

MRC Skills Development Fellowship Guidance for Applicants (Stages 1 and 2)

This call has a 2-stage application process.

The University of Manchester has successfully applied to host MRC Skills Development Fellows. Two early career fellowships are available to start between September 2018 and March 2019.

Health Economics

One of the fellowships on offer must be in the priority skills area of quantitative skills and in the scientific theme of Health Economics.

The second fellowship can be in any one of the MRC Priority Skills areas:

- mathematics,
- statistics,
- computation,
- informatics,
- health economics
- mixed methods research applicable to any biomedical or health related data sources, from molecular to population level.

In keeping with the MRC's priorities for this scheme, The University of Manchester is seeking to attract, identify and recruit high-quality early career fellows with either quantitative or biological science backgrounds, both from within and beyond the host institution. In particular, we are seeking to attract candidates from non-biomedical subjects (such as mathematics, computer science or economics).

The scheme is described in more detail here: <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/skills-careers/fellowships/skills-development-fellowships/>

In stage 1, applicants are asked to submit a short application form along with a copy of their academic CV. This will be reviewed by the UoM SDF panel who will shortlist those applicants to proceed to stage 2.

Those shortlisted to proceed to stage 2 will: 1) have identified the sponsor / supervisor for their application; 2) work with their sponsor / supervisory team, to put together a project and training plan to be submitted to the UoM SDF Leadership Team for review. This application will need to be fully costed by a UoM Research Support Officer.

A subset of these applicants will be shortlisted for interview prior to the award being made.

It is expected that successful awardees will take up the award between September 2018 and March 2019.

Guidance for Stage 1 Application Form

The Stage 1 application form is available here:

<https://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/research/support/fellowships/mrc-sdf/>

If you are applying under the scientific theme of Health Economics, please complete that form. Otherwise, please complete the general application form.

Deadline: Your application and CV should be submitted to FBMHfellowshipacademy@manchester.ac.uk by **Monday 26th March 2018 (9AM)**

Section 1: Applicant Details

Please complete all fields in Section 1.

(e) Please provide details if you have had any substantive periods of absence from research. The information provided will be used only to make appropriate adjustments when assessing an individual's track record, productivity and career progression.

Section 2: Project Plan

This section is designed to give the panel a feel for how your previous work and experience might fit within the remit of a [Skills Development Fellowships](#), and why this type of award would be the best way for you to progress your career.

You will need to indicate how the training that you propose is different to your previous work and how you expect it to enhance your career. It is not expected that you have a full project or training plan in mind, but providing details of project ideas and objectives that you have for the award will help the panel to see where your proposal may fit at the University of Manchester. The aim of stage 2 of the application process is for you to build the best possible project and training plan with identified, suitable supervisors / sponsors. The University of Manchester SDF team will help you to build your team should you be selected to go through to stage 2.

Guidance for Stage 2 Application Form

The Stage 1 application form is available here:

<https://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/research/support/fellowships/mrc-sdf/>

If you are applying under the scientific theme of Health Economics, please complete that form. Otherwise, please complete the general application form.

Section 1: Applicant Details

Please complete section 1 with your name and email address. This application form will be appended to your stage 1 form, so no further personal information is required at this stage,

Section 2: Project Details

This section expands on the details you provided in stage 1. Working with your application sponsor and mentor, please include:

- a) Detailed objectives for your project, **in priority order** (max 4000 characters)
- b) A lay version of your project summary. This must be understandable to people outside of your research area. (max 400 character)
- c) Technical summary.

Section 2: Training Plan

Please provide full details of your proposed training plan, using the template provided. This must be no more than one side of A4 and should give details of:

- Your proposed supervisory team. You will also be allocated an Advisor from the MRC SDF leadership panel at UoM for the duration of your award.
- Brief details on the scientific objectives of your proposal
- The proposed training (either at Manchester or as part of a placement) at each phase of the proposed project.
- Please add a sentence at the end of the training plan explaining what you expect the outcomes of your fellowship will be in terms of your personal, skills development.

Section 4: Career Intentions

This section allows you the opportunity to explain why a skills development fellowship is the right step in your career. What will you gain from the fellowship that you couldn't otherwise achieve? What will the skills and knowledge that you acquire mean for you future research direction and career and why is that important?

Section 5: Impact

Please give a brief statement discussing who will benefit from the research that you carry out within this award , and how they will benefit.

Section 6: Justification of resource

Please provide full justification of resource and costings for your application. This should be carried out with your Research Support Officer (if you are applying from outside of the University, please speak with your application sponsor to arrange this). This award follows MRC funding rules and provides funding at 80% FEC.