

# EPSRC Fellowships Framework

## Application Guidance

This guidance aims to provide a brief overview of the EPSRC Fellowship scheme and its key features. For more detailed information about the EPSRC Fellowship scheme and application guidance, please refer to the EPSRC fellowship webpages on <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows> and the EPSRC Funding Guide webpages on <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>.

### Table of Contents

EPSRC Fellowships Framework .....	1
Application Guidance .....	1
1. Overview .....	2
Aim .....	2
Eligibility .....	2
Location and Host Organisation .....	2
Career Stages .....	3
Areas in which Fellowships are available .....	5
Duration .....	6
Resources .....	6
Fellowship Start Date .....	7
Submission Dates .....	7
Process timeline .....	8
Fellowship Policy .....	8
2. How to apply .....	11
Important information .....	11
Completing the Je-S Form .....	11
3. Assessment .....	16
Submission .....	17
Expert Peer Review .....	17
Prioritisation Panel .....	17





<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Post-doctoral</b>	<b>Early career</b>	<b>Established career</b>
Strategic Vision	Shows an awareness of different research in other fields or across technology readiness levels, an aspiration to work across boundaries and/or to conduct high risk research and finding a network of independent contacts.	Has some experience in identifying, exploring and developing research opportunities more broadly and across different interfaces. An awareness of how to position themselves to take up these opportunities and an ability to make decisions to deliver this vision.	An aptitude for identifying, exploring and developing research opportunities more broadly and across different interfaces. Can demonstrate where they have positioned themselves to take up these opportunities and has the ability to make decisions to deliver this vision.
Profile and Influence	Not strongly applicable at this career stage.	Shows potential and aptitude to act as an ambassador and advocate for a research field/theme and for research in general. Advising and influencing policy making.	Evidence of acting as an ambassador and advocate for a research field/theme and for research in general. Advising and influencing policy making.
Inspirational Team leader	Can provide evidence of an aptitude to lead and inspire, for example, through mentoring or self-organisation of peers.	Has ability to lead and inspire their own research team. Ability to identify and maximise potential in others (i.e. get the best out of people).	Ability to lead and inspire. Ability to identify and maximise potential in others (i.e. get the best out of people).

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Post-doctoral</b>	<b>Early career</b>	<b>Established career</b>
Communication and engagement skills	Demonstrates excellent communication and interpersonal skills and aspires to develop these across a broad audience.	Demonstrates excellent communication and interpersonal skills and aspires to develop these further across a broad audience.	Possesses excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

### **Areas in which Fellowships are available**

EPSRC Fellowships are not open in all areas, at all career stages, at all times. Applications are invited only in specific research areas that are linked to our strategic priorities, where growth is required and where developing leaders can integrate their work into the wider landscape. Current thematic priority areas that are open for fellowship applications can be found at <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/areas/>.

You should refer to the thematic priority area that you wish to apply to for additional details. Applications that are outside of these priority areas will not be accepted and will be rejected before peer review.

Since the launch of the Fellowship Framework in July 2011, Capability and Challenge themes have continued to identify and refresh thematic priority areas in which they wish to support fellowships. From April 2013, a biannual process has been introduced with guidance in place to refresh the priority areas and provide updates for interested parties; these can be found on the EPSRC website on 1 April and 1 October each year. The most recent changes to priority areas can be found at: <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/refreshoffellowshippriorityareas/>.

When new priority areas are introduced, they will go live as soon as they are announced on the website. When existing priority areas are being removed, EPSRC will give 6 months' advanced notice of this intention. Related applications in process at the time the advance notice is given will continue to be assessed in good faith.

While the biannual refresh process enables fellowship priority areas to be updated on a regular basis, EPSRC reserves the right to introduce new priority areas outside of these defined timescales as and when it is deemed necessary.

## Duration

The duration and the proportion of time that can be supported on the fellowship are flexible.

Applicants can apply for up to 5 years of support for Early Career and Established Career awards, or up to 3 years for Postdoctoral stage award. Shorter fellowships which allow fellows the freedom to initially explore new research avenues are welcomed.

