**KHP Centre for Translational Medicine pre-doctoral Clinical Research Excellence Fellowship**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q** Can I supervise more than one person?

**A** No, supervisors should only support one application from one fellow.

**Q.** Does a supervisor have to be one listed on your website, or can it be one we have identified ourselves? How could potential supervisors apply to be listed for the programme in 2025?

**A.** We ran a broad call for supervisors across KHP in order to help candidates identify supervisors who are willing to host a fellow in 2024/25. However, eligible supervisors who did not submit an expression of interest will be considered. They should contact the Centre to request to be added to the supervisory pool, by completing the relevant registration form - [https://forms.office.com/e/3k8zavWBrY](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fe%2F3k8zavWBrY&data=05%7C02%7Ctranslationalmedicine%40kcl.ac.uk%7Cbbc116a89d554fb571e608dc43ff82c8%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638460011889087498%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=JLFLGJt39Hu32zoLLWKbeBGqwbL9OgGkHF%2FT5ofsigo%3D&reserved=0)

**Q.** Can your primary supervisor be outside of KHP?

**A.** No - but a second or third supervisor could be someone outside KHP.

**Q.** Where can I find the projects and supervisors?

**A.** The website lists supervisors who are interested in hosting a fellow. Projects should be developed jointly, based on mutual areas of interest.

**Q.** Would pharmacist be qualified to apply for the fellowship?

**A.** YES, any registered health professional is eligible to apply.

**Q.** Can any funding awarded be switched later from salary to consumables or vice versa depending on the outcome of other grants for the candidate?

**A.** No, the funding offered is specifically for salary plus up to £5k research costs. If the candidate secured alternative fellowship funding during the award, the award will usually finish.

**Q.** What is the latest point in time the fellowship can be started at?

**A.** We anticipate fellows starting no later than the end of October 2024. However, considerations will be made on a case by case basis. We will not accept requests to start later than December 2024.

**Q.** Would you consider an application to take up the funding part-time alongside a clinical role?

**A.** This pre-doctoral fellowship is designed to provide protected research time. Continued clinical activity (up to a maximum of 2 PAs/0.2 FTE/20% of time) is permitted within the fellowship when relevant to the research project.

**Q.** Is it a definite 12 month timeline? So for example, if the project running took a clinical portion of time, could you extend the fellowship out to accommodate this?

**A.** The fellowships are designed to support a short period of time to pump-prime an external fellowship. Anything beyond 12 months would need a strong rationale and be considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Q.** Can you remain clinical one day a week?

**A.** The fellowships can include clinical activity at a maximum of one day a week (2 PAs), as long as the clinical activity is relevant to the research project.

**Q.** What is the minimum number of days that should be dedicated to the fellowship?

**A.** The fellowships are offered full time.

**Q.** For potential fellows whose salary cannot be matched within that limit, are they allowed to apply on a pro rata basis?

**A.** It would be reasonable to have a discussion on this basis. You are encouraged to get in touch to confirm eligibility before you submit an application.

**Q.** Can you use this to build an application for a DCAF?

**A.** Yes, this is the intended outcome of the fellowship.

**Q.** Could we register for a PhD during the pre-doctoral training year (with a view to apply for funding the remaining 2 years of the PhD? after this year)?

**A.** No, this is pre-doctoral funding designed to pump prime your application for external funding for a doctorate. Your registration for the doctorate would commence with the doctoral fellowship.

**Q.** Is the expectation that the subsequent CRTF is sponsored by KCL?

**A.** The aims of the scheme is to build capacity across KHP. The scheme provides support for fellows to apply for a competitive doctoral fellowship from an external funder. The doctoral fellowship would be hosted at one of the organisations of KHP and the degree would usually be awarded by KCL.

**Q.** Would someone be eligible for this programme if they have already completed an NIHR funded predoctoral fellowship, but wish to use the funding for further research activities like feasibility studies, systematic reviews etc?

**A.** The funding should provide protected time to work towards a competitive doctoral fellowship application. Candidates will not be penalised for prior experience on pre-doctoral research funding.

**Q.** Is priority given to funding certain themes? Are nurses eligible?

**A.** All health professionals are eligible. We don't currently have specific themes but the research should fit into the broad domains described in the guidance.

**Q.** Do we make an application before approaching proposed supervisors?

**A.** No, applications should be worked up between the candidate and the supervisor jointly, once a supervisor is identified.

**Q.** I have no research experience, would doing the clinical research internship necessary for the application of pre-doctoral fellowship?

**A.** Applicants should have a relevant professional qualification or degree with distinction/honours or previous research experience. Please also note assessment criteria in the guidance.

**Q.** Do I/supervisor need to notify you once we have identified a supervisor/applicant?

**A.** You don’t need to notify if once you have identified a supervisor/applicant, but the list of supervisors will be removed from the webpage after the 22 March.

**Q.** What is the selection process, who is on the panel and what are the key criteria the panel is assessing?

**A.** The key criteria can be viewed on the guidance. Eligible applications will be shortlisted, then invitations to attend an interview will be sent to shortlisted candidates. The panel will be made up of colleagues from King’s Health Partners, the GST Charity and patient representatives.

**Q.** How many fellowships do you plan to fund?

**A.** Around 10.

**Q.** Is there a central place where applicants can see what training courses are on offer by King’s Health Partners for our development and training plan?

**A.** Find out more about the King’s Clinical Academic Training Office (KCATO) which offers advice, best practice and information on navigating a clinical academic career. <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/doctoral-experience/health-researcher/clinical-training-office>. You should also speak to your supervisor about training and development opportunities available locally e.g. in the department. A bursary is also offered of up to £1000 for conference travel or advanced training not available across KHP.

**ADDITIONAL FAQ – April 2024**

**Q.** Am I required to set up my expenses/consumables on KCL Work Tribe prior to submitting my application by the Monday 22nd April deadline? Or would you just like an outline of these expenses?

**A.** No you are not required to set up your expenses/consumable on KCL Work Tribe prior to submitting your application. The panel will look at the outline of your expenses described in your application.

**Q.** For the consumables up to a value of £5000 - please can you kindly confirm what kind of items/consumables can be claimed for? Would attendance at conferences be acceptable?

**A.** Attendance at conferences would be funded through the bursary rather than consumables. Consumables could include lab based materials and funds towards PPIE activity.

**Q.** On the MS Word document version of the application form, there is no Q14 under the Clinical academic career and training plan section and there is no Q2 under the professional experience section - are these questions missed out on the word document or is this a typo?

**A.** On the MS word form, the missing questions are a typo. All questions listed on the word form are included on the online form

**Q.** Are there any rules/guidelines for the submission format of the two page scientific rationale and experimental design?

**A.** For your two page scientific rationale and experimental design we would recommend the font being no smaller than