**UKRI Future Leader Fellowships Round 8**

**University of Cambridge – School selection form**

*Call Details:* [*https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-8/*](https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-8/)

*Please submit this completed form and the applicant’s CV to* [*ahss-srf-administrator@admin.cam.ac.uk*](mailto:ahss-srf-administrator@admin.cam.ac.uk)*by*

***20th April 2023***

***To be completed by the applicant***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name** |  |
| **Host Department** |  |
| **Research Project Title** |  |
| **Research project description**  Highlight the importance, novelty and feasibility of the proposed programme of work as well as the overall potential of the fellowship to establish or maintain a distinctive and outstanding research/innovation activity. (maximum 500 words) |  |
| **Long-term career goals**  Outline how a UKRI FLF would enable and support your career development. (maximum 250 words) |  |
| **Impact & Strategic Relevance**  Summarise the importance and potential impact of the research/innovation for society and/or the economy  (maximum 250 words) |  |

***To be completed by the HoD or Departmental Administrator***

**Confirmation of a commitment to the open-ended position**: Round 8 guidelines reiterate that academic host organisations should provide a commitment to an open-ended independent research/innovation position for the FLF, in line with organisational employment policies and practices (please refer to section 1.7 of the [Scheme Guidance](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/UKRI-17022023-Round-8-Guidance-for-Academic-hosted-Applicants.pdf)). Please describe your plans for creating an open-ended position for the candidate at the end of the Fellowship and how this can be achieved within existing resources. This will need to be verified at the School level. In cases where an open-ended position cannot be created at the end of the fellowship, the application will not be put forward:

**Confirmation to the Salary Tapering:** Fellowships are structured as 4+3 years, and require the host organisation to provide tapering salary support for the Fellow from year 3 (see section 6.1 of the [Scheme Guidance](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/UKRI-17022023-Round-8-Guidance-for-Academic-hosted-Applicants.pdf)). Please explain how the Department/Faculty plans to cover the tapering salary support for the Fellow from year 3.

**Equality and Diversity**: Please describe how the Fellowship opportunity was advertised at the Department/Faculty and what steps were taken to ensure a fair selection of applicants, with regard to equality and diversity. What processes were used to identify potential and final candidates? What steps were taken to mitigate unconscious bias in the selection process? How diverse was the membership of any selection panels used in your process?

To be signed by the Head of Department/Chair of Faculty

Name:

Signature:

**Annex 1: Assessment criteria**

The following criteria for internal selection are a subset of the UKRI’s full application [assessment criteria](https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/UKRI-17022023-UKRI-Future-Leaders-Fellowships-Assessment-Criteria-Round-8.pdf).

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| --- | --- |
| **Factor** | **Key criteria** |
| Research and innovation excellence | * Excellence of the research and innovation * Importance, novelty and feasibility of the proposed programme of work (and whether long-term fellowship support is needed to enable this) * Overall potential of the fellowship to establish or maintain a   distinctive and outstanding research/innovation activity |
| Applicant and their development | * Be recognised to be of the highest standard relative to their career stage and on a trajectory to become world-class * A broad understanding of the research / innovation landscape at both the national and international level and clarity on how their research/innovation will contribute to it |
| Impact and strategic relevance | * Importance and potential impact of the research / innovation for society and / or the economy   + What are the potential short or long-term impacts, and how significant are they?   + Are the pathways to achieving this impact well understood, and are the plans for maximising impact (from the applicant and host organisation) proportionate, timely, and credible? |

**Annex 2: UKRI feedback/guidance from previous rounds**

Person specification

* The scheme is aimed at candidates who are not already established and independent, though those who currently hold permanent/open-ended contracts can apply with specific justification. Previous feedback from UKRI panels suggest that the University is putting forward candidates that are not competitive, as they have levels of funding or responsibility normally indicative of research independence within their discipline/area.
* The UKRI have deliberately not restricted the definition of ‘early career’ to ensure that the scheme is open to candidates from non-traditional backgrounds and is accessible from a diversity of career paths and experiences within R&I. For example, if a candidate comes into a lecturer post from an established background in industry, but is new to academia, they could be considered early career. It is up to the applicant to explain how they fit into the ‘early career’ stage. Relatedly, the funder stresses that this is a flexible scheme that allows part-time working and job share.
* The profile of successful applicants to this scheme has evolved through each round; for more information regarding competitive candidates, please refer to section 2.1 and Annex B of the Scheme Guidance.
* For the full list of awardees from Rounds 1-6, see the database: <https://www.ukri.org/publications/future-leaders-fellowships-database-of-fellows/>

EDI and Disciplinary split

* There is less diversity than expected in applications, which is reflected in the awards. UKRI has reported that overall, diversity rates improved for both awards and applications in round 6 relative to the previous 5 rounds (round 7 data is not available as awards have not yet been announced). UKRI has encouraged universities to review their internal selection criteria and processes to ensure that all potential applicants have a fair chance of being put forward through a transparent selection process based on ability and potential.
* There are significantly more applications from STEM subjects compared to AHSS subjects, but there is not a difference in award rates. The UKRI encourages more applicants from AHSS subjects.