**Applicants can choose to spend anywhere between 50 and 100% FTE on their fellowship.** Where a fellow is ordinarily employed part-time, their EPSRC fellowship may be held part-time at a minimum level of 50% and be extended pro-rata accordingly. Where a fellow is employed full-time but does not spend 100% of their time on their fellowship, the fellowship duration will not be pro-rated.

## Resources

The type of resources available is determined by the career stage of the fellowship under which you are applying. You should carefully consider what resource packages you request. The table below provides examples of the types of resources available. Full details on allowable costs can be found in:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>

Resource Package	Postdoctoral	Early career	Established career
Duration	Up to 3 years	Up to 5 years	Up to 5 years
Salary	Up to 100%	Up to 100%	Up to 100%
Travel & Subsistence	Yes	Yes	Yes
Staff	No	Yes	Yes
Visiting Researchers	Yes	Yes	Yes
Equipment	Items costing less than £10,000 (incl. VAT)*	Yes – in line with current EPSRC equipment guidelines**	Yes – in line with current EPSRC equipment guidelines**
Consumables	Yes	Yes	Yes
Access to facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Communication Training	Yes	Yes	Yes

\*<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/resources/directlyincurredcosts/> under 'other costs'

\*\* <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/facilities/equipment/>

## Fellowship Start Date

Applicants can put in any start date, as long as it is within one year of the submission of the fellowship application.

## Submission Dates

In general there are no deadlines for a fellowship submission. Applications can be submitted at any time and will be processed on a rolling basis at a prioritisation panel after postal peer review. However, there are some exceptions; a specific **call** can have a set closing date, please see our calls page: <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/>.

Most themes have only two prioritisation panels per year. For guidance on when to submit to have the best chance of the application being assessed at a forthcoming prioritisation panel, please see the tables below and the diagram on page 10. Please be aware that these dates illustrate typical timelines only and we cannot guarantee applications going to specific panels.

Capability Themes	Advised submission dates	Panel dates
Engineering	Early April / Early June / Early August / Early October / Early December / Early February	Early August* / Early October* / Early December* / Early February* / Early April <sup>◇</sup> / Early June <sup>◇</sup>
Physical Sciences	Early May / End of September / End of December	Early September / End of January / End of April
Mathematical Sciences	Early February / End of July	Early June / End of November
ICT	End of: February / September	Early July / End of January (following year)

Challenge Themes	
Healthcare Technologies	Please contact* the Healthcare Technologies team for up to date information.
Living with Environmental Change	Please contact* the Living with Environmental Change team for up to date information.
Digital Economy	Fellowship applications predominantly go to ICT panels
Energy	Fellowship applications go to Physical Sciences and Engineering panels, depending on content.

Energy	Fellowship applications go to Physical Sciences and Engineering panels, depending on content.
Manufacturing the Future	Fellowship applications go predominantly to Engineering panels, but can also go to ICT and Physical Sciences depending on content.
Energy	Fellowship applications go to Physical Sciences and Engineering panels, depending on content.

\*<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/contacts/>

## Process timeline

After an application has been received by EPSRC, postal peer review can take a minimum of 4 months. If the reviews are sufficiently supportive the application will go to panel. If subsequently successful at the prioritisation panel, it can take approximately 6 weeks to the interview stage. Please also see the flow chart on page 15.

## Fellowship Policy

### Resubmission

Please note that you may only apply for one EPSRC fellowship in any 12 month period, so please consider carefully when you choose to submit your application.

From 1 April 2009, EPSRC no longer accepts uninvited resubmissions of applications, regardless of any previous EPSRC correspondence. The policy applies to any application that has been previously submitted to EPSRC through any of its funding routes.

Further details on our resubmission policy can be found at: <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/basics/resubpol/> and <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/policy/>

If you are submitting fellowship applications to other funding bodies in parallel to this application, you should be aware that if you accept an EPSRC Fellowship, you will be expected to turn down offers of other similar awards.

### Abeyance

**Early and Established Career Fellows** may be allowed to interrupt their award not more than twice during the period of their fellowship to spend time on activities unsupported by the EPSRC but directly related to their fellowship. Such periods of abeyance must not exceed 2 years in total. **EPSRC's agreement must be sought in advance.** Agreement will not be given for a break during the first or final year of the award. Where periods of abeyance are agreed the award will be extended by a period of time equal to the length of the break.



