

Faraday Discovery Fellowships Accelerated International Route (AIR)

The following scheme notes set out the eligibility and application process of the Faraday Discovery Fellowships Accelerated International Route. Please read through the entire document before proceeding with an application.

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1 Overview

1.1 Background

The Faraday Discovery Fellowships Accelerated International Route was established in 2025 and provides a fast-track option for attracting mid-career researchers looking to relocate to the UK from overseas. This route is intended for outstanding international researchers nominated by their UK host organisation, and will run for two years.

Researchers based internationally and looking to relocate to the UK are eligible to apply for the standard [Faraday Discovery Fellowships](#) round which runs once a year, but are not permitted to apply to the standard round and accelerated route simultaneously.

The Faraday Discovery Fellowships are prestigious long-term awards that will support the most talented research leaders to undertake high-quality, original research. The fast-track programme is aimed at recruiting outstanding mid-career Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) researchers and will provide grants of up to £4m over a five-year period to support the development of world-leading research groups in the UK. It is expected that institutions will use these awards to make strategically important appointments, attracting leading researchers from overseas and retaining them in the UK.

Faraday Discovery Fellowships are large investigator-led grants awarded to a single Principal Investigator (PI) to enable them to establish an outstanding team of researchers to address the most challenging research questions. The PI is expected to have an excellent track record of research in the natural sciences or engineering. The primary research questions should be within the remit of the Royal Society. Where the research is interdisciplinary or requires collaboration with other research teams, the costs for such collaborations may also be included – this includes collaborations overseas and with industry.

The awards will be made to a single PI but may include multiple collaborators. The PI is expected to outline a clear vision for an ambitious and original research programme (which may include translation and commercialisation).

The Royal Society recognises that diversity is essential for delivering excellence in STEM. The Society encourages applications from under-represented groups and from the widest range of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences to maximise innovation and creativity in science for the benefit of humanity. We regularly review and revise processes and assessment criteria to help ensure that all talented applicants have an equitable chance to succeed.

Host organisations are expected to support applications from candidates from diverse backgrounds and ensure that institutional Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policies are consistent with good practice. PIs are expected to consider EDI as part of the recruitment of research groups.

1.2 Aims of the Accelerated International Route

The aims of the Faraday Discovery Fellowships accelerated route are to:

- **Attract the most talented mid-career research leaders to the UK** – attracting outstanding mid-career researchers from overseas and retaining them in the UK, in the longer term as well as their groups/teams.

- **Fund high-quality original research** – providing long-term funding to enable talented mid-career researchers to focus on their research vision and address the most challenging research questions (including supporting translation or commercialisation where those are part of their long-term vision for their research).
- **Develop world leading research groups/teams in the UK** – providing long-term, stable levels of support to enable the UK-based award holder to establish world-leading groups/teams and pursue their research.
- **Train the next generation** – Supporting the development of the next generation of research leaders in their field through a programme of training, mentoring and support for members of the research group (including early career researchers, PDRAs, PhD students and technicians) funded on the grants.

1.3 **Subjects Covered**

Research must be primarily within the Royal Society's remit of natural sciences, which includes but is not limited to biological research, biomedical sciences, chemistry, engineering, mathematics and physics. For a full list, please see the breakdown of subject groups and [areas supported by the Royal Society](#). Costs for interdisciplinary collaborations outside of STEM (for example within the areas of social sciences and humanities) may be included in the proposal – please see [Section 3.3 'Programme-Specific Funding Rules'](#) for further details.

Submissions from clinically qualified scientists may be considered. The Society does not support clinical or interventional research on humans at the individual or group level. If there is any doubt about the eligibility of a project, contact the Grants team at faraday@royalsociety.org.

The Faraday Discovery Fellowships **does not operate thematic priorities**. As with all Royal Society funding, we will consider applications from all areas of STEM that are covered by [the Royal Society's remit](#). This may include, although is not limited to, the following examples:

- **Frontiers of Science** – examples might include research into quantum, materials, earth observation, engineering biology and understanding the microbial world.
- **Science for Resilience and Prosperity** - examples might include research into waste, future telecoms, scarce resources, protecting planetary life support systems, life in extreme environmental conditions, science and engineering of cutting-edge technologies, AI, batteries and Net Zero.

We will consider applications from all areas of science and assess applications purely on the track record of the candidate and the quality of the proposed research.

1.4 **Duration and Start of Fellowship**

Approximate number of Fellowships offered through the fast-track route: 3 per year

Start dates may be agreed at the offer stage.

Faraday Discovery Fellows applying through the accelerated international route are appointed for up to 5 years.

2 Timetable

This timetable covers the first three proposed rounds. The nomination form will be open throughout the year, with applications gathered for assessment at three points during the year. Results will be available approximately four months after the start of assessment. Dates may be subject to minor changes.

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Nomination form deadline	15 August 2025	25 November 2025	25 February 2026
Expected results - invited applicants receive link to submit full application	29 August 2025	9 December 2025	11 March 2026
Closing date for the invited applicants to submit full application	26 September 2025	20 January 2026	8 April 2026
Applicant rebuttal deadline	7 November 2025	3 March 2026	20 May 2026
Expected results	Early December 2025	Late March 2026	Mid-June 2026

Please see the [Faraday Discovery Fellowships Accelerated International Route web page](#) for the expected dates of future standard and accelerated route rounds.

3 Finance

Financial details will be requested as part of the Stage 2 (full) application, if the Stage 1 nomination is successful. **Applicants should only request the funding required to complete the research and may request less than the full amount. The level of funding requested should be fully justified.**

3.1 Total Funding Available

Core Funding Rules are listed within the Royal Society [Grants Funding Guidance](#). Please note that in instances where Core Funding Rules are in conflict with Programme Specific Funding rules, the Programme Specific Funding rules always take precedence.

3.2 Exceptional Circumstances

Applicants are expected to apply for up to £4 million over 5 years. If you wish to apply for more funding and/or time the standard Faraday Discovery Fellowships route is the more suitable option, however if you have a truly exceptional circumstance that requires fast-tracked relocation please contact the office (faraday@royalsociety.org) prior to the nomination form being submitted. You will need to provide a rationale for the exception which will be considered by the Faraday Committee. Please contact the office with any requests as early in the process as possible, if the request is submitted too close to the deadline for review your application may roll over into the next assessment period. Any applications submitted requesting over £4million and/or longer than 5 years without prior approval from the Royal Society will be rejected.

3.3 Programme Specific Funding Rules

The costs that can be requested depend on the type of host organisation. See section 4 of the [Grants Funding Guidance](#) for detail.

