

UKRI Future Leaders Fellowships: Round Seven

University of Surrey Selection Process

Background

The seventh round of [UKRI's Future Leaders Fellowship](#) (FLF) programme has been announced with a deadline for outline proposals of **18 October 2022** and for full proposals of **6 December 2022**. FLF is a £100 million fund that aims to enable early-career researchers and innovators to transition or establish their research and innovation independence in any area supported by UKRI. Funding is available over four years, with the ability to extend to up to seven years, which will enable the next generation to benefit from outstanding support to develop their career and to work on ambitious and novel challenges.

UKRI has introduced a cap to the number of applications which can be submitted by each institution. The University of Surrey is permitted to submit no more than 4 applications in this round. In light of both the prestigious and highly competitive nature of the scheme and the level of financial commitment required, the University of Surrey will operate an internal selection process for the UKRI FLF scheme in order to identify and support the most promising applicants.

Internal selection process

Faculty Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Executive Deans, Associate Deans for Research and Innovation, Heads of Schools/Departments, and Directors of Research are encouraged to identify high potential internal and external candidates. An online information session open to all potential applicants and their mentors will take place in July. Details to be advised.

To be considered, potential applicants will need to prepare an A4 one-page summary of their vision for the Fellowship which should give brief details of their proposed research programme and how this Fellowship will enable them to become a leader in their field. They should also identify a Mentor who can provide advice and guidance during the application process and, if successful, the Fellowship itself.

To submit an **Expression of Interest** (Eoi), candidates should send the following to researchdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk

- Fellowship statement (max 1 page A4) – see Eoi template below
- CV (max 2 pages A4) – addressing [UKRI FLF CV](#) requirements
- Name of Mentor (a requirement for this scheme)

The call for Eois is open to applicants who consider they meet the [UKRI FLF Person Specification](#) (p 7-8). Candidates should discuss the opportunity and their eligibility with their Head of School or Department and secure approval to submit an Eoi. **External applicants** must have identified a **Mentor** based at the University of Surrey and engaged with the relevant Faculty internal selection process.

Expressions of Interest will be evaluated against the UKRI FLF assessment criteria:

- Research and Innovation Excellence
- Applicant and their Development
- Impact and Strategic Relevance
- Research and Innovation Environment and costs

Full details of UKRI's assessment criteria can be found [here](#).

The 2022 Surrey selection process will operate on the following timeline:

Activity	Date
Internal selection process launched	July 2022
Online information event for potential applicants	21 July
Informal discussions with Heads of School or Department, ADRIs and Research Strategy regarding potential applications	July and August
University of Surrey EXCEPTIONS deadline for Expressions of Interest (submit to researchdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk AND the relevant FRIO)	2 August, 16:00
University selection panel 1	W/C 8 August
University of Surrey OPEN deadline for Expressions of Interest (submit to researchdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk AND the relevant FRIO)	5 September, 16:00
Faculty selection panel meeting	W/C 5 September
University selection panel meeting 2 (presentation and interview for shortlisted applicants)	W/C 12 September
Notification of Panel outcome	ASAP following panel meetings
UKRI Outline Deadline	18 October
UKRI Full application deadline	6 December 2022

Exceptions process

A step has been introduced for exceptional candidates (internal or external) who need early confirmation that they will be able to submit an outline application to UKRI through the University of Surrey. Applicants should submit an expression of interest using the same template as the open call for EoIs by **2 August**. Evidence of a competing offer(s) from other potential host institutions will need to be provided with the EoI. Selected applicants will be notified of the panel's decision w/c 15 August.

Faculty Review

Faculties will review expressions of interest (EoIs) at the exceptions and open stages and assess them against the UKRI FLF assessment criteria above. This process will be overseen by the Faculty Associate Dean for Research and Innovation and Heads of School or Department. Selected applications will then be submitted to the University Sift Panels. Assessments will be undertaken in line with the University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) principles.

University Selection Panel (1 and 2)

The University panels (1&2) will review applications received against the UKRI FLF assessment criteria and in line with the University's EDI principles. Applicants shortlisted by the faculty review will be asked to give a short presentation followed by an interview (full details to be provided).

The University selection panel will be chaired by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation and will include Faculty Associate Deans for Research and Innovation and, where possible, academic colleagues who have participated in the UKRI FLF selection process. The diversity of the selection panel will be taken into account and members of the panel will have completed all relevant Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training.

The panel will select candidates who have the highest potential to submit a competitive proposal.

Notification of Outcomes

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their expression of interest as soon as possible following first or second stage assessments, with the intention to notify applicants 10 weeks before the full application deadline. We will endeavour to provide constructive feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Once selected, applicants will be supported by the Research Strategy team to develop their full proposals drawing on support from across the University to enable robust peer review, accurate costing and strong institutional commitment

Applicants are encouraged to contact [Liz Torrance](#), Research Bid Development Manager, with any queries about the scheme or the internal selection process.

Please see the University of Surrey Expression of Interest (Eoi) template below.

Faculty Research and Innovation Office (FRIO) email addresses:

Please send EOIs to researchdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk and the relevant FRIO

FASS: FASSResearch@surrey.ac.uk

FHMS: friofhms@surrey.ac.uk

FEPS: friofeps@surrey.ac.uk

Further information

[UKRI FLF call webpage](#)

[FLF R7 Guidance for academic-hosted applicants](#)

[FLF R7 Guidance for non-academic-hosted applicants](#)

UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship 2022

University of Surrey Expression of Interest

Name of Applicant	
Current Role Title	
Faculty	
School/Department/Organisation	
Name of mentor for FLF application (requirement of scheme)	
FELLOWSHIP STATEMENT (1 side A4) UKRI FLF assessment criteria	
Vision for the Fellowship	
Describe the research and innovation excellence of the proposed programme	
Explain how a Fellowship would support and enable you to take a leading role in your area	
Describe the importance and potential impact of the research or innovation	
Describe how the Mentor, the host School/Department and the University of Surrey will enable you to achieve the aims of the proposed programme and your long-term career goals	
Confirm CV attached	
Confirm approval from HoS or HoD	