**Postdoctoral Fellows** may be allowed to interrupt their award once during the period of their fellowship to spend time on activities unsupported by the EPSRC but directly related to their fellowship. Such a period of abeyance must not exceed 12 months. EPSRC's agreement must be sought in advance. Agreement will not be given for a break during the first or final year of the award. Where a period of abeyance is agreed the award will be extended by a period of time equal to the length of the break.

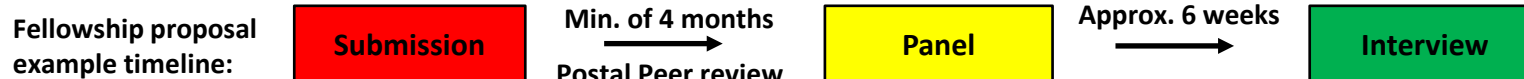
**For all Fellows**, no additional funding will be given to compensate for possible incremental progression during any period of abeyance.

Please see <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/managing/> for detailed information.

### **Maternity, paternity and adoption leave**

Fellows are allowed to take maternity, paternity and adoption leave and make provision for additional costs of this leave where appropriate. Please consult the following webpages for detailed information:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/managing/extensions/> and  
<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/managing/>.



**Capability themes:** Proposals are processed on a rolling basis

	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Engineering		4 <sup>•</sup> 6		5 <sup>◊</sup> 1		6 <sup>◊</sup> 2		1 <sup>*</sup> 3		2 <sup>*</sup> 4		3 <sup>*</sup> 5
Physical Sc.	2			3	1				1 2			3
Math. Sc.		1				1	2				2	
ICT	2	1					1		2			

Advised submission date    
  Prioritisation Panel meeting    
  Weeks 1-2 and 3-4 of a month respectively

1 Matched advised submission date with first upcoming panel  
 Example: if you submit for ICT before the end of February, we aim to get your proposal to the ICT July panel  
 (Matching symbols (\*, • and ◊) will go to the same fellowship interview panel)

**Challenge themes:** Proposals are processed on a rolling basis and/or via specific Calls (see <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/>)

**Engineering** Engineering will now consider fellowship proposals at six prioritisation panels but will have three interview panels in January (\*), May (•) and September (◊).

**Healthcare T.** Please [contact](#) the Healthcare Technologies team for up to date information

**LWEC** Please [contact](#) the Living with Environmental Change team for up to date information

**Digital Economy** Fellowship proposals predominantly go to ICT panels

**Energy** Fellowship proposals go to Physical Sciences and Engineering panels, depending on content

**Manufacturing** Fellowship proposals go predominantly to Engineering panels, but can also go to ICT and Physical Sc. depending on content

**This diagram illustrates typical timescales only and we cannot guarantee proposals going to specific panels.**

## 2. How to apply

There is no outline stage in the Fellowship process and applicants are required to submit a full application. Full applications must be submitted using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>).

### Important information

Font size 11 is the minimum that will be accepted for applications. Margins should be a minimum of 2 cm in all directions.

By clicking 'submit document' on your application form in Je-S, the application is initially submitted to your host organisation's administration office, not to EPSRC. Your host organisation will submit the application via Je-S to EPSRC after initial checks.

Je-S guidance is provided through the Je-S help text, available from the Je-S System front page.

Please read the instructions below before you start completing your application.

### Completing the Je-S Form

To add a new application in Je-S, please select:

- Council: 'EPSRC'
- Document type: 'Fellowship application'
- Scheme: 'EPSRC Fellowship'
- Call – on *Project Details* page select one of the following:
  - 'Fellowships – Postdoctoral '
  - 'Fellowships – Early Career'
  - 'Fellowships – Established Career'

As part of the Je-S application, the following documentation must be attached:

<b>Required documentations (please note all page limits assume standard A4 size)</b>		
Application Cover Letter	Up to 2 pages	Outlining the fellowship priority area which you believe your application is relevant to. This letter will only be seen by EPSRC and will not be sent to peer review. The cover letter is your opportunity to explain why you have chosen to apply for a Fellowship at EPSRC and what your goals are, including career, research outcomes and impact activities. It also gives applicants the opportunity to express any other information they feel is relevant to their application or, if applicable, highlight anything that has been discussed with EPSRC staff beforehand, relevant to the application.