Staff costs - See [Grants Funding Guidance](#) Section 5.1.

Research students - See [Grants Funding Guidance](#) Section 5.2.

Research costs - See [Grants Funding Guidance](#) Section 5.4. Research costs are intended to be flexible to enable researchers to respond to changes in research objectives. Researchers will have the flexibility to move funding between headings within their research costs.

Equipment costs - See [Grants Funding Guidance](#) Section 5.3.

Refurbishment costs - The Society will not cover general laboratory refurbishment costs. However, where there is a specific case (for example a lab requires some limited refurbishment to accommodate a specific piece of equipment bought on the grant) then the Society will allow some limited refurbishment costs. The Society reserves the right to remove such costs that it does not consider appropriate.

UK partner costs - See Section 4.3 of the [Grants Funding Guidance](#) for a breakdown of how UK collaborator costs should be calculated based on the type of organisation they are based in. Salary contribution for the UK collaborator is an eligible cost, as are costs for members of their research group, consumables, and other directly incurred costs.

International partners - Costs for international collaborators cannot exceed 25% of the total amount requested. Costs will be provided at the funding rate of 100% of the direct costs, and up to 25% of the amount requested may be claimed to support indirect costs or overheads. For example, if the maximum grant amount of £4 million is being requested, a maximum of £1 million could be allocated to international collaborator costs. Within that £1 million, a maximum of £250,000 could be used to cover indirect costs and overheads. Salary contributions and overheads for the international collaborator are not eligible, but the salary costs for other research staff (PDRAs, technicians and/or contributions to PhD students) in the collaborator's lab are eligible. These costs will be provided through the UK host.

The Royal Society will only support student fees up to the Royal Society's set home/UK fees rate as outlined in the [Grants Funding Guidance](#) Section 5.2. Any shortfall between our standard fee allowance and the international fee rate must be covered by another source of funding.

Industry partners - Costs for collaboration with industry partners may be included and should not exceed 20% of the grant total. Industry partners involved in the research are expected to contribute appropriate funding and resources to the research programme. Applicants may also include the costs of sub-contracting where appropriate.

Inter/cross disciplinary research costs outside of STEM - Where the research is cross-disciplinary or requires collaboration with other teams outside of STEM areas, the costs for such collaborations may also be included. The PI must have a strong track record of research in STEM but may include costs for collaborators whose research falls outside of the remit of the Royal Society (for example, in the social sciences or humanities). Costs for research outside of the remit of the Royal Society will only be eligible costs if the research proposed is intended to contribute to answering the primary scientific research question outlined in the application, and should not exceed 25% of the grant total. The Society reserves the right to exclude such costs that it deems inappropriate.

Knowledge transfer and innovation costs - One of the objectives of the programme is to facilitate greater knowledge transfer and collaboration with Industry. Applicants may include costs of:

- Translation - Costs associated with translation and determining the feasibility of commercialising an aspect of your research (proof of concept, consultancy costs, prototyping costs, associated staff costs etc.)
- Training and knowledge transfer - Costs associated with staff and students spending time in industry for the purposes of training and for the purposes of access to equipment and facilities.

The PI will be able to take sabbaticals of up to 12 months in industry, but the cost of these sabbaticals should not be met from the grant.

Time spent on research

Award holders will be expected to spend a minimum of 80% of their time undertaking research. The remaining 20% may be dedicated to other duties (teaching, admin etc.) **Grant holders will be required to spend at least 50% of their time managing their Faraday Discovery Fellowship.** Applicants holding or applying for additional large grants (such as ERC Consolidator or Advanced Grants, Wellcome Discovery Awards or similar) will need to demonstrate their ability to run both grants concurrently, and other grant funding should not cover research that is the same as that proposed within the Faraday Discovery Fellowship. Applicants should not hold any other personal Fellowships concurrently with the Faraday Discovery Fellowships.

4 Eligibility

4.1 Applicant Eligibility

The Faraday Discovery Fellowships Accelerated International Route is for applicants currently based overseas only. Applicants currently based overseas are also eligible to apply to the standard round, but are not permitted to apply to both rounds simultaneously. The accelerated route should be used by host organisations when a fast-tracked recruitment would be advantageous to UK research, is time sensitive, or where there are exceptional circumstances. The rationale for selecting this route should be detailed in the Stage 1 nomination form.

The Faraday Discovery Fellowships will provide funding to outstanding mid-career researchers who are already leading their own independent research groups/teams.

Nominated researchers do not need to have formally accepted an offer of employment from the UK host organisation at the point of application, but if awarded the candidate will need to accept a formal offer for a full-time, permanent contract at the host organisation before their award can start.

Applicants may not apply to the standard round and the Accelerated International Route round simultaneously.

Candidates will be required to meet the following criteria:

- **Be a mid-career researcher** with 10*-20 years research experience post-PhD or equivalent research experience (*exceptional candidates with fewer years of experience will be considered). Candidates who have had changes in discipline or research direction, or time working on industrial research, will be welcomed. As standard, career breaks and non-linear career paths will be taken into consideration (see page 8).

If you have more than 20 years of post-PhD experience but have changed research discipline or taken career breaks and therefore believe you should be eligible, please contact the team at

faraday@royalsociety.org before a nomination is submitted to discuss your specific case. Please note, for change in discipline exceptions will only be granted in cases where there has been a clear and substantive change in the field of research. Applications submitted which cite a change in discipline as reason for an eligibility exception but which have not been approved in advance through this route will be rejected as ineligible.

- **Be a recognised research leader** within their field with experience of managing significant research grants as the Principal Investigator. We would expect candidates to have experience of managing a research group, including training and supervising PhD students and junior staff, or equivalent examples of relevant leadership activities.
- **Demonstrate significant and original research contributions** - The applicant should have an exceptional track record of outputs commensurate with their research experience and be able to demonstrate significant research contributions in the last 10 years.
- **Be well-established internationally** – Candidates should have well-established international networks and plans to develop these.
- **Demonstrate wider contributions to research, research impact and research culture** – for example public engagement, schools' engagement, knowledge exchange, industry collaboration, team leadership, commercialisation or broader business activity, peer review and committee membership.

