

## UKRI FUTURE LEADERS FELLOWSHIPS

The [UKRI 'Future Leaders Fellowships' scheme](#) aims to support early career researchers and innovators with outstanding potential in universities, businesses and research institutes to make the transition to or establish independence.

The Future Leaders Fellowship scheme is for applicants of outstanding potential. Applicants will need to demonstrate the “added value” of UKRI’s investment will have on their career and how the funding will enable them to become a leader within their field.

The scheme aims to:

- develop, retain, attract and sustain research and innovation talent in the UK
- foster new research and innovation career paths including those at the academic/business and interdisciplinary boundaries, and facilitate movement of people between sectors
- provide sustained funding and resources for the best early career researchers and innovators
- provide long-term, flexible funding to tackle difficult and novel challenges, and support adventurous, ambitious programmes.

These Fellowships support applicants from diverse career paths, including those returning from a career break or following time in other roles and UKRI also encourages applications from those wishing to work part-time in order to combine the fellowship with personal responsibilities.

Funding provided includes the fellow's salary and justified research, staff and training costs. The FLFs follow a 4(+3) model, funding is for four years with the option to apply to renew for up to three additional years during the last year of the fellowship. Salary support for the fellow has to be provided from year 3 of the project (as the UKRI contribution tapers down during the lifetime of the project) and the fellow has to be offered an open ended contract during or at the end of the fellowship (therefore School financial support will be required). Full information about the scheme is available [here](#) and the call guidance for Round 7 [here](#).

### UKRI Community Engagement Events

UKRI will be holding a number of community engagement events (in person and on Zoom) in July 2022 to give an overview of the scheme, discuss some of the most commonly asked questions and network. For those looking to apply to Round 7, it is highly recommended you attend one of these sessions. Details can be found [here](#). Note that UKRI have indicated that an 8<sup>th</sup> round of funding is planned to follow (dates tbc).

### INTERNAL EOI PROCESS

This is a highly competitive scheme. In order to administer the scheme in a timely manner, UKRI have introduced a cap to the number of applications each institution can submit. Under this cap, the University of Reading can submit up to 4 applications. Therefore in order to identify the strongest applications, there will be an internal selection process.

We would like to receive expressions of interest from areas across the University for this scheme and would like to encourage Schools to think about looking externally for suitable candidates. Applicants who are considering submitting an EOI are strongly encouraged to contact their [Research Development Manager](#) as soon as possible to discuss their proposal and any support that they will need in developing their EOI.

Potential candidates should provide a **CV** using the FLF CV and list of outputs template (attached) and an **EOI** (see proforma). Support for the application must be obtained from the Head of School. Completed applications should be sent to [fellowships@reading.ac.uk](mailto:fellowships@reading.ac.uk) by 5pm on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

Applicants who have previously submitted an EOI but did not go on to submit a full application **must** submit an EOI if they are planning to submit an application to this round.

### **Resubmissions from previous FLF applicants**

UKRI does not permit the resubmission of an unchanged proposal. However, previously unsuccessful applicants can apply to subsequent FLF calls providing the proposal addresses feedback from reviewers and the interview panel (where applicable).

Anyone who wishes to resubmit an FLF application will be required to go through the University's EOI process as described above. In addition, they should provide a summary (no more than one page) highlighting how their revised application will address feedback from reviewers.

The EOIs will be reviewed by an internal panel consisting of Research Deans and senior academics with experience of Fellowship funding panels. The EOIs will be assessed using the same assessment criteria as those used by the [FLF panels](#). The strongest candidates will be selected to proceed with a full application. Feedback will be provided to all candidates.

### **TIMETABLE**

Internal EOI deadline	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2022
Successful candidates notified	w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Outline proposal deadline	18 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Internal full proposal deadline	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2022
Proposal deadline	6th December 2022