**Required documentations (please note all page limits assume standard A4 size)**

<p>Case for Support</p>	<p>Up to 9 pages*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track Record of Applicant (up to two sides of A4).</li> <li>• Description of proposed research and its context, ensuring that all the assessment criteria are addressed (page 13). The case for support should include the research hypothesis and objectives, as well as the programme and methodology.</li> <li>• National Importance: further guidance on how to address National Importance within your application is also available on the EPSRC website <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/includingsnationalimportance/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/includingsnationalimportance/</a></li> <li>• Academic impact: describe how your research would benefit national and international researchers in the field and related disciplines, and what will be done to ensure that they can benefit.</li> <li>• A statement on how the proposed research fits with EPSRC strategic priorities - including the relevant fellowship priority areas - and what contribution it will make to the shape of the landscape</li> </ul> <p>For more details please read the general Case for support page <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/caseforsupport/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/caseforsupport/</a></p>
<p>Pathways to Impact</p>	<p>Up to 2 pages</p>	<p>The Pathways to Impact document, should describe the kinds of impact envisaged, how the proposed project will be managed to engage users and beneficiaries, and increase the likelihood of impacts, including (wherever appropriate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methods for communication and engagement</li> <li>• Collaboration and exploitation in the most effective and appropriate manner</li> <li>• The project team’s track record in this area</li> <li>• The resources required for these activities. Please ensure these are also captured in the financial summary and the Justification of Resources.</li> </ul> <p>You are particularly encouraged to think about how public engagement activities may help you maximise the impact of your proposed research.</p> <p>Detailed guidance on Pathways to Impact is available at <a href="http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/ke/impacts/">http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/ke/impacts/</a></p>

**Required documentations (please note all page limits assume standard A4 size)**

Applicant's CV	Up to 2 pages	<p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your current contact details.</li> <li>• Your employment history, listed in reverse order. Please ensure that the title of your current post is clear.</li> <li>• Your academic history, listed in reverse order. The dates of any degrees obtained and the viva date for your PhD (if applicable).</li> <li>• Track record of research funding: include start/end dates, funding body, value of award, type of grant (e.g. first grant, fellowship, etc.), your role on the grant (PI, Co-I, Researcher, etc.). Please ensure that any fellowship awards are clearly highlighted.</li> <li>• Any current teaching commitments.</li> <li>• Any current administrative activities e.g. may include editorial responsibilities, committee membership, etc.</li> <li>• Other, e.g. may include invited talks, awards, prizes, memberships of professional bodies, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Please ensure that any breaks in your career due to maternity, paternity or adoptive leave, ill health or unemployment are clearly stated, as well as any periods of part-time working.</p> <p>Please do not include details of possible reviewers on your CV.</p>
Host Organisation Statement	Up to 2 pages	<p>For details of what should be included in the Host Organisation Statement, please see: <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/hostorganisationobligations/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/hostorganisationobligations/</a>. If applying for a Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Host Organisation Statement should also address the need for a Postdoctoral Fellowship and why the EPSRC Doctoral Prize is not an option (for those eligible, we expect this to be the preferred option) and to confirm there are no other sources of fellowship funding available.</p>
Diagrammatic Work-plan	Up to 1 page	<p>Depending on the nature of the research proposed, this is not expected to be a detailed and fixed work plan for the full duration of the project.</p>