The scheme will be open to:

- **All nationalities** - Applicants of all nationalities who are currently based outside of the UK, wishing to conduct their research in a UK university or eligible research organisation. Successful candidates requiring a visa to work in the UK will be eligible to apply for a Global Talent Visa under the fast-track process of endorsement. Other visa categories are available. In line with the highly prestigious nature of the Faraday Discovery Fellowships, the Global Talent Visa is designed for people who are recognised as leaders and potential leaders in their field. Further details can be found on the Royal Society's website: <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/global-talent-visa/>
- **Academic researchers** – Academics who will be based entirely in an eligible HEI or not-for-profit research host organisation.
- **Collaboration with industry partners** - Researchers based in a HEI or not-for-profit organisations may collaborate with an industry partner if:
 - the researcher is employed by an HEI or not-for-profit research organisation and
 - the arrangement would not contravene the UK Government's rules on the provision of subsidies.
- **Joint appointments with industry** – The Society will allow applicants to spend up to 20% of their time working in industry. The industry partner would be expected to meet any costs associated with industry appointment.
- **Joint international appointment** – Academics who have a joint appointment outside of the UK, if:
 - The researcher is employed by a UK HEI or not-for-profit research organisation for more than 80% of their time **OR**
 - They are based at a recognised international research institute which is governed by an international cooperation agreement (for example CERN).

Researchers who will be employed within the UK but are based outside of the UK for the majority of their time will be asked to justify the arrangement.

This scheme will **not** support:

- **Senior career researchers** - Researchers who have more than 20 years' experience post PhD (taking into account career breaks) will not be eligible.
- **Industry** - researchers who are based entirely or primarily in industry will not be funded.

The Society appreciates that there are diverse research career paths and understands the challenges of managing a research career alongside other personal commitments. When reviewing applicants' eligibility and research experience, the Society will consider time spent outside the research environment (e.g. time away due to personal reasons such as maternity, paternity, shared parental and adoptive leave or other caring responsibilities; ill-health or working in a non-research environment/role, such as industry).

Furthermore, where applicants have taken formal periods of maternity, paternity, shared parental, and adoptive leave as the primary carer (either the mother, father, partner or adopter), or extended sick leave, the Society will allow an additional amount of time on top of each period of leave when assessing eligibility. Each case will be considered individually as per the guidelines below:

Maternity, paternity, shared parental leave and adoptive leave: In addition to the actual time taken off work, an additional amount of time equivalent to 100% of the duration of leave taken will be added on top, up to a maximum of 6 months per period of leave.

Example 1: If an applicant took 4 months leave, an additional 4 months would be added, and a total of 8 months would be deducted.

Example 2: If an applicant took two periods of leave of 12 months each, an additional 6 months would be added to each (maximum additional time allowed) and 18 months would be deducted per period of leave, so 36 months in total.

Extended sick leave (defined as more than four weeks off work, as per the UK Government's definition): In addition to the actual time taken off work, an additional amount of time equivalent to 100% of the duration of leave taken will be added on top, up to a maximum of 6 months. As with the parental leave, cases will be considered individually, and the host institution may need to confirm that the applicant qualifies for this provision. Supporting documents may be requested at the Society's discretion. The Society reserves the right to consider individual requests outside of the outlined policy in exceptional circumstances.

The Royal Society recognises that diversity is essential for delivering excellence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The Society wants to encourage applications from the widest range of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences to maximise innovation and creativity in science for the benefit of humanity. We regularly review and revise policies and processes to embed EDI principles in all aspects of the grant making process and ensure all talented applicants have an equitable chance to succeed as per assessment criteria.

Support to applicants with disabilities: The Royal Society welcomes applications from disabled scientists and provides support and adjustments to ensure that they can participate fully in the selection process. If you require support or an adjustment when accessing the application form, attending interviews if applicable, or for any other part of the application process, please contact the Grants team on faraday@royalsociety.org or call +44 20 7451 2666. All requests for adjustments are made in confidence. Any request for an adjustment will not normally be shared with panel members unless it becomes relevant to the selection process itself. If we need to share your request with anyone (for example if panel members are required to implement any adjustments during interviews), we will ask for your permission first.

Adjustments can include but are not limited to:

- Extension of the deadline;
- Additional support to complete the application form;
- Receiving the application form in a different format, such as on a Word document;

The Grants team will be pleased to answer questions about eligibility and/or points covered in this section.

4.2 Host Organisation Eligibility

The following types of organisations will be eligible to apply to hold the grant:

- Higher Education Institutes that received funding from one of the UK higher education funding bodies.
- Research institutes (RIs), for which research councils have established a long-term involvement as major funder as part of the national research base.
- Approved relevant [Independent Research Organisations](#).
- Public Sector Research Establishments, a list of eligible PSREs is available [here](#).

Other organisations such as businesses may partner the applicant with an eligible organisation but cannot host the grant and must comply with relevant Subsidy Control regulations.

5 Assessment Criteria and Review Process

5.1 Assessment Criteria

These prestigious awards are aimed at world-class researchers and designed to enable such individuals of proven ability to lead independent, original research within the Society's subject remit.

As such the primary considerations in the assessment will be:

- The research track record of the applicant and international standing in their field.
- The quality, ambition and originality of the proposed research vision and programme, and how it will advance research and innovation. The proposed programme of research is expected to be **transformative**, and represent a step change for the field of research which will likely yield significant benefits to UK science.
- The suitability of the research environment (UK university or research institution).
- At Stage 2, the Committee will also consider the justification of resources and whether the proposed research programme represent good value for money.

5.2 Committees

Applications are assessed by the Royal Society Faraday Research Appointments Committees, which are split into the following subject groups:

- **Physical Sciences** – Astronomy, Chemistry, Cosmology, Engineering, Earth Sciences, Environmental Physical Sciences & Geosciences, Physics, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Statistics, the Mathematical aspects of Astronomy, Gravitation, Theoretical Physics, Computer Science, Communications and Computer Engineering.
- **Biological Sciences** – Anatomy, Biochemistry, Developmental Biology, Evolutionary and Ecological Science (including Soil Biology and Agriculture), Genetics (except Population Genetics), Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Cell Biology, Neurosciences, Organismal Biology, Palaeontology and Structural Biology.

Interdisciplinary applicants will be able to decide which committee they are primarily considered under. Additional members will be seconded to the Committees as required to enable appropriate assessment of interdisciplinary applications.

Please note that the Royal Society does not fund translational medicine, clinical trials or the development of new treatments. Research with a health outcome or direct impact in health also falls outside of the Royal Society remit.

If your field of science is not covered above or you have any queries regarding eligibility, then please contact the Faraday Discovery Fellowships Team (faraday@royalsociety.org) to discuss your specific case.

