

Postdoctoral Fellowship: Frequently Asked Questions

How many times can I apply?

You can only apply once. Only those who are invited to the second stage of the competition are allowed to re-apply.

Can I apply at multiple institutions?

You can only apply via one institution.

I got my PhD in 2014, but I decided to work in a non-academic job for a few years. Does this count as an exemption?

No, unfortunately the only exemptions we consider are breaks taken due to care commitments or for personal health reasons.

I won't have my viva voce examination until early 2019/My viva voce examination has not been scheduled yet! Can I still apply?

If you are reasonably confident that your viva voce examination will be held before 1st April 2019, then you may apply. However, if there are any changes last minute that push your viva voce date beyond the 1st April 2019, you will have to withdraw your application.

How much will I get paid?

You will be paid at the standard rate of your chosen host institution for an equivalent position.

What is the Second Stage? Can I apply at the Second Stage instead?

The Postdoctoral Fellowship competition is a two-stage process. Only those who are successful at the Outline Stage can apply for the Second Stage. The Second Stage is invitation only.

What does the referee have to do?

Your nominated referee will be asked to fill in a questionnaire on our Flexi-Grant system. They will be asked to comment on your abilities, academic record, and research proposal.

Can PERSON X be my referee?

Your supporting statements from your referee will be reviewed by the assessors and their relationship to you will be taken into consideration. The general rule is that they must be as external to you as possible, but still have a good knowledge of your academic abilities and output. We recommend the External Examiner for your PhD.

Does a master's degree in the UK count as 'prior association'?

No. You will need to have worked as an academic researcher in the UK: For example, taking on a Research Fellowship position, or working as a Research Assistant at a UK academic institution.

Can I take the award on at part time, so that I can work on a different project part time?

No. The Postdoctoral Fellowship buys you out for 100% of your time. However, it is possible for you to change part time working hours – but not for the purposes of working on a different project.