

What Royal Society funding opportunities are there for me?

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Founded in 1660, the Royal Society is the independent scientific academy of the UK, dedicated to promoting excellence in science

The Society's work is supported by 1600 Fellows and Foreign Members. 52 new Fellows are elected each year.

Strategic Priorities Our Strategic Plan for 2017-22 is built on three strategic priorities:

- Promoting excellence in science
- Supporting international scientific collaboration
- Demonstrating the importance of science to everyone

What types of funding are available from the Royal Society?

Early Career
Fellowships

Senior
Fellowship
Schemes

Innovation
Schemes

Research
Capacity &
Infrastructure

Collaboration
& Travel

“My University Research Fellowship provided me the opportunity to pursue independent blue-skies and applied research, while connecting me to a large interdisciplinary network of world-class scientists”

Dr Steven Spoel
University Research Fellow
University of Edinburgh



Early Career Fellowships

University Research Fellowships

- 3-8 years postdoctoral experience
- Long-term, flexible funding
- Opens Summer 2018

RS Wellcome Trust Sir Henry Dale Fellowships

- Long-term funding for biomedical research
- Next Preliminary application deadline November

Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowships

- Up to 6 years postdoctoral experience
- For scientists who require flexible working
- Opens Autumn 2017



I've taken 6 months paternity leave during my URF; my partner and I split the parental leave 50/50. The Royal Society have completely supported of this. For both maternity and paternity leave, the duration of the fellowship is simply extended accordingly.

Dr Toby Cubitt
University Research Fellow
University College London



“Having children has been life changing for me and the flexibility of the scheme has been invaluable – being able to work part time enabled me to come back to work earlier and stay competitive in my field.”

Dr Hanna Sykulska-Lawrence
Dorothy Hodgkin Fellow
University of Southampton

Senior Career Fellowships

Research Professorships

- 10 years of funding
- Currently open, closing 11 October

RS Leverhulme Trust Senior Fellowship

- Relief from teaching and admin
- Opens Winter 2017

RS Wolfson Research Merit Awards

- Salary enhancement for recruitment and retention
- Opens Autumn 2017

Industry & Innovation

Industry Fellowship

- Collaborative project with between industry and academia
- 2-4 year Fellowships
- 2 rounds per year – next round September 2017

Paul Instrument Fund

- Up to £75,000 to design and construct a novel instrument measuring phenomena in the physical sciences
- Opens early 2018

Industry & Innovation

Translation Award

- £50k for testing the economic feasibility of commercialising an aspect of research.
- Funds can be used for equipment and consumables.
- Opens 2018

Innovation Award

- £250k for taking a proven novel concept through to a near market ready product.
- Funds can be used for securing research assistance, or equipment & consumables.
- Opens 2018

Wolfson Laboratory Refurbishment Scheme

- Funding up to £250K to improve the existing physical infrastructure in UK universities to promote high quality scientific research
- Annual & themed

Research Grants

- £15k 'seed corn' funding for equipment, essential consumables, essential field research
- Within first 5 years of permanent position
- Length of award – 12 months
- 2 rounds per year – opening around April & August 2018

New Schemes!

Global Challenges Fund

- The International Collaboration Awards
- Opening Spring 2018

APEX Award

- Cross-disciplinary and cross-Academy research award
- Opening late 2017

International Collaboration and Travel



**International
Collaboration
& Travel**

**International
Exchanges**

- From £3,000 - £12,000
- Travel & collaboration world-wide
- Both applicants must have fixed term/permanent contracts
- 3 rounds/year, multiple deadlines

**Newton
International
Fellowship**

- Two year early career fellowships
- UK researchers cannot apply but they can host
- Partnership with British Academy & Academy of Medical Sciences
- Opening January 2018

International Collaboration & Travel



Aims to develop science and innovation partnerships that promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Part of the UK's official development assistance commitment.

Eligible countries: Brazil, China, Mexico, South Africa, Turkey, Malaysia, India and Thailand

Newton Advanced Fellowships: Up to three years funding for early to mid-career researchers from Newton Fund countries to develop research strengths through training and collaboration with a partner in the UK. Includes: a salary top up for the Newton Fund country applicant, research support, travel and subsistence and training.

Newton International Fellowships: Provides the opportunity for the best early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world to work at UK research institutions for a period of two years.

Newton Mobility Grants: Funding for travel, subsistence and research expenses for one-off or multiple visits (International Exchanges Scheme).

Overseas Opportunities: There are a number of opportunities for UK based researchers to work overseas.

Application
(FlexiGrant)

NEW SYSTEM – FlexiGrant is
replacing e-GAP from April 2017

Must be approved by University
(e.g Research Finance Office)

Panel Longlist

External Peer
Review

Panel Shortlist

Interviews

Panel
Decision

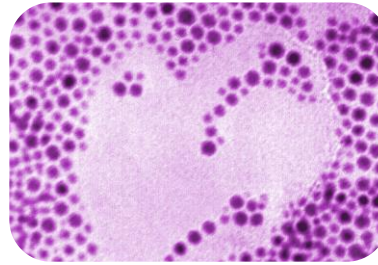


Success!

Applications – What are we looking for?



Excellent scientific merit



Creativity



Track Record



Validity of hypothesis



Career development



Host institution

Hints & tips!



Read the
scheme notes



Write a good
lay summary



Be
enthusiastic



Leave plenty
of time



Contact us

Interviews

Interview process

- The interview will be conducted by a panel of committee members
- One panel member will lead the interview, but all members can ask questions
- Candidates will be asked to give a brief overview of their applications and area of research

The questions will focus on the following issues:

- The science of the application
- Developments since the submission of the application
- The choice of host institution/research group
- The route of independence (early career only)
- Any issues needing further clarification

Application Process

Success rates

- Varies from scheme to scheme and year to year depending on the number of applications, awards available...
- Remember – don't be put off by statistics, you need to apply to be successful!

Diversity

- The Society recognises that many talented individuals do not fulfil their scientific potential due to various issues and barriers and we are committed to helping to put this right.
- We are currently addressing this through measures such as improving promotion and reviewing our selection processes.

Feedback & Re-applying

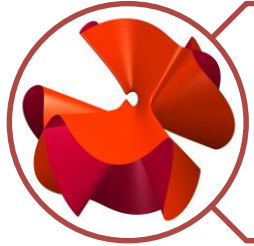
- Limited feedback is available for those who are unsuccessful (depending on the stage reached in the application process).
- For most of our schemes we welcome people to reapply.
- Get in contact with us and speak to the relevant Scheme Manager.

Tier 1 Exceptional Talent Visa

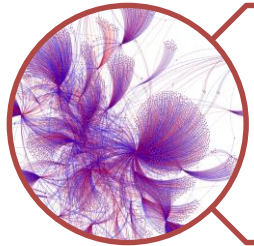
- The Royal Society is recognised as a 'competent body' able to endorse applications for Tier 1 visas from individuals who have shown exceptional talent or exceptional promise within the natural and medical sciences.
- Details on Home Office website www.gov.uk/tier-1-exceptional-talent - get in contact with us



Prestigious



Flexible



Added value

Contact details

royalsociety.org/grants

grants@royalsociety.org

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