5.3 **Review Process**

The review process will consist of two stages:

Stage 1

- **Nomination by UK Host Organisation** – The Vice-Chancellor (or equivalent if the candidate will be based at an eligible Research Institute, Independent Research Organisation or Public Sector Research Establishment) contacts the Faraday Discovery Fellowships team (faraday@royalsociety.org) to request a link to the nomination form. The completed form is submitted through Flexi-Grant. If the nominated candidate has requested an exception on eligibility grounds due to change in discipline, or intends to apply for more than £4 million value and/or 5 years duration, this will need to be pre-approved by the Royal Society. The nominated candidate should contact faraday@royalsociety.org as early in the process as possible to discuss their individual case. Any applications that include these exceptions without prior approval from the Royal Society will be rejected as ineligible.
- **Initial assessment** – This nomination form will be assessed by two members and the Chair of the appropriate Faraday Selection Committee.
- **Result communicated** – The nominating institution will be informed whether or not the nomination has been approved. If it has, a link will be shared for the applicant to submit their full application. Detailed feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants at this stage.

Stage 2

- **Full application** – Accelerated International Route applicants will submit a full application
- **Independent peer review** – Full applications are subject to high-quality independent peer review
- **Peer review response (rebuttal)** – Following completion of independent peer review, applicants will receive the reviewers' comments and will have the opportunity to submit a written response
- **Appointment Committee meeting** – Recommendations for funding will be made by the Faraday Committees at the final appointments committee meeting. Applications submitted through the Accelerated International Route will be considered separately to those being discussed as part of the standard round. Feedback to unsuccessful applicants will be available on request.

All applicants will normally be notified of the outcome approximately four months after the assessment process for their Accelerated International Route round begins.

Nominated candidates that do not progress from Stage 1 *i.e.* they are not invited to submit a full Stage 2 application would be able to apply to the next standard round, as long as they continued to meet the eligibility criteria. Applicants may not apply to the standard round and the Accelerated International Route round simultaneously.

The subject tags you select on your application play a vital role in matching your application with appropriate reviewers, so it is extremely important to select only the most relevant subject tags on your application.

Please be assured that the Royal Society specifically requests anyone involved in reviewing applications to consider them in confidence. More information on the review process can be found in Appendix 1. All applicants will be notified of outcomes via email.

6 References and Participants (Stage 2)

To request a Stage 1 nomination form, please contact faraday@royalsociety.org. This is completed and submitted by the Vice-Chancellor (or equivalent if the candidate will be based at an eligible Research Institute, Independent Research Organisation or Public Sector Research Establishment).

To complete and submit the Stage 2 application form, the applicant is required to provide supporting statements or references from one individual. The following individuals must be included:

- Head of Department at the UK host organisation

6.1 How to invite participants to contribute to an application

All supporting statements must be submitted through Flexi-Grant. To submit supporting statements please follow the steps below.

Step 1 | Ensure all participants have a Flexi-Grant account

- All participants must set up a Flexi-Grant account in order to contribute to an application.
- If a participant already has a Flexi-Grant account they should use that, if not then a new account should be set up.

Step 2 | Invite participants to contribute to an application

- Applicants should invite participants to submit their supporting statements through the 'participants' tab.
- The participants tab can be found on the application form summary page and contains details of each participant required to contribute to the application.
- Applicants should select 'invite' and enter the e-mail address of the person they wish to invite to provide the relevant reference or statement and send the invitation.

Step 3 | Monitor participants responses

- The recipient will need to accept your invitation before they can participate in the application.
- You can monitor the progress of your participants' activity through this section of the application form and issue reminders as required.
- Once the participant has accepted your invitation, their status will be displayed as 'active'.
- Once participants have completed all their sections of the application form they should select '**Save & Submit**' on the application form page or select '**Submit your contribution**' on the summary page.
- Upon completion of their section of the application form their status will be displayed as 'complete'.

Please note that you will not be able to submit your application form until the status of all participants' shows 'complete'.

Please note that once an applicant submits an application on Flexi-Grant®, it is then directed to the designated approver for the employing organisation at which the applicant has applied to host an award (see Application Approvals in the 'Application Guidance Notes' Section). It is recommended that referring and supporting participants fulfil their requirements **at least 5 working days** before the submission deadline to ensure there is sufficient time for organisational approval. The Host organisation approver must approve the completed application by the submission deadline.

It is the applicant's responsibility to liaise with the Host Organisation's Approver and Head of Department to ensure that the required tasks are completed by the deadline. Please contact the Grants team before the deadline if there is any issue. Alternatively, the Host Organisation's Approver

or Head of Department can contact us directly. The Royal Society will not be held responsible for emails that are not received due to address errors or spam filters and no provision is made for non-receipt of emails sent by the Royal Society.

Re-opening the Application form to Participants

On the occasion that an invited participant accidentally submits their section of the application form prematurely, the applicant has the ability to re-open the application form for the participant. To do this, the applicant should return to the participant tab on the application form summary page. You will find a 're-open' button alongside the name of any participant who has completed their section of the form. Once you click this button, the form is reactivated and available for participants to amend.

Research Support Role

The Research Support role displayed under the participants tab is an optional role, which allows you to invite an individual from the relevant Host Organisation research support team to review and amend the application prior to submission. The primary purpose is to ensure that the requested finances have been recorded correctly for this specific grant programme. Applications cannot be submitted until all participant sections are marked as complete so it is important that applicants ensure that their organisation's research support team complete this section.

As the Research Support Role is optional, applicants can revoke this participant request in order to submit their application if the section has not been completed. Please navigate to the participants tab and revoke the request for Research Support Role.

Additional system guidance can be found in the 'Systems Guidance Notes' Section.

7 Contact Information

Enquires about this scheme can be made using the contact details below. Before contacting us, please check whether your question is answered by these scheme notes and FAQs document. If not, please email the Grants team via faraday@royalsociety.org or call +44 20 7451 2666 (lines open Mon-Thurs, 10am to 4pm).

Please quote your application reference number in all correspondence with the Grants team.

8 Use of Data

All applicant data, including personal data, is governed by the [Royal Society's Privacy Policy](#). This Policy sets out how and why the Royal Society uses your personal data, and how we protect your privacy when doing so. Please refer to the section entitled "Grant Applicants and Holders" for details of how the Privacy Policy determines the use of applicant data.

In addition to the usage set out in the Royal Society's privacy policy, please note that information regarding your application for the Faraday Discovery Fellowships may be shared with the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) for data monitoring and scheme evaluation purposes. You may also be contacted by selected third parties such as independent evaluators, consultancy groups, and career

development organisations. If successful, the Royal Society will contact you regarding the administration of your award throughout the course of your funding and after its completion. You may also be contacted by the Royal Society, DSIT or an agent acting on their behalf, for reporting and evaluation purposes throughout the course of your funding and after its completion.

