'Research'. This should be used to describe your research undertaken to date and not details of your proposed research for the APPRF

award. Details about your APPRF research proposal should be entered in the separate APPRF Application form.

- CVs should be a **Maximum 5 pages long**. Please include information about your current role; past employment; relevant experience; higher education (degrees etc); publications and conferences. Ideally the CV should be formatted as a [narrative CV](#).

### Clinical Lecturers

Applications from current Clinical Lecturers will **only** be considered if applicants can clearly justify why they require further time before applying for an intermediate fellowship and what the APPRF award will offer above the current CL post.

### Evaluation of applications

Applications with academic and clinical department support will be considered by a panel of senior researchers from across the Imperial Faculty of Medicine. The PPI/E section of the APPRF award form will also be reviewed by a panel of Community Partners. The highest scoring applications will be invited to attend an interview in April / May 2026.

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Recruitment to the APPRF award will run in line with the underpinning principles and objectives of the Imperial College London [EDI Strategy](#)

### Deadlines and key dates

**Stage 1: Research Proposal/Clinical support deadline:** **Wednesday 18 February 2026** (17.00hrs)

*\*Applicants to contact Imperial Faculty of Medicine Depts and Clinical Depts/Divisions to identify potential projects, get confirmation of support and Worktribe costings for including in the IPPRF application form & CV (before submitting formal 'job' application). This the absolute latest date that applicants can approach departments, they are advised to do so early as possible to discuss their application and give enough time for departmental approval. [See CATO website](#) for FoM Departmental contact details.*

**Stage 2: Job Application Deadline:** **Wednesday 25 February 2026** (midnight)

*\* Applicants to submit all finalised application documentation online via ICL Job Applicant section to include: Job Application form, CV, completed and approved IPPRF Application form (including costings)*

**Interview Date:** **April 2026** (tbc)

**Fellowship Start Date:** **1 September 2026- 31 March 2027**

### Contacts

- Further details about the APPRF opportunity can be found on the Clinical Academic Training Office (CATO) website: [AHSC Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT Research Fellowship \(APPRF\) | Faculty of Medicine | Imperial College London](#)
- Informal enquiries about the APPRF opportunities can be sent to the CATO team at: [cato@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:cato@imperial.ac.uk)
- Questions about the online Job Application form should be directed to the CATO team for passing on to colleagues in HR recruitment hub.

- Questions about clinical and research aspects of the APPRF Fellowship role should be directed as follows:

#### APPRF in Cardiometabolic Medicine

Imperial Faculty of Medicine Dept Contacts	Chelsea & Westminster Hospital Contacts
<p><a href="#">National Heart &amp; Lung Institute</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alun Owen</b>, Research Manager <a href="mailto:a.owen@imperial.ac.uk">a.owen@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• <b>Prof Barbara Casadei</b>, Head of Dept</li> <li>• <b>Dr Gareth Hyde</b>, Director of Operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prof Sadia Khan</b> Consultant Cardiologist (C&amp;W Trust) and Professor of Practice (NHLI/Imperial) <a href="mailto:sadia.khan@imperial.ac.uk">sadia.khan@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• <b>Prof Jonathan Valabhji</b> Clinical Chair in Medicine (Imperial) and Honorary Consultant Diabetologist (C&amp;W Trust) <a href="mailto:j.valabhji@imperial.ac.uk">j.valabhji@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> </ul>

#### APPRF in General Adult Psychiatry

Imperial Faculty of Medicine Dept Contacts	Central & NW London Foundation Trust Contacts
<p><a href="#">Department of Brain Sciences</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Celia Domingues</b>, Research Manager <a href="mailto:c.domingues@imperial.ac.uk">c.domingues@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• <b>Prof Sameer Jauhar</b>, Clinical Associate Professor in Affective Disorders and Psychosis <a href="mailto:sameer.jauhar@imperial.ac.uk">sameer.jauhar@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• <b>Prof Allan Young</b>, Head of Dept</li> <li>• <b>Emma Watson</b>, Director of Operations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dr Simon Edwards</b> Deputy Chief Medical Officer, CNWL <a href="mailto:simon.edwards2@nhs.net">simon.edwards2@nhs.net</a></li> </ul>

#### APPRF in Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery

Imperial Faculty of Medicine Dept Contacts	Clinical / NHS contacts
<p><a href="#">Department of Surgery and Cancer</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rita Carvalho</b> Research Manager <a href="mailto:r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk">r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• <b>Prof George Hanna</b>, Head of Dept</li> <li>• <b>Elsa Paul</b>, Director of Operations</li> </ul>	<p><i>Applicants to liaise with Prof George Hanna for location of clinical component of role</i></p>