<b>Required documentations (please note all page limits assume standard A4 size)</b>		
Justification of Resources	Up to 2 pages	Explain why the resources you have requested are required to undertake your research project and implementing the impact plan. You are recommended to follow the 'cost to the application' headings used in the application form. Please see <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/jor/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/jor/</a> for more information.
List of Publications	No limit	<p>You should include a paragraph at the beginning of the publication list to indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which journals and conferences are highly rated in your field, highlighting where they occur in your own list.</li> <li>• Conventions pertaining to the listing of authors in your field; e.g. authors are listed in alphabetical order; the lead author is listed first, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Papers should be grouped by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journal Papers: Refereed</li> <li>• Journal Papers: Not Refereed</li> <li>• Conference Papers: Refereed</li> <li>• Conference Papers: Not Refereed</li> <li>• Other Papers, patents, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Please place an asterisk beside any papers of which you were the lead author and highlight in italics the most significant papers (up to a maximum of ten).</p> <p>Include the numbers of citations for selected publications, if they are relevant within your area of research.</p> <p>You may include papers that have been accepted by the journal/conference and are awaiting publication. Any such papers should be marked "Awaiting Publication". You should not include any papers that are in preparation or recently submitted.</p>
<b>Where applicable</b>		
Statements of Support	No limit	Statements of Support from any project partners <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/</a>
Letters of Support	No limit	Only accepted in exceptional circumstances, see <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/writing/</a>
Quotes and justification	No limit	Quotes and justification for equipment <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/facilities/equipment/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/facilities/equipment/</a>

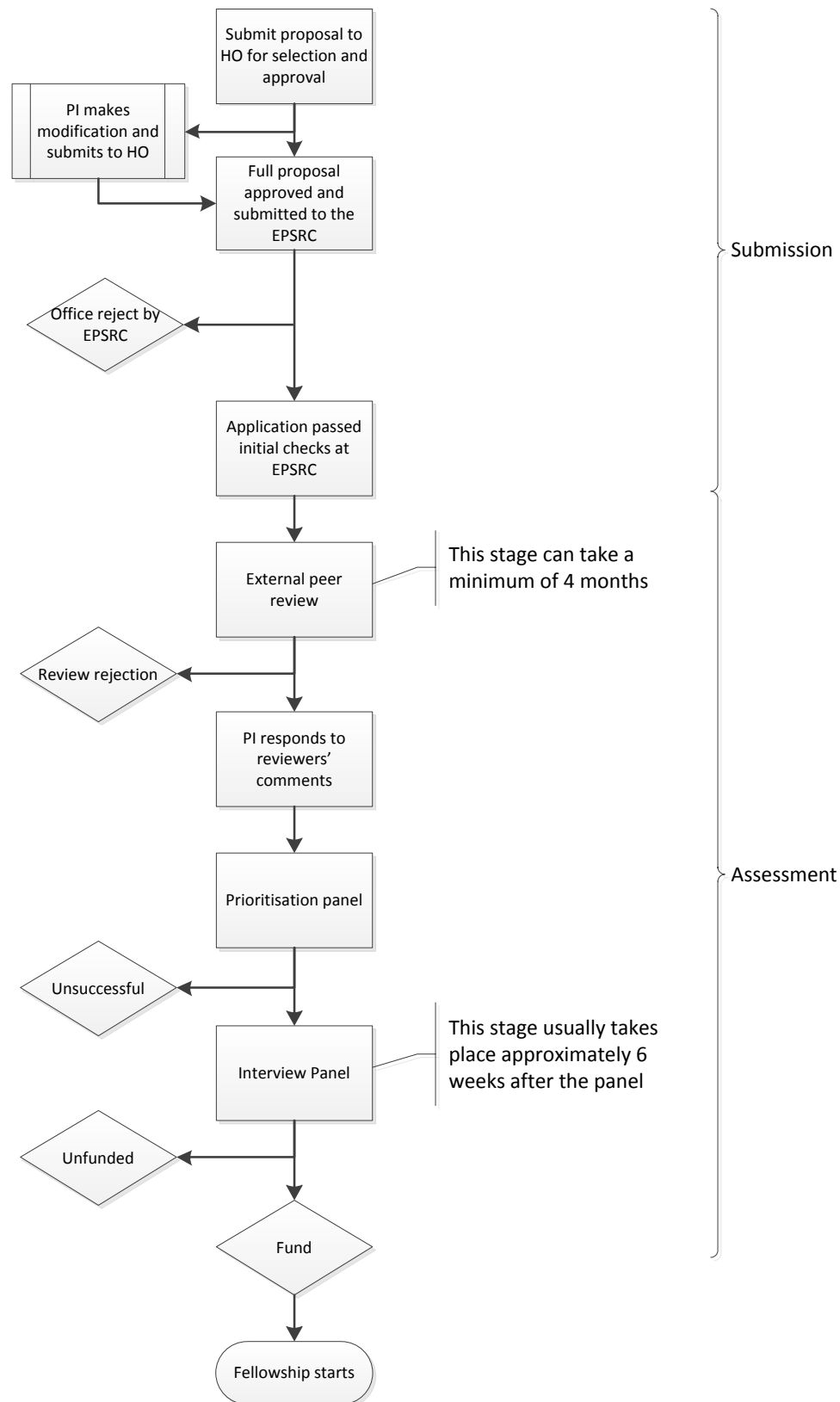
**Required documentations (please note all page limits assume standard A4 size)**