9 Use of Generative AI

Generative AI tools offer potential benefits for research but also challenges and risks. The Royal Society has joined with other funders to set our expectations around the use of generative AI tools in funding applications. [Funders joint statement: use of generative AI tools in funding applications and assessment](#).

When developing funding proposals, researchers must ensure generative AI tools are used responsibly and in accordance with relevant legal and ethical standards where these exist or as they develop. Funding proposals for Royal Society grants should adhere to our existing commitments to policies on [Research Integrity and Trusted Research](#). Applicants are responsible for ensuring the originality, validity, reliability and integrity of any outputs created or modified by generative AI tools. Where generative AI tools are used in funding proposals their use should be acknowledged in the application by naming the AI source and specifying how the content was generated (for example by listing the prompt used).

10 System Guidance Notes

Please read these guidance notes carefully as you complete the application form.

10.1 Using Flexi-Grant®

Applications can only be submitted online using the Royal Society's Grants management system (Flexi-Grant®) via <https://grants.royalsociety.org>. Further information about the Grants management system can be found via <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/flexi-grant/>. If you have not previously used Flexi-Grant®, please follow the registration process from the Flexi-Grant®, homepage. ***Paper-based applications will not be accepted.***

Before completing the online form, all applicants should check that they comply with the eligibility requirements and ensure all necessary information is presented in the application. These requirements are strictly adhered to and applications without all the necessary information, or evidence to show the assessment criteria are met, will be rejected.

All applications must be approved by the Host Organisation and the applicant's departmental support must be completed before you can submit via Flexi-Grant®. Late applications will not be accepted.

For instructions on inviting participants to contribute to an application (such as departmental support), please see the 'References and Participants' section.

10.2 ORCID Identifier

All applicants should submit an ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifier if they have one before their application is submitted. ORCID maintains a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research funding, research publications, research data and any other research

outputs to these unique identifiers. This is a mandatory requirement at the application submission stage only. You can register for an ORCID identifier via <https://orcid.org/register>.

10.3 Completing the application form

The Stage 1 nomination form can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

Understanding our Promotion

Nominator Contact Details

Nominee Details

Statement of Support

Research Vision

Please note, the Stage 2 application questions are not finalised and are subject to change.

The Stage 2 application can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

Summary

Contact Details

Applicant Career Summary

Research Proposal

Data Management and Data Sharing

Use of Animals in Research

Use of Human Patients, Participants or Tissue

Financial Details

Applicant Declaration

Institutional Support

Please note that questions with * are mandatory fields, which is typically the majority of questions. You will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation once all sections of the application form have been marked as complete, and your participants have marked their work as complete (please check the status of participants under the participants tab on the application form summary page). Late applications will not be accepted. A full list of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 question fields to be completed as part of the application can be found in the Question Guidance in the 'Application Guidance Notes' Section.

11 Application Guidance Notes

11.1 Application Approvals

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that approval of the application by the Host Organisation is completed before the closing date.

The person responsible for approving your application will be the delegated authority at the Host Organisation

where you are applying to hold your award. This may be someone within the research office, Faculty administration, Vice-Chancellor, or other administrative or management role.

The approver must be someone with the authority to confirm that the potential award can be hosted within their organisation, confirm that there is the capacity to deliver the proposed research and assure the proposed budget is appropriate and eligible for the scheme.

You will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation's Approver once all sections of the application form have been marked as complete and all participants have marked their work as complete AND have submitted their section. The applicant must check the status of the participants under the 'Participants' tab on the summary page of the application form. **Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted.**

11.2 Question Guidance

Please read the following guidance notes carefully as you complete the form. In the table below, each box represents a page of the application form; the left-hand column contains the questions within each of these pages as set out in the form; the right-hand column contains useful guidance on its completion.

The below application guidance has been updated and is accurate for Stage 1 (nomination) of the Faraday Discovery Accelerated International Route. The Stage 2 questions are not finalised, and are still subject to change prior to the launch of Stage 2.

Please note that any pdf upload that exceeds the page limit specified will make the application ineligible.

Stage One (Nomination)

To be completed by the Vice-Chancellor, or equivalent if the candidate will be based at an eligible Research Institute, Independent Research Organisation or Public Sector Research Establishment.

The nominator must submit the nomination application through their own Flexi-Grant account. If your nominee is invited to make a full submission, the Head of Department will need to complete the support statement at Stage 2, and upload the Vice Chancellor's/Director's Support Letter (PDF) (mandatory requirements).

Understanding our Promotion	
Understanding our Promotion *	Please select how you found out about the scheme, and if you attended a Faraday webinar.

Nominator Contact Details (Vice-Chancellor or equivalent if the candidate will be based at an eligible Research Institute, Independent Research Organisation or Public Sector Research Establishment)	
Full Name including Title *	Please enter your full name and title.
Current Position *	Please state the title of your current position

Department *	Enter details of your current department name (e.g. Department of Astrophysics) if applicable
Host Organisation *	Enter your current university's name
Email Address *	Please state your email address

Nominee Details	
Full Name including Title *	Please enter your nominee's full name and title
Current Position *	Please state the title of your nominee's current position
Department *	Enter details of your nominee's current department name (e.g. Department of Astrophysics)
Current Host Organisation *	Enter your nominee's current host organisation's name
Country *	Enter your nominee's current country of residence
Email Address *	Please state your nominee's email address
Date of first Post-Doctoral Research Position *	<p>Please enter the date that the candidate started their first post-doctoral research position, or the date they were awarded their PhD if this is uncertain.</p> <p>If the candidate has more than 20 years of research experience but has taken career breaks or changed discipline, please contact the office (faraday@royalsociety.org) to confirm their eligibility before submitting a nomination.</p>
Recruitment Status *	<p>Please select the current status of the individual being nominated for this award from the options provided.</p> <p>If the applicant has already agreed, and accepted, an offer of employment to join your organisation then please indicate accordingly. This is a not a pre-requisite at the point of application to the scheme, but if successful <u>the candidate will need to have a full-time, permanent contract at the host organisation before their award can start.</u></p>
CV *	<p>Please upload a copy of the nominee's CV as a PDF.</p> <p>This should be no longer than 3 sides of A4, portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p> <p>The format and content of the CV is at the nominee's discretion, however it should include details of their track record, wider contributions to research, research impact and research culture as well as details of research appointments. These contributions might include public engagement, schools' engagement, knowledge exchange, mentoring, industry collaboration, team leadership, patents, commercialisation or broader business activity, peer review and committee membership</p>

