What is a fellowship?

Fellowships provide a kickstart to or significantly enhance a career and make an impressive addition to an academic CV. Working with professionals, receiving mentoring, enhancing training opportunities and making connections in your chosen field, often leading to further opportunities and better career opportunities.

A fellowship can have several different definitions, depending upon the extent of the fellowship, what it offers, and what it requires. Most often fellowships are monetary awards (scholarships) connected to working in a specific field, usually at the graduate or post-graduate level.

Early career fellowships provide graduate students time to complete additional training in a field, or funding to continue research. Fellows typically receive a stipend which allows them to complete their training, internship or research without having to devote time to working outside their field, or to resorting to additional loans for support.

Fellowships types

Individual fellowships

Pay the salary of a single, usually postdoctoral, researcher rather than a specific research project. Some come with a fixed amount of associated research costs.

There are a wide range of Fellowships for academic and clinical researchers at all different stages of their career, as well as fellowships to enable a researcher to work in another country or an academic to work in industry, or vice versa. Durations vary but are usually for at least six months up to three years. Examples are:

- **AHRC**
  - Fellowships in the Creative and Performing Arts
- **Alzheimer’s Research Trust**
  - Research Fellowships
- **BBSRC**

David Phillips Fellowships
Research Development Fellowships
Professorial Fellowships
Daphne Jackson memorial Fellowships
Institute Career Path Fellowships
Institute Development Fellowships

**British Academy**
- Senior Research Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships

**Cancer Research UK**
- Senior Cancer Research Fellowships
- Career development Fellowships
- Clinical Scientist Fellowship
- Postdoctoral fellowships
- Population Research Fellowships

**Commonwealth Scholarships**
- Professorial Research Fellowships

**EPSRC**
- Leadership Fellowships
- Career Acceleration Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Royal Academy of Engineering/EPSRC Research Fellowships
- William Hodge Fellowship

**ESRC**
- Research Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Professorial Fellowships

**European Commission**
- Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships
- Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowships
- Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowships

**Institute of Historical Studies**
- Research Fellowships
- IHR Research Fellowships
- Mellon Fellowships in the Humanities

**The Leverhulme Trust**
- Research Fellowships
- Study Abroad Fellowships
- Early Career Fellowships
- Emeritus Fellowships
- Senior Research Fellowships
Major Research Fellowships in the Humanities and Social Science

**MRC**
- Discipline specific fellowships
- Career Development Award
- Clinical Research Training Fellowship
- Clinical Scientist Fellowships
- Senior Non Clinical Fellowship
- Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Fellowships

**NERC**
- Postdoctoral Research Fellowships
- Advanced Research Fellowships

**NIHR**
- Doctoral Research Fellowship
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship
- Career Development Fellowships
- Senior Research Fellowship

**Nuffield Foundation**
- Career Development Fellowships

**Royal Academy of Engineering**
- Senior Research Fellowships
- Research Fellowships
- Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships

**Royal Society**
- Industry Fellowships
- University Research Fellowships
- Newton International Fellowship Scheme
- Wolfson Research Merit Awards

**STFC**
- Postdoctoral Fellowships
- Advanced Fellowships
- Anglo-Australian Observatory Postdoctoral Research Fellowship
- European Space Agency Fellowships
- Science and Society Fellowships

**Wellcome Trust**
- Training Fellowships
- Research Career Development Fellowships in Basic Biomedical Science
- Research Training Fellowships

**University of Birmingham**
- Fellowship Bridging Awards in Biomedical Science

**Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities**
- Visiting Fellowships

**Wellcome Trust**
- Flexible Travel Awards: Fellowships
- Flexible Travel Awards: Sabbaticals

**The University of Birmingham**
- Training/Travel Awards in Biomedical Science

**Travel Fellowships**

Travel fellowships enable researchers to visit a laboratory in another country (or have a programme of reciprocal visits) to explore a new research area of technique, or to develop collaborative research. Travel fellowships generally provide support for one to six months. Examples are:

**British Academy**
- Visiting Fellowships

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Further help

The above lists are not exhaustive and merely provide a taster of the array of fellowship schemes on offer. For more details please visit [https://www.intranet.bham.ac.uk/rcs/funding/Fellowships2.shtml](https://www.intranet.bham.ac.uk/rcs/funding/Fellowships2.shtml) where you can use the links to visit the funders web page.

In addition visit ResearchResearch.com at [www.researchresearch.com](http://www.researchresearch.com) or RDInfo [http://www.rdinfo.org.uk/](http://www.rdinfo.org.uk/) where you can search a wide range of opportunities and find some more obscure fellowships not highlighted above.

Within your College and in Research and Commercial Services, you have access to help and support to give assistance with sourcing funding through to project development.

Contacts are:

**Arts and Law:**
- Katharina Freise (46292) k.freise@bham.ac.uk
- Robert Baxter (46292) r.baxter@bham.ac.uk

**Engineering and Physical Sciences:**
- David Boardman (45086) d.i.boardman@bham.ac.uk

**Life & Environmental Sciences**
- Adrian Simmonds (58813) a.c.simmonds@bham.ac.uk

**Medical and Dental Sciences**
- Catherine Moore (47756) c.a.moore@bham.ac.uk

**Social Sciences**
- Carol Solley (48884) c.solley@bham.ac.uk

**European/international funded fellowships**
- e.g. Marie Curie and NIH
  - Xavier Rodde (43880) x.rodde@bham.c.uk
  - Huma Mumtaz (48586) h.mumtaz@bham.ac.uk

**Industry Funding**
- e.g. industrial fellowships
  - Matthew Wasley (48246) m.r.wasley@bham.a.c.uk