Technical assessments	No limit	If you plan to use a major facility in your research, such as those funded centrally by EPSRC or a European facility, contact the facility before applying to EPSRC to check if your proposed research is feasible, and obtain a Technical Assessment if Je-S marks it as required.
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\* In Research Grant applications the 'case for support' has to be no longer than 8 sides of A4, Fellowship applications are allowed 9.

### 3. Assessment

EPSRC's Fellowship submission and assessment process consists of several stages as shown in the flow chart below. Note: HO is host organisation.





## **Submission**

Please submit your full application via the Je-S portal to your Host Organisation. They will do initial checks and if necessary send it back to you for amendment. Once approved, the Host Organisation will submit the full application to EPSRC. The application will be office checked and can be rejected at this stage, if for example it is out of EPSRC remit. Once the application has passed the initial EPSRC office check it will be sent out to be peer reviewed.

## **Expert Peer Review**

Full applications will be sent out to external expert peer review and will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Research Quality
- The Applicant (including qualities and experience)
- Importance
- Research Environment
- Impact
- Resources and Management
- Fit to Strategic Priorities

Please note this stage can take a minimum of four months.

If the reviews are sufficiently supportive, the application will go on to be assessed at the prioritisation panel stage. You will have an opportunity to respond to reviewers' comments. If the reviews are not supportive, the application will be rejected at this point and you will be sent copies of the reviewers' forms as feedback.

## **Prioritisation Panel**

Fellowship applications with sufficiently supportive reviews will be prioritised at the most appropriate panel meeting. The actual panel dates and timings may differ from Theme to Theme, please see the panel dates diagram on page 8.

Prioritisation panels consider applications based primarily on the quality of the science, however, all criteria will be assessed.

Please note that we cannot guarantee that a application will go to a specific panel meeting due to variations in the time it takes to secure a sufficient number of reviewers' reports. Please allow sufficient time for the external expert peer review stage when planning your submission. The final decision as to which panel meeting a application is assessed at rests with EPSRC.

Shortlisted applicants will then be invited to the interview stage.

## Interview Panel

Interview panel meetings will take place within approximately six weeks following the prioritisation panels. An interview panel will assess primarily the qualities of the applicant; the person specification, however, all criteria may be assessed.

## Assessment Criteria

You may be assessed against any of the following criteria at any stage, but there will be more of an emphasis on the Research Quality at the prioritisation panel and the individual Applicant at the interview panel. Please ensure that your application addresses each of the assessment criteria for the career stage you are applying against.

<b>Assessment Criteria – Postdoctoral</b>	
Research Quality	<p>Your propose research should demonstrate a high degree of novelty in comparison to the broader research context of the area internationally.</p> <p>You should be able to articulate a strong vision for the research proposed in the application and possess the ability to deliver it.</p>
The Applicant	<p>You should be able to demonstrate a vision of the contribution that will be made to the research area and an independence of research ideas.</p> <p>You must show an awareness of research in other fields or across technology readiness levels, and an aspiration to work across boundaries and/or to conduct high risk research.</p> <p>You can show evidence of an aptitude and potential to lead, inspire and influence for example, through mentoring or self-organisation of peers. You should show how you have developed a network of relevant independent contacts.</p> <p>You must demonstrate excellent communication and interpersonal skills and show that you aspire to develop these across a broad audience.</p>
Importance	<p>Evidence of how the proposed research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• contributes to, or helps maintain the health of other research disciplines,</li><li>• contributes to addressing key UK societal challenges,</li><li>• contributes to current or future UK economic success and/or enables future development of key emerging industry(s).</li></ul> <p>Meets national strategic needs by establishing or maintaining a unique world-leading research activity (including areas of niche capability).</p> <p>Fits with and complements other UK research already funded in the area or related areas, including the relationship to the EPSRC portfolio and our stated strategy set out in "Our Portfolio".</p> <p><a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/</a></p>

