

UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships: internal selection guidance

King's Research Strategy & Performance
Autumn 2024

As with previous rounds of applications to the UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships scheme, King's is running an internal process to select candidates to put forward for Round 10 (which has a funder submission deadline of 18th June 2025). **King's has a funder cap on its submissions, which is a maximum of 8 applications.**

For this round, we are running a two-stage selection process following the steps outlined below (for dates and detail, please see table on page 2):

- Faculty initial selection stage (to be completed by early March 2025 – by close of play on the 3rd March)
- Faculty selections submitted to College-wide selection panel, to be chaired by the Vice Principal Research; all candidates to be informed of the outcome by end March 2025

Scheme overview

The UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships scheme is designed to support outstanding early career researchers and innovators to complete an ambitious programme of research and innovation which allows them to transition to independence, across the UKRI research remit. The scheme is open to those who currently hold a position but have not yet received substantive grant funding as PI. UKRI has been clear that it does not want to fund people to just conduct research projects. Instead, it wants to give researchers the opportunity, through the generous time and money offered by these fellowships, to develop skills that will allow them to produce research/innovation of a quality that would not be possible without those skills. Ultimately, the integrated research and skills development programmes funded by the fellowships will make successful applicants leaders in their fields and beyond.

You must be an early career researcher or innovator who is either looking to establish or transition to independence, or developing your own original and ambitious plans within a commercial setting; you must be based at, and have the support of, an eligible academic or non-academic institution eligible for UKRI funding.

The scheme has a particular focus on tackling “difficult and novel challenges.” The scheme potentially offers up to 7 years of funding (on a 4 + 3 model), with a budget in the first 4 years which reflects the project, with no minimum or maximum; in the past, UKRI notes it has funded projects valued from £300k to £2m at FEC. UKRI is keen that this opportunity be used to propose ambitious and adventurous work that needs an extended period of dedicated time.

For more information, see the scheme's webpage on the UKRI website:
<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-10/>

At the link above, please also ensure that you carefully read the downloadable documents under 'Additional info', for example the Guidance for Academic Hosted Applicants:
<https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/UKRI-221024-Funding-Opp-FutureLeadersFellowshipsRound10-GuidanceForAcademicHostedApplicants.pdf>

When reading the above resources, we encourage you to pay particular attention to:

- Eligibility criteria: UKRI focus on candidates' transition to independence rather than years post-PhD
- Host institution's salary commitment
- Employment expectations at the end of the award

Expressions of Interest: what to include

All candidates interested in applying via King's should submit a formal expression of interest to their Faculty – the deadline will vary by Faculty and you should contact your Research Development Manager for that date.

Expressions of interest should include:

1. CV & list of outputs, using the template provided (see separate template)
2. EOI, using the template provided (see separate template)
3. Email confirmation from local leadership (Head of Department or Head of School) that the application is approved, and that the requirement for % salary and long-term position will be met
4. We would be grateful if all applicants submitting an EOI could complete the confidential MS Form which tracks applicant characteristics, found at the link below and strongly encouraged by UKRI so that they can track the characteristics of those interested in the FLF scheme. Please see the form for more information about the purpose of, use of, and storage of this data.
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FM9wg_MWFky4PHJAcWVDViF7KBgy7qRLgqfu1G8fXYhUN0Q3NE9TMzZaSUo3WEEzUElNWkzTVdOVy4u

Please complete all expression of interest materials as one PDF document, in Arial size 11 and then submit to your Faculty Research Development Manager – see contact list at the end of this document.

Timeline for King's processes

Stage	When	What
Applicant EOI deadline	Dates are Faculty specific, but likely to be during February 2024	Send your EOI to your Faculty Research Development Manager (contact details below) Please contact your Faculty's Research Development Manager as soon as possible to ensure you are aware of your Faculty's process and deadlines. Deadlines vary by Faculty.
King's stage one selection (in Faculty)	During February 2025 (as above) It is likely that to have Faculty selections completed by 3 rd March 2025, the Faculties would be holding assessment	Each Faculty will assess EOIs & select their top 3; these assessments will be shared with the College-wide selection panel. Faculties should send their top three selections to healthresearchdevelopment@kcl.ac.uk

	meetings in the last week or last fortnight of February 2025.	
King's stage two selection (College-wide)	Mid-March 2025	College-wide selection panel, to be chaired by the Vice-Principal Research & Innovation
Applicants informed of decisions	By end March 2025	All applicants informed of selection decisions. Selected candidates to develop full proposal for submission to UKRI.
UKRI deadline for full applications	18 th June 2025	Completion of the full application for submission to UKRI. <i>**As always, this King's internal deadline is <u>5 working days</u> before the UKRI deadline**</i>

Please contact your RDM before beginning an EoI; they will inform you of timelines and are here to answer questions and provide advice.

Research Development Managers – contacts to submit EoI using the email addresses below

Faculty	Name	Email
Arts & Humanities	Emma Jay	Emma.jay@kcl.ac.uk
Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences	Greg Dow	Keren.dempsey@kcl.ac.uk
Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience	Clarissa Edwards & Nuria Andreu	Clarissa.edwards@kcl.ac.uk (For EoI submission, and SoAP discussions) Nuria.andreu@kcl.ac.uk (for SoN and MHaPS discussions)
King's Business School	Sarah Evans	Kbsresearch@kcl.ac.uk Cc: Sarah.l.evans@kcl.ac.uk
Law	David Newsome, Gil Toffell	Lawresearch@kcl.ac.uk Cc: david.newsome@kcl.ac.uk and gilad.toffell@kcl.ac.uk
Life Sciences & Medicine (Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences; Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine and Sciences, Life Course and Population Sciences)	Sarah Davies	FoLSM-Research-Office@kcl.ac.uk
Life Sciences & Medicine (Immunology & Microbial Sciences, Cancer & Pharmaceutical Sciences, Basic & Medical Biosciences)	Greg Dow	FoLSM-Research-Office@kcl.ac.uk

Natural, Mathematical & Engineering Sciences (Engineering, Informatics)	Cecilia Rossiter	NMES-research@kcl.ac.uk
Natural, Mathematical & Engineering Sciences (Physics, Maths, Chemistry)	Mike Ward	NMES-research@kcl.ac.uk
Natural, Mathematical & Engineering Sciences (Net Zero Centre, Physical Sciences of Life Centre)	Jack Matthews	NMES-research@kcl.ac.uk
Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care	Sarah Davies	sarah.k.davies@kcl.ac.uk
Social Science & Public Policy	Gil Toffell	Gilad.toffell@kcl.ac.uk