

Doctoral Prize Fellow

Job Ref: REQ210401

About the Fellowships

These prestigious Fellowships offer opportunities for outstanding, recently completed doctoral students to receive 24 months of tailored support to begin to develop their independent research careers. Based at Loughborough University (in the Midlands and London), Fellows will be allocated an appropriate academic mentor to support and guide them. Fellows undertake work derived from their own research questions and ideas, which provide the foundation for an externally-funded Fellowship application to be made during the course of the Doctoral Prize Fellowship. Externally-funded Fellowships will be based at Loughborough University, and commence as soon as is practicable after award. On securing an appropriate externally-funded Fellowship, an open-ended academic contract will be offered.

Eighteen months into the Doctoral Prize Fellowship, it is possible to agree a 6 months' extension to the Fellowship, taking its total duration to 30 months. This is contingent on a high quality Fellowship application having been made to an agreed scheme aimed at postdoctoral or early career researchers (including but not limited to those offered by UKRI, Leverhulme Trust, Royal Academy of Engineering, or the Royal Society). During the extension period, Fellows balance their research activity with teaching activities, following appropriate training, in order to develop their academic profile.

Eligibility

Candidates should be within 3 years of the date of their PhD award on the application closing date. This has been extended from 2 years because we did not recruit during the pandemic; we expect to return to a 2 year limit in future campaigns. We will extend this eligibility period by the duration of any career break taken since the PhD award and ask applicants to confirm this with us in advance. Part-time working is welcome, at a minimal level of 50% full time equivalent (FTE). In these circumstances, it will be possible to extend the duration of the Fellowship on a pro rata basis, but the further six month extension will be fixed.

Candidates must have had their PhD (or other doctoral qualification) awarded by the closing date for applications. This means any corrections following the viva examination must have been completed to the examiners' satisfaction and the PhD (or other doctoral qualification) awarded (with written confirmation) by 1 July 2021.

The Fellowships are open to applicants from any institution (including but not limited to Loughborough University). International applicants are welcome. Up to 10 positions are available.

We have a number of Fellowships ring-fenced for Fellows whose PhD was funded by EPSRC. If this is the case, please make this clear in your application.

Job Description

Job Grade

Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 6

Job Purpose

Doctoral Prize Fellows will be expected to develop their independent research career as part of the Research Leaders programme in Loughborough University's strategic framework for research.

Job Duties

- To pursue a personal research programme consistent with the host School's research priorities and as set out in the proposal submitted as part of the application.
- To undertake research activity to form the basis for an externally-funded Fellowship application.
- To apply to an agreed scheme for an externally-funded Research Fellowship, to be based at Loughborough University.
- Where appropriate, to secure further external funding for their research.
- To publish the outcomes of research in outlets of international standing.
- To attend and contribute to major international conferences.
- To pursue opportunities to deliver impact from their research.
- To collaborate in research initiatives with colleagues within the School and across the University.
- To collaborate in research initiatives with other HEIs, industry and other relevant bodies.
- If an extension period is agreed, to teach and inspire undergraduate and postgraduate students, and to conduct associated assessments.

Related Activities and Functions

- To work effectively with relevant administrative, technical and academic staff in the School and across the University.
- To undertake such other duties, including teaching activities, as may be reasonably requested and that are commensurate with the nature and grade of the post.
- To undertake training as required to fulfil the requirements of the role.

Other

- All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy and Procedures.
- All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the University's Equality and Diversity policy and procedures at all times. Duties must be carried out in accordance with relevant Equality and Diversity legislation and University policies/procedures.

Points to Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

To Apply

Candidates should submit a combined PDF file (totalling a maximum of 4 pages, using a minimum Arial 11 font, or other sans serif typeface of equivalent size, with margins of at least 2cm) comprising a research proposal (maximum 2 pages) and a CV (maximum 2 pages).

A supporting statement (maximum 1000 words) indicating how you meet the person specification will also form part of your online application.

Your research proposal should detail the proposed work plan for the Fellowship, including aims and objectives, methodology, outputs, and outcomes. It should also set out briefly:

- i) the resources required for successful completion of your 2-year Doctoral Prize Fellowship, which may include access to research facilities, and funds for travel and consumables. This will be subject to negotiation upon appointment.
- ii) the Fellowship schemes you might apply for, and a suggested timetable for application.

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to provide clear evidence of how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their CV and supporting statement. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Presentation
- 3 – Interview

	Essential	Desirable
Values	Commitment to the University's values: teamwork, excellence, professionalism, inclusivity, respect, and community (1,3)	
Education	PhD (or equivalent) awarded between 2 July 2018 and 1 July 2021 (1)	
Academic expertise	Currently active in research in an area aligned to the research priorities of the chosen School (1,2,3) Experience of authoring original work of the highest quality in refereed academic journals (or equivalent) (1) Experience of presenting research work at international conferences or meetings (1,2)	Experience of work or collaboration with business, including private, public sector and charitable organisations (1,3) Experience of open research methods (1,3)
General skills, abilities, and knowledge	Ability to develop an original research programme on your own initiative and to persuade others of its importance orally and on paper (1,2,3) Knowledge of research funding opportunities in UK HE and understanding of how to secure research funding (3) Ability and background necessary to contribute to taught programmes in the chosen School (1,2,3) Ability to work independently and as part of a team (3) Excellent verbal and written communication skills (1,2,3) Excellent basic IT skills (e.g. Office suites and presentation software) (1,2)	Ability to secure research / project funds from external / company sources (1,3)
Training	Evidence of having undertaken appropriate training (1)	Participation in a recognised training programme for research students / staff (1)

Conditions of Service

The appointment will be on a fixed term, 2 year contract on Specialist and Supporting Academic Grade 6 at a commencing salary of £30,942 per annum, subject to annual pay award.

The appointment will be subject to the University's normal Terms and Conditions of Employment for Academic and Related staff, details of which can be found [here](#).

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>. The University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements. Part-time working is welcome. We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, and subsidised places at local holiday clubs (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>).

Loughborough holds an Institutional Athena Swan Award (since 2009), is a Level 2 Disability Confident Employer (renewed 2019), a Race Equality Charter signatory (one of the first ten, 2018) and a Stonewall Diversity Champion (2019). We actively support Staff Groups for: Age; Black and Minority Ethnic; Disability; Part-time; Religion or Belief; LGBT+; Women; International Staff; and Working Parents. The University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy is available from: [People & OD Strategy Refresh - EDI.pdf \(lboro.ac.uk\)](#).