<b>Assessment Criteria – Postdoctoral</b>	
Research Environment	<p>You must be able to articulate a strong vision for your role in the team and how it will deliver the research proposed in the application.</p> <p>What was the justification for your choice of host organisation? They must be able to demonstrate an appropriate level of support and commitment to your career as evidenced through the Host Organisation Statement.</p>
Impact	<p>Who may benefit from the proposed research, how they may benefit and what will be done to ensure they have the opportunity to benefit?</p> <p>What pathways to impact activities will be undertaken?</p> <p>Evidence of how you will use your experience and networks to ensure the above two points.</p>
Resources and Management	<p>You must be able to justify the planning and project management of the proposed research programme, including the management of any staff requested.</p> <p>You must be able to demonstrate that the resources requested in this application are justified and appropriate for delivering the proposed research.</p> <p>You should identify the main risks and put contingencies in place.</p>
Fit to Strategic Priorities	<p>Evidence that the proposed research is aligned to EPSRC strategic priorities as defined by individual Capability and Challenge Themes – please refer to Theme plans:  <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/</a></p>
<b>Assessment Criteria – Early Career</b>	
Research Quality	<p>The research you propose should have a high degree of novelty in comparison to the broader research context of the area internationally. Research ideas should be high quality and truly innovative.</p> <p>You should have a track record of outstanding research and in delivering impact; and will need to show that you possess the ability to deliver the proposed research.</p> <p>You should articulate a strong vision for the research proposed and how you will build the team around you to deliver it.</p> <p>You should be able to demonstrate some evidence of recognition within the research community on an international stage.</p>

**Assessment Criteria – Early Career**

<p>The Applicant</p>	<p>Evidence of leadership This is both in terms of leading and maximising the potential of a research team and also demonstrating potential to lead within the broader community, and setting research agendas.</p> <p>You should exhibit an ability to work broadly and across different interfaces, identifying and positioning yourself to take advantage of opportunities.</p> <p>You can show potential to act as an ambassador and advocate for research and an ability to influence.</p> <p>You must demonstrate excellent communications and interpersonal skills.</p>
<p>Importance</p>	<p>Evidence of how the proposed research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contributes to, or helps maintain the health of other research disciplines,</li> <li>• contributes to addressing key UK societal challenges,</li> <li>• contributes to current or future UK economic success and/or enables future development of key emerging industry(s).</li> </ul> <p>Meets national strategic needs by establishing or maintaining a unique world leading research activity (including areas of niche capability).</p> <p>Fits with and complements other UK research already funded in the area or related areas, including the relationship to the EPSRC portfolio and our Research Area strategies <a href="https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/research-areas/">https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/research-areas/</a> ) and EPSRC’s Delivery Plan <a href="https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/plans/deliveryplan/">https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/about/plans/deliveryplan/</a></p>
<p>Research Environment</p>	<p>You should be able to demonstrate a strong vision for how your team will deliver the research proposed in the application, and how you will develop a team in the first place.</p> <p>What was the justification for your choice of host organisation? They must be able to demonstrate an appropriate level of support and commitment to your career as evidenced through the Host Organisation Statement.</p>
<p>Impact</p>	<p>Who may benefit from the proposed research, how they may benefit and what will be done to ensure they have the opportunity to benefit.</p> <p>What pathways to impact activities will be undertaken?</p> <p>Evidence of how you will use your experience and networks to ensure the above two points?</p>

