Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships : 2017 competition

Correction

1 Notes for applicants

The Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship is a highly prestigious, fiercely competitive, award for researchers who are near the start of their post-doctoral career. Leverhulme specify that no more than four years should have elapsed between your PhD viva and the national closing date of 02 March 2017, unless you have had a career break.

All subjects are eligible except Clinical Medicine (non-clinical research in the School of Clinical Medicine is however, eligible – if in doubt, ask your chosen Department for advice).

Matching Funding required

Each University may submit a limited number of selected applications to the national Leverhulme competition and each candidate put forward for the national round must supply a letter specifying where the institutional matching funding will come from.

The Isaac Newton Trust (INT) is pleased to provide matched funding to support individuals who successfully apply for Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships in 2016-17 to be held at the University of Cambridge from October 2017.

The application process therefore consists of two steps as follows:

a) The INT runs an internal competition to identify which candidates for Leverhulme awards to be held at Cambridge can be offered matching funding:
   • You should apply to the department or institute in which you hope to hold the award;
   • the Head of Department arranges a preliminary competition to select a small number (normally only one or two per department) applicants to put forward for INT funding;
   • from these ranked lists, about 50 (across all subjects in the University) are selected for INT support by internal subject-based panels;
   • if selected for INT support in principle (if successful nationally) you are informed by INT.

b) Selected candidates apply to the national competition run by the Leverhulme Trust:
   • You must apply to the Leverhulme Trust by the national deadline (02 March 2017), including evidence of the INT’s promise to match the Leverhulme’s award;
   • the Leverhulme Trust’s academic panels select the best candidates submitted by all the Universities in the UK and award Fellowships (about 120 nationwide, of which 10-16 may be for research in Cambridge).
**Before you apply to the internal competition**

1. Check whether you and your subject are eligible on the Leverhulme Trust's website: [https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/grant-schemes/early-career-fellowships/eligibility](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/grant-schemes/early-career-fellowships/eligibility).
2. Read the terms and conditions specified by the Leverhulme Trust’s for their awards at: [http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/ECF/app_procedure.cfm](http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/ECF/app_procedure.cfm)
3. Identify a Cambridge academic as a suitable PI and find the appropriate Cambridge host department/institute in the list at Section 3;
4. Discuss your plans with your intended PI and check the department/institute will be willing in principle to accept you if you are successful in the national competition;
5. Find out what **deadline** has been set by the Head of Department for the preliminary stage of the internal competition;
6. Your application must be sent to the department that would host you if successful, not to either Trust.

**Applications for the internal competition**

An application for the internal competition consists of:
- a brief c.v. (not exceeding two sides), and
- a draft of the three items required for the Leverhulme application:
  - a list of your major publications (maximum one side)
  - a statement of your current research (maximum 250 words) and
  - a detailed statement of your proposed research (maximum two sides).

It is **not** necessary to submit any costings.

Some Departments hold on file redacted versions of previous successful applications for Leverhulme Fellowships; these can often be very useful to candidates applying for the current competition, so you might ask your department if these are available.

**References**

- Two letters of reference are needed, of which one should come from outside Cambridge (note that the national stage of the Leverhulme competition requires a third reference as well, but this is not necessary for the internal INT competition)
- Please ask your referees to send their letters **directly to the Department** by their deadline (see below), not to the Isaac Newton Trust.

**Deadlines**

- Submit the application to your chosen Department by the deadline it has set for applications—*this varies across the University so you need to find out what this is*;
- Departments send their ranked list of applicants and supported applications to the Isaac Newton Trust to arrive no later than **16 January 2017**
- The Trust will inform selected candidates and their departments in good time for apply for a Leverhulme award by the national deadline of **02 March 2017**

**Laurie Friday**
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3 Ranking units for the internal matching funding competition

Applications are accepted from the ‘ranking units’ listed below. This list is based on the University’s departmental/faculty structure, and reflects the way in which the Leverhulme Trust is prepared to set up their awards. However, please note:

- Applicants based in cross-School Centres or Institutes (marked**) in which any grant associated with them would be held, should apply through that Centre or Institute, rather than through the University department with which their PI is associated. Each applicant may make only one application.

- Departmental Centres and Museums listed on [http://map.cam.ac.uk/directory/](http://map.cam.ac.uk/directory/) should apply through the body under which they are grouped.

- Applicants from other bodies (e.g. the Fitzwilliam Museum) should apply to the most appropriate ranking unit from the list below.

School of Arts and Humanities
Architecture and History of Art
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies
Classics
Divinity
English
Modern and Medieval Languages
Music
Philosophy
**Centre for Research in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (CRASSH)

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Archaeology & Anthropology
Economics
Education
History
History & Philosophy of Science
Land Economy
Law (including Institute of Criminology)
POLIS (including the Area Centres)
Sociology
School of Clinical Medicine

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NB applicants from clinical departments should ensure that their project falls within the classification of ‘basic science’: the Leverhulme Trust will not award fellowships in clinical/medical research.

Clinical Biochemistry
Clinical Neurosciences
Haematology
Medical Genetics
Medicine
Obstetrics & Gynaecology
Oncology
Paediatrics
Psychiatry
Public Health & Primary Care
Radiology
Surgery
**Cambridge Institute for Medical Research (CIMR)

School of Biological Sciences
Biochemistry
Genetics
Pathology
Pharmacology
Physiology, Development and Neuroscience
Plant Sciences
Psychology
Zoology
Veterinary Medicine
**Wellcome Trust Centre for Stem Cell Research
**Wellcome Trust/Cancer Research UK Gurdon Institute
**Cambridge Systems Biology Centre (CSBC)
**Sainsbury Laboratory

School of Physical Sciences
Earth Sciences
Geography (including Scott Polar RI)
Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics
Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics
Astronomy
Chemistry
Materials Science and Metallurgy
Physics

School of Technology
Department of Engineering
Judge Business School
Computer Laboratory

If you are in doubt about the unit to which an applicant belongs, please contact me.

Laurie Friday