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Statement of Support	
Statement of Support *	<p>Please provide a statement in support of the application as a PDF on headed paper, that includes your name, title, and contact details</p> <p>Please provide a confidential statement, commenting on the suitability of the nominated applicant and the merit of the proposed research project.</p> <p>Please elaborate on the need for this award, indicating what difference it would make for the nominated applicant to be recruited to your organisation, and why the fast-track route is more suitable for the candidate than the standard Faraday Discovery Fellowships route. Please expand on whether an offer of permanent employment has been made/accepted, and if not please confirm that this will be in place prior to the award starting.</p> <p>If the nominated candidate has requested an exception on eligibility grounds due to change in discipline, or intends to apply for more than £4 million value and/or 5 years duration, this will need to be pre-approved by the Royal Society. The nominated candidate should contact faraday@royalsociety.org as early in the process as possible to discuss their individual case. Any applications that include these exceptions without prior approval from the Royal Society will be rejected as ineligible.</p> <p>Please list any further actions taken by the university/department in order to recruit the nominated applicant. (500 words maximum)</p>
Commitment of Resources *	<p>Please provide details of the resources that the department will commit to the applicant should the application be successful. (250 words maximum)</p>

Research Vision	
Scientific Categorisation *	Please select which category best describes the nominee's proposal out of "Physical Sciences" or "Biological Sciences". For multidisciplinary projects, please select the category which is the best fit. This categorisation will help to determine which of the two committees assesses the application.
Subject Group *	Please select the subject group that most closely reflects the research area of the research proposal from the drop-down menu.
Subject Area *	Please select one or more subject areas that most clearly defines the research area of the research proposal from the subject sub-category list
Research Vision *	Please liaise with the nominated candidate to provide an overview of the proposed research, which you should upload in this section. This should include the vision

	<p>and the key research questions to be addressed. The challenges, feasibility, risk and key outcomes should also be highlighted in this section.</p> <p>PDF upload only. This must be no longer than 1 side of A4 for the research vision, plus 1 additional page for supporting figures and references if required. The document should be portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p>
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Start Date	
Start Date *	<p>Please enter the proposed start date</p> <p>Please ensure to confirm the proposed start date with the applicant prior to submitting the nomination form.</p>

Stage Two

Please note, questions in this section are subject to change.

Summary	
Summary Page	<p>The summary page of the application form provides instructions for submission of your application for approval from the UK host organisation. In addition, you are provided with an overview for each section of your application form, including the approximate length of time it will take to complete each section.</p> <p>The summary page also allows applicants to manage and invite participants (e.g. Head of Department) who are required to contribute to the application form. Instructions for inviting participants can be found under the 'participants' tab on the application summary page.</p> <p>Note: you will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation once all sections of the form have been completed by all participants.</p>

Contact Details	
Title, Names, address, organisation and country *	<p>Review and complete your personal details accurately. Errors in this section can cause difficulties in processing your application. Errors will not be corrected after submission.</p> <p>Under this section, you should edit the contact type of the participants who will partake in your application form. The system default contact type is set as 'collaborator'. To amend the contact type of your Head of Department, click 'edit', and under the contact type field, select the 'Head of Department'.</p> <p>Organisation: this table will automatically display details of the intended Host Organisation (marked by a tick) which you selected previously and your current organisation, if different from the organisation where the award will be held and administered.</p>

Email address *	This field defaults to the account in which the application has commenced and is where all correspondence pertaining to the application throughout the application process will be sent. The applicant must therefore commence the application using the login email address used to register a user account on Flexi-Grant®.
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Applicant Career Summary	
Title of Current Position *	Please state the title of your current position.
Current Employer *	Please enter the official organisation name of your current employer (e.g. University of Bath).
Current Department *	Please enter details of your current department (e.g. Department of Astrophysics).
Country/Territory *	Please select the country/territory where your current employer (or last employer if currently unemployed or on leave) is based.
Current Position Start Date *	Please enter the date when your current position started.
Current Position End Date *	Please enter the date when your current position is expected to finish. If you are on an open-ended contract, please enter 31 December 2050.
Field of Specialisation *	Enter details of your field(s) of specialisation. (Maximum 20 words)
Summary of Your Current Research *	Provide an outline summary of your current research. Please also include a brief comment on the strength of your organisation. (Maximum 200 words)
Applicant Career History *	<p>Please provide a full list of your appointments since your PhD in reverse chronological order, stating if part-time (and percentage part-time) when necessary.</p> <p>Please provide full details of any periods of part-time working, career breaks, extended sick leave or maternity/paternity/adoptive leave as your eligibility may depend on the accuracy of this information.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your career history information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p>
Impact of Covid -19	<p>The Society appreciates that the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on researchers and their work will be varied. Please provide a summary of how the pandemic has affected your research activities. This can include but is not limited to: delays in publishing/submitting a key paper(s) (please note preprints can be included in your publications list), pause on experiments/research plans, reduced ability to work due to additional caring responsibilities. (Maximum 500 words)</p>
CV *	<p>Please upload a copy of your CV as a PDF. This should be no longer than 3 sides of A4, portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p> <p>The format and content of the CV is at the applicant's discretion, however it should include details of the applicant's track record, wider contributions to research, research impact and research culture as well as details of research appointments. These contributions might include public engagement, schools' engagement, knowledge exchange, mentoring, industry collaboration, team</p>

	leadership, patents, commercialisation or broader business activity, peer review and committee membership.
Applicant Qualifications *	<p>Please list all your qualifications in reverse chronological order.</p> <p>The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence of your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your qualification information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier</p>
Full Publications list *	<p>Please provide details of authors, titles and references of your preprints and publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. Please note that publications will be reviewed on the basis of scientific content, rather than publication metrics or the identity of the journal.</p> <p>Your list can be divided into three sections: (i) refereed papers in primary journals, (ii) contributions to symposia and compiled volumes (refereed only); and (iii) preprints.</p> <p>For publications arising from large collaborative programmes clearly specify the exact role and contribution made towards large collaborative research programmes that have resulted in multi-authored publications.</p> <p>If your field of research differs in any way from normal conventions, e.g. lead author, first author, and publications in journals being the main gauge of success, please provide a brief explanation at the top of your publication list.</p> <p>If appropriate, give the publisher or where each publication may be obtained, providing a URL if available. Citations for preprints must state "Preprint", the repository name and the articles persistent identifier (e.g. DOI).</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your publications to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p>
Most Significant Publications *	<p>Please highlight your ten most significant publications in order of importance. For each publication, please provide a short statement describing their significance and your contribution (up to 50 words per output)</p>
Applicant Research Funding *	<p>Please list your current and previous research funding in reverse chronological order.</p> <p>The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p>

