

Leverhulme International Professorships Guidance for Applicants 2021

The Trust Board is pleased to announce the **2021 Leverhulme International Professorships**. This scheme aims to help maintain the UK's international standing as a desirable research destination that is open to talented individuals from all countries. The scheme will enable UK universities to conduct world-wide searches for research leaders and innovators and bring them to the UK, to help ensure that the best possible appointments are made to strategically important academic positions.

Eligibility

Eligible institutions are universities in the UK.

Institutions may make only one application for funding within this call. The applying organisation will be responsible for the selection of the Professorial candidate.

Topics

Applications are encouraged from universities seeking to recruit excellent research leaders of any nationality, currently working outside the UK, in order to fill strategically important positions in this country.

Professorial Candidates may conduct research in any subject area, with the exception of clinical medicine, the study of disease, illness and disabilities in humans and animals, or research that is intended to inform directly clinical practice or the development of medical applications.

Please read the advice at www.leverhulme.ac.uk/research-we-do-not-fund carefully and contact the Trust to confirm eligibility if there is any uncertainty.

Duration and Timing

The Trust has allocated at least £100 million over five years to fund these grants. Four awards were made in the first round of the competition and further rounds are anticipated over the next four years.

Successful bids will offer an ongoing package to support an individual Professorship and any associated posts, and a contribution to associated costs, with an award worth £5 million for up to five years.

Support offered

Eligible costs include the Professorial salary, up to a maximum of £250k p.a. (beyond which any additional remuneration is the responsibility of the recruiting university), and the salaries of associated academic and research staff. In total, salary costs must form at least 75% of the grant value.

Associated costs are also allowable up to a maximum of 25% of the total grant value.

In this competition associated costs may be distributed unevenly across the years and exceptionally, may include single items of equipment up to a total value of £250k.

Institutional commitments

The host institution must undertake the following:

- to meet all overhead and departmental costs,
- to manage all necessary arrangements relating to the visitor's recruitment, relocation, visa and tax requirements,
- to administer the funding in accordance with the approved budget.

It is expected that the university

- will offer a permanent appointment to the Professor and, where possible, to staff appointed on these grants AND
- will offer an ongoing package of support after the end of the grant.

Reporting requirements

The institution is required to submit an annual report and financial statement of expenditure and a final report and financial statement at the end of the grant. The Trust's support should be acknowledged in any publications arising directly from the grant and these publications should be listed in the reports.

Application procedure

Applications should be made by an Applicant, usually the PVC or DVC Research of the UK University or equivalent, who will take responsibility for the administration of the award and for providing an annual progress and a final report to the Trust.

The Candidate is the Professor the UK University is seeking to recruit.

Applications will also require Institutional Approval of the content of the application, including the finances requested by the organisation. This approver may **not** be the Principal Applicant.

The application will consist of a short form and include:

- A statement from the recruiting University setting out how this appointment meets their strategic objectives (up to 5 pages). The case for the appointment should explain why the post is important for the university, its significance more generally in the UK context, and include a detailed curriculum vitae (up to 10 pages) and summary of the particular qualities of the candidate who will fill the Professorship.

- A statement from the Professorial candidate (up to 3 pages) setting out how this appointment is important and interesting to them and how they expect the post will contribute to their career development and that of their team. Brief details of any key staff who will be involved and their planned contribution should also be included. The Candidate is not required to submit a worked up research project.
- An *indication* of how the resources might be used over five years outlining staff and associated costs. [If awarded, a formal budget will be expected to be submitted once the start date has been agreed.]

Where necessary, expert advice will be sought in confidence from senior academics, although the Trust Board itself will be responsible for making final decisions.

The Trust will report results to applicants by the end of October 2021.

Universities that secure a Professorship will then negotiate final details with the individual concerned. Where no agreement can be reached in practice, grants will lapse and funds will revert to the next round of the competition.

The competition will open on 1 February 2021 and applications must be submitted online by the closing date of 4.00pm on 28 May 2021.

Please note that each institution is limited to one bid only.

Once a university has selected their chosen candidate they should notify the Trust and access will then be granted to the Leverhulme Trust Grants Management System.

Application queries

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