ESRC postdoctoral fellowships

Opportunity status: Open

Funders: Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

Funding type: Fellowship

Publication date: 11 December 2020

Opening date: N/A

Closing date: 23 March 2021 16:00 UK time

Last updated: 11 December 2020

Apply for a postdoctoral fellowship to develop:

- publications
- networks
- research skills
- professional skills.

You must:

- have completed your PhD at a research organisation that is part of a Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP)
- be within 12 months of passing your viva voce.

Your proposal can be from a single discipline or a combination of disciplines, but social sciences must make up at least 50% of your fellowship activities

Who can apply

The call is open to applicants who have completed their PhD at a research organisation that is part of a DTP and who are within 12 months of passing their viva voce. At the submission deadline, the applicant must either have been awarded a PhD or have submitted their thesis and passed their viva voce with
minor corrections, with the expectation that the PhD will be awarded by the fellowship start date.

What we're looking for

Fellows’ actual programmes or proposed programme of activities should reflect their prior knowledge and experience and be designed to support their longer-term research career aspirations. Activities could include but are not limited to:

- producing publications in order to help establish track record
- engaging with a range of different audiences to communicate research findings
- building networks to develop impact opportunities and inform and support further development
- collaborating with users through an internship or placement to help develop professional and transferrable skills and understanding of users’ organisations, provided they are an integral part of the fellowship
- further training to improve research and related skills
- developing funding proposals
- carrying out further limited research (up to 25% of the programme of work) related to their PhD
- teaching, if this is aligned with the wider purposes of the fellowship (up to a maximum of six hours per week)
- research visits to internationally leading research organisations, either in the UK or abroad, for the purposes of research collaboration, training, and access to data or other resources not available at the applicant’s host organisation.

Proposals are welcome from both single disciplines and combinations of disciplines, but the fellowship activities must be based at least 50% within the social sciences

How to apply

Applications must be made directly to the DTP and they will administer the assessment process.

DTPs will have their own procedures in place to peer review the proposals and make funding decisions on behalf of ESRC. Where this includes an expression of interest stage, potential applicants must abide by the deadlines specified by the DTP to which they intend applying.

Full details, including the call specification, a frequently asked questions document and an application form will be available on the DTP websites.

All applicants must submit a full proposal along with the required attachments by 16:00 on 23 March 2021 to the DTP they are applying to.

The DTPs participating in the fourth round are:
Cambridge Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership
Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership
The London Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership
LSE Doctoral Training Partnership
Midlands Graduate School Doctoral Training Partnership
Northern Ireland and North East Doctoral Training Partnership
North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership
Scottish Graduate School of Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership
South Coast Doctoral Training Partnership
South East Network for Social Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership
South West Doctoral Training Partnership
UCL, Bloomsbury and East London Doctoral Training Partnership
Wales Doctoral Training Partnership
White Rose Social Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership.

Contact details
For queries, please contact the relevant DTP directly.

NOTE This is the first phase of our new website – let us know if you have feedback or would like to help us test new developments.

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