Research Proposal

Project Title *	Please give the full title of your proposed project. Maximum 20 words.
Keywords *	Provide up to 5-10 keywords that could be used to describe your research, which will aid with identifying the most appropriate peer reviewers.
Scientific Categorisation *	Please select which category best describes the nominee's proposal out of "Physical Sciences" or "Biological Sciences". For multidisciplinary projects, please select the category which is the best fit. This categorisation will help to determine which of the two committees assesses the application.
Subject Group *	Please select the subject group that most closely reflects the research area of the research proposal from the drop-down menu.
Subject Area *	Please select one or more subject areas that most clearly defines the research area of the research proposal from the subject sub-category list.
Abstract *	<p>Please provide a scientific summary of your proposed project. This should be a summary of your research proposal, briefly outlining the background and summarising the aims of your project.</p> <p>Plain text only maximum of 400 words.</p>
Lay Summary *	<p>Please provide a lay summary of your proposed project. This should be understandable by a lay person and different from the above scientific abstract. Explain why you have chosen to work in this subject area and what it is about your proposed research that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. If applicable, please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research.</p> <p>Plain text only maximum of 250 words.</p>
Research Proposal *	<p>Please use this section to make your case for support. You should outline the nature of your research and explain the potential impact or wider benefits of your research. Your statement should also provide justification for the award and detail the difference securing this award would make to you and your long-term research vision.</p> <p>PDF upload only, maximum 3 sides of A4. You may also include an additional page for references if required (4 sides total). Portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p>
Host Organisation *	Please select the organisation where the award will be held from the drop-down list.
Host Organisation Type *	Please select the Host Organisation type from the drop-down menu
Host Department *	Please provide the name of the proposed department at your host organisation. Please enter the official name (e.g. <i>School of Chemistry</i> rather than <i>Chemistry</i>).
Justification for Choice of Host Organisation *	Please provide a short statement justifying your choice of host organisation (i.e. why is it best suited for your research and career?).
Named Collaborators Letters of Support	<p>Optional upload</p> <p>However, it is encouraged that letters of support from significant collaborators are included to strengthen the case for support.</p>
Full/Part-time working *	If you intend to hold the Fellowship part-time, please select the appropriate FTE from the drop-down list. If you will work full time on the Faraday programme of research, please select '1.0 FTE'.
Part-time resourcing details	If you have selected to hold the Fellowship part-time, please specify how the funds released by the PI working part-time would be used to support the delivery of the proposed research programme e.g. using unspent salary funds from their part-time working to resource their group more fully by hiring a lab manager
Suggested Independent Reviewers	Please suggest independent reviewers with relevant expertise to review your proposal without a conflict of interest. If your application is selected for independent peer review, The Royal Society will consider your recommendations and decide whether or not to include them in the list of experts invited to review

	your proposal. You will not be informed of this decision.
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Data Management and Data Sharing	
<p>The Royal Society supports science as an open enterprise and is committed to ensuring that data outputs from research supported by the Society are made publicly available in a managed and responsible manner, with as few restrictions as possible. Data outputs should be deposited in an appropriate, recognised, publicly available repository, so that others can verify and build upon the data, which is of public interest. To fully realise the benefits of publicly available data they should be made intelligently open by fulfilling the requirements of being discoverable, accessible, intelligible, assessable, and reusable.</p> <p>The Royal Society does not dictate a set format for data management and sharing plans. Where they are required, applicants should structure their plan in a manner most appropriate to the proposed research. The information submitted in plans should focus specifically on how the data outputs will be managed and shared, detailing the repositories where data will be deposited. In considering your approach for data management and sharing, applicants should consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data outputs will be generated by the research that are of value to the public? • Where and when will you make the data available? • How will others be able to access the data? • If the data is of high public interest, how will it be made accessible not only for those in the same or linked field, but also to a wider public audience? • Specify whether any limits will be placed on the data to be shared, for example, for the purposes of safeguarding commercial interests, personal information, safety or security of the data. • How will datasets be preserved to ensure they are of long-term benefit? 	
Outline of data management and data sharing plan *	If the proposed research will generate data that is of significant value to the research community, then please provide details of your data management and sharing plan. (Maximum 200 words) .
Fieldwork *	Will you be conducting fieldwork as part of your research? Yes/No *
Fieldwork	Please provide all details of any proposed fieldwork to be carried out. Please ensure you provide details of location, duration and justification for the fieldwork.
Fieldwork (Upload only)	<p>Please upload documents related to the following (if applicable):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Permission</u> Any mandatory documents that show local support has been assured by way of permission from the government concerned to travel to and work in the country. 2. <u>Collection of specimens</u> Any mandatory documents that show: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific permission has been obtained from the host country to collect and to export specimens and material.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The director of the museum or other decision makers where these specimens will be deposited has indicated his/her desire or willingness to have such specimens and material.
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Use of Animals in Research *	
<p>The Royal Society is committed to supporting the development of alternative methods to reduce and/or replace the use of animals in research. Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 and subsequent amendments. Additionally, applicants should continually be aware of developments in best practice, and adopt the principles of the 3Rs when designing and conducting experiments on animals.</p> <p>As a funder of research, the Society takes its responsibilities towards the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 seriously and requires applicants to consider the questions below when preparing grant applications that include the use of animals.</p>	
Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue? *	Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you have selected 'Yes' it is mandatory to complete all of the relevant questions on the Use of Animals in Research page.
<p>Experimental Design Assistant</p> <p>The Royal Society recommends that applicants use the Experimental Design Assistant (EDA), which is a free resource from the NC3Rs to support researchers in the planning of animal experiments. This will help to facilitate robust study design and reliable and reproducible findings.</p> <p>The EDA helps applicants build a machine-readable diagram representing their experimental plan, following capture of their methodology, and allows the applicant to then generate a PDF report which provides a transparent description of the experimental design in a standardised format, which can be uploaded to the application form.</p> <p>Please note: Applicants who choose to use the EDA, and subsequently uploads the EDA report to the application form, are advised to enter see report or n/a into any question fields within this section of the application form that have already been captured in the EDA report, to avoid any duplication.</p>	

Use of Human Participants and Tissue	
<p>Any application for a research proposal involving human participants, patients or tissue and therefore requiring local ethical committee approval will be considered only when accompanied by the necessary permission certificate or proof that ethical permission will be sought, which must be provided in English.</p>	
Does your proposal involve the use of human participants, patients or tissue? *	Select 'Yes' or 'No'. If you have selected 'Yes' it is mandatory to provide either a certificate or letter, as proof that ethical permission has been, or will be, obtained. Please upload the file as a PDF in portrait orientation.

Financial Details	
General information	<p>When completing the budget table in Flexi-Grant® please ensure to provide values at the appropriate FEC level (80% or 100%), as indicated in the Royal Society Grant Funding Guidance.</p> <p>If you have collaborators, please break down the costs for collaborating organisations within each justification category.</p>

Summary Budget Table *	<p>Please enter the values applied for under the budget table headings. This should match the summary table in tab 3 of the Excel finance form.</p> <p>Application finances should be done in collaboration with your Host Organisation's Research/Finance Office. The maximum value of the award is £4 million, applicants may apply for less if they wish. Within this maximum value, a reasonable level of inflation to all grant costings should be applied, except for PhD studentships and fees.</p> <p>The full duration of the award is 5 years. The total grant cap may be exceeded in order to cover visa costs if this is well justified in the application. Please refer to the Royal Society Grant Funding Guidance.</p> <p>In the event of the award-holder leaving the host organisation, the PhD student(s) will be permitted to decide whether to remain at the host organisation or move with the supervisor (with advice from the supervisor and other academic staff as appropriate). The host organisation will provide a deputy supervisor who will become lead supervisor in the event that the award holder leaves the host organisation.</p>
Excel budget form upload *	Please upload the completed Excel file detailing award finances.
Justification for Salary *	Please include grade and salary point as per the host organisation salary structure. A justification of annual increment should be included.
Justification for Other Research Staff *	Please confirm the total value requested and provide a full justification for this amount.
Justification for Research Expenses *	Please fully justify all requested costs (Other Directly Incurred Costs) by referring to each budget heading. Funding will not be awarded without justification. If you are requesting funds to support a PhD Studentship please use the yearly rates for stipend and fees listed in the Royal Society Grant Funding Guidance .
Justification for Equipment *	Please provide costing details for any individual items of equipment with a value over £25,000. Items of equipment with a value of less than £25,000 should be detailed in the 'Justification for Research Expenses' section above.
Justification for Relocation and Visa Expenses *	Please include the number of dependents (partner and children only allowed), which visa type you are applying for, its cost, and an estimation of other relocation expenses.
Justification for Other Costs *	Please justify any other costs included in the application.
Justification for Inflation rate applied *	Please include the percentage inflation rate applied across all budget categories and the reasoning behind the percentage used.

<p>Applicant Declaration *</p> <p>Please declare that:</p> <p>You have read the Terms and Conditions of Award under which Royal Society grants are awarded and, if a grant offer is made, you agree to abide by them. The Terms and Conditions for Royal Society applications can be found here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have access to the necessary facilities to enable you to deliver the research proposed and will continue to have access to the facilities for the duration of the project.
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Institutional and Departmental Support *

You should invite the Head of Department at your host organisation to provide a statement of support by following the instructions under the **participants tab** on the application form summary page. Please check that they can supply their statement by 15:00 UK time **26 September 2025**. You will also be asked to re-upload the letter of support provided by the Vice-Chancellor (or equivalent), as previously provided at the Nomination Stage.

Please check which email address your Head of Department would like to use, as they may already be registered on Flexi-Grant® and mistakes may lead to a delay in processing your application.

Before inviting them to participate in completion of the application form, the applicant is instructed to ensure that the Head of Department is willing and available to provide a confirmation of support prior to the round closing date. Incomplete confirmations will mean that an application cannot be submitted and will be deemed to be ineligible.

The Head of Department is required to summarise as part of their statement and organisation's commitment to the candidate:

- The suitability of the candidate for the Fellowship and department
- Set out how the host department/institution will provide the support, mentorship and guidance to enable the candidate to thrive in their career and research.
- The host organisation is expected to adhere to the principles of the Concordat to support the development of research careers. The host organisation is also required to commit to providing appropriate training and development for members of the PI's research group (including early career researchers, PDRAs, PhD students and technicians) funded through the grant.

Research Fellows are expected to devote their time to research. Funded PIs must spend at least 80% of their time on research activity, with the other 20% of their time being used to contribute towards other duties such as teaching and contact with students, administration, departmental leadership etc. Where innovation or translation activity, including working with industry, is part of the agreed programme of the fellowship, that time can also be considered as "research".

It is the responsibility of the applicant to:

- Inform the Head of Department of the deadline.
- Liaise with the Head of Department to ensure that they have received their invitation with instructions to participate in completion of the application, as no provision is made for non-receipt of these automatic emails.
- Keep track of the progress of Head of Department's completion status on the application summary page. The Applicant can issue a **reminder** email through the participants tab on the application summary page.
- Ensure that the Head of Department re-uploads the letter of support provided by the Vice-Chancellor (or equivalent), as previously provided at the Nomination Stage.

If the instruction email from the Royal Society has not been received, please:

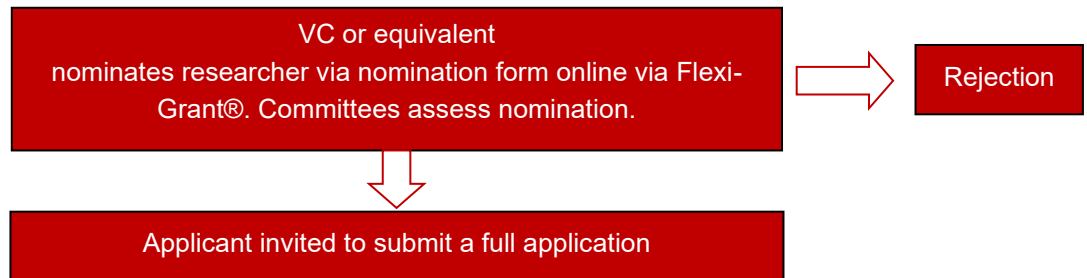
- a) double check the accuracy of the email address supplied on the application form
- b) advise the intended recipient to check their spam filters/junk folders
- c) contact the Royal Society with an alternative email address for the recipient

The Royal Society will not be held responsible for automated emails that are not received due to address errors or spam filters.

- You have agreed with your Head(s) of Department that you will be afforded sufficient time and resources to deliver the research project as described in this application.

Appendix 1: Application and Review Process

STAGE 1 (Nomination: Vice-Chancellor or equivalent)



STAGE 2 (Applicant)

