

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RSE SALTIRE EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS



These are the terms and conditions of the RSE Saltire Early Career Fellowships. Applicants should read these carefully, as well as the general terms and conditions, before completing and submitting their application.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH (RSE)

As Scotland's National Academy, the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) supports high-quality academic research and public engagement activities. The RSE delivers upon its mission 'to promote the Advancement of Learning and Useful Knowledge' by supporting academic researchers, practitioners and policy makers, and in assisting the development, dissemination and deployment of research. The RSE's Saltire Research Awards Programme sits within, and delivers to, this overall mission.

RSE SALTIRE EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS

- 1. Purpose:** To provide PhD students and Early Career Researchers with a 3–12 month opportunity to focus on a research project of their choice in a university or research institute in another country, thereby supporting career development and high-quality research production through European connections and collaboration via inbound/outbound research placements.
- 2. Approach:** An opportunity for international placements (inbound/outbound) of PhD students and Early Career Researchers who are either Scottish-based or EU academics for between 3–12 months. A total of 7 Early Career Researcher and 20 PhD-level Fellowships from Scottish and European Higher Education Institutions (HEI) will be funded.
- 3. Funding:** A contribution towards salary costs plus an additional contribution towards research costs (for Early Career Researchers), or a stipend (for PhD students), is provided for Awardees, costed pro rata depending on length of award (3–12 months).

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- 4.** Open to PhD students and Early Career Researchers of all disciplines. This terminology takes no account either of an applicant's age or current status in determining eligibility for this award.
- 5. Current PhD students** can apply at the start of Year 2 onwards (or part time equivalent) of their PhD programme. Our funding is conditional on any PhD scholarship funder allowing this within their terms and conditions. During the period of RSE award, PhD scholarship stipend funding should be postponed and granted as an extension for the same length as the RSE Early Career Fellowships.
- 6. Post doctoral researchers** may apply. The RSE defines a postdoctoral scholar ("postdoc") as an individual holding a doctoral degree who is engaged in a temporary period of mentored research and/or scholarly training for the purpose of acquiring the professional skills needed to pursue a career path of their choosing.
- 7. Early Career Researcher (ECR) definition:** ECR applicants must be within seven years of the award of their PhD (from the point of successful PhD viva to the point of applying) and be within seven years of their first academic appointment (paid contract of employment which lists research or teaching as the primary role). Additionally:
 - Maternity/paternity/parental/adoption leave after award of PhD of up to 18 months per child (if longer please document within application) is taken into consideration. Please include the time you were away from work on maternity/paternity/adoption leave in the section 'career history';
 - Documented periods of leave for other reasons, i.e., long-term medical absence, will also be taken into consideration.

8. Early Career Researchers: Applicants must be existing members of academic staff on open-ended or continuing contracts in a Higher Education Institution in Scotland or EU Higher Education Institution. Applicants on short or fixed-term contracts should ensure their contracts extend for at least three months after the end of the proposed project. Early Career Researchers (ECRs) on staged contracts to permanent lectureship positions are eligible but must be in contract for the duration of the award.
9. Open to academics based in Scotland or an EU country (see general terms and conditions for definitions of country eligibility). Applicants must identify a temporary host institution from an EU country (Scottish applicants) or Scotland (EU applicants).
10. Upon appointment, awardees will be required to devote themselves full time to the research project specified in the application form.
11. An application will not be considered if a report on a previous RSE grant is overdue.

RESEARCH ELIGIBILITY

12. Applicants are required to pursue their research in a Higher Education Institution (HEI) or Research Institute (RI) or Cultural Institution in Scotland or EU country; only these are acceptable as host and participating institutions.
13. The research can be in any academic discipline.

SELECTION CRITERIA

14. In addition to the criteria listed in the general terms and conditions, applications will be assessed according to:
 - **Economic and social impact:** While the research may be in any academic discipline including interdisciplinary areas, preference may be given to research likely to enhance the transfer of ideas and technology from the research community into sustainable economic growth and social benefits for all.
 - **Timeliness and promise:** The project should be timely with the potential to be sustainable.

PUBLICATIONS

15. Any publications or other output arising from the research associated with the award should acknowledge the RSE Saltire Research Award's support.

OTHER CONDITIONS

16. To undertake research at the participating, temporary host institution, the applicant will be required to negotiate their appointment directly with their own, and with the temporary host, institution – NB: This is not the RSE's responsibility.

FUNDING

17. **PhD student:** the Award provides up to equivalent UK stipend of £16,000 per year. This will be pro rata depending on length of fellowship (3–12 months). No research costs are included be awarded

18. Early Career Researcher: the Award provides a contribution towards the salary costs for the applicant of up to £55,000 (including on costs). This will be pro rata depending on length of fellowship (3–12 months). Awards also provide up to £10,000 research costs according to the following eligibility criteria:

- **Eligible** costs comprise:
 - **Research consumables:** examples include licenses for archival material or for software that are required for research to be carried out; printed brochures for dissemination events; tea, coffee, lunch for meetings etc.; postage, stationery and photocopying. **Throughout the duration of the funded project, Scottish and UK Government, and appropriate in-country EU, legislation and guidelines for Covid19-safe contact must be observed.**
 - **Research-related travel:** reasonable expenses, using standard class fares excluding first and business class travel; where using private car, the rate equivalent of GBP0.40 per mile is allowed. **Throughout the duration of the funded project, Scottish and UK Government, and appropriate in-country EU, legislation and guidelines for Covid19-safe travel and contact must be observed.**
- **Ineligible** costs comprise:
 - Equipment.
 - Research assistants.

19. Fund administration: The award will be paid to the Scottish HEI. It is the responsibility of the academic partnership to ensure payment between the two Universities/Departments involved.

20. Grants are tenable for a minimum of three months and a maximum of twelve months.

21. If you require funding from other sources in addition to the RSE Saltire Early Career Fellowship to complete the research, this should be clearly stated in the application form. This should include the amount sought, and the progress and likelihood of securing the funding.

EMPLOYMENT

22. The award of an RSE Saltire Early Career Fellowship is separate from a contract of employment. An award will, however, normally be terminated if such a contract of employment is terminated.

23. Awards should be taken on a full time basis, however we will consider applications for part-time completion, with supporting information on how the research can be delivered successfully on a part-time basis in a “temporary host” institution.

24. If the work on the funded project should be interrupted for more than a month, through illness or for other reason, the RSE must be notified. The grant holder must conform with local practice in informing their employer of absences on grounds of sickness or for any other reason. The employer is responsible for any replacement staff, and the RSE is not required to be notified, except where the nature or extent of the sickness absence is likely to affect payments to the replacement.

25. If the grant holder resigns from the research post or HEI before the project is complete, all unspent funds must be reimbursed to the RSE in full.

26. If a significant material change should occur in the applicant’s circumstances after submitting the application, details should be notified in writing or by email to the RSE Research Awards Officer(s).

ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

27. By signing the Application Form and accepting the Grant Offer Letter, both the host institution and the applicant agree to be bound by the general terms and conditions and Early Career Fellowship Terms and Conditions upon acceptance of the award by the host Institution. Both the funder and the Royal Society of Edinburgh shall be entitled to enforce these terms and conditions.

CONTACT US

28. Please direct enquiries to: Saltire@theRSE.org.uk.



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba



*The Royal Society
of Edinburgh*

KNOWLEDGE MADE USEFUL