**Assessment Criteria – Early Career**

Resources and Management	<p>You must be able to justify the planning and project management of the proposed research programme, including the management of any staff requested.</p> <p>You must be able to demonstrate that the resources requested in this application are justified and appropriate for delivering the proposed research.</p> <p>You should identify the main risks and put contingencies in place.</p>
Fit to Strategic Priorities	<p>Evidence that the proposed research is aligned to EPSRC strategic priorities as defined by individual Capability and Challenge Themes – please refer to Theme plans:  <a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/</a></p>
<b>Assessment Criteria – Established Career</b>	
Research Quality	<p>The research you propose should have a high degree of novelty in comparison to the broader research context of the area internationally. Research ideas should be high quality and truly innovative.</p> <p>You should have a track record of outstanding research and in delivering impact; and will need to show that you possess the ability to deliver the proposed research.</p> <p>You should articulate a strong vision for the research proposed and the team delivering it.</p> <p>You must be able to demonstrate evidence of recognition and influence in the community on an international scale.</p>
The Applicant	<p>You must show evidence of leadership within the research community, pushing the boundaries of research.</p> <p>You must show how you work across interfaces and an aptitude for identifying and engaging in new and different research opportunities that may not be recognised by others.</p> <p>You can show evidence of acting as an ambassador and advocate for research and an ability to influence beyond your immediate research area.</p> <p>The ability to inspire and lead both your own team and more broadly.</p> <p>You must demonstrate excellent communication and interpersonal skills.</p>

<b>Assessment Criteria – Established Career</b>	
Importance	<p>Evidence of how the proposed research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contributes to, or helps maintain the health of other research disciplines,</li> <li>• contributes to addressing key UK societal challenges,</li> <li>• contributes to current or future UK economic success and/or enables future development of key emerging industry(s).</li> </ul> <p>Meets national strategic needs by establishing or maintaining a unique world-leading research activity (including areas of niche capability).</p> <p>Fits with and complements other UK research already funded in the area or related areas, including the relationship to the EPSRC portfolio and our stated strategy set out in "Our Portfolio".</p>
Research Environment	<p>You must be able to demonstrate a strong vision for how your team will deliver the research proposed in the application, including developing cross-institutional collaboration where appropriate.</p> <p>Your host organisation must be able to demonstrate an appropriate level of support and commitment to your career as evidenced through the Host Organisation Statement.</p>
Impact	<p>Who may benefit from the proposed research, how they may benefit and what will be done to ensure they have the opportunity to benefit?</p> <p>What pathways to impact activities will be undertaken?</p> <p>Evidence of how you will use your experience and networks to ensure the above two points.</p>
Resources and Management	<p>You must be able to justify the planning and project management of the proposed research programme, including the management of any staff requested.</p> <p>You must be able to demonstrate that the resources requested in this application are justified and appropriate for delivering the proposed research.</p> <p>You should identify the main risks and put contingencies in place.</p>
Fit to Strategic Priorities	<p>Evidence that the proposed research is aligned to EPSRC strategic priorities – including the relevant fellowship priority area – as defined by individual Capability and Challenge Themes – please refer to Theme plans:</p> <p><a href="http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/">http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/</a></p>

## Enquiries

General enquiries about fellowships can be directed to: [EPSRCfellowships@epsrc.ac.uk](mailto:EPSRCfellowships@epsrc.ac.uk)

If you are unsure whether your research falls within the remit, or if you have particular Theme area queries, please contact the most appropriate portfolio manager or a Theme fellowship co-ordinator. The up to date contacts list can be found at:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/areas/>

## Version Log

Name	Date	Update	Version
Liang Tang	30 June 2014		1 - unpublished
Renée van de Locht	21 January 2015		2
Renée van de Locht	17 February 2015		3
Renée van de Locht	01 April 2015		4
Renée van de Locht	15 January 2016	Panel dates	5
Renée van de Locht	19 April 2016	National Importance	6
Renée van de Locht	23 May 2016	Panel dates	7
Denise Dabbs	14 June 2016	Technical information updated	8
Renée van de Locht	30 August 2016	Panel dates	9
Denise Dabbs	14 September 2016	Headings Amended	10
Renée van de Locht	1 November 2016	Eligibility of HOs	11
Denise Dabbs	1 December 2016	Spellings amended	12
Sarah Halliwell	13 February 2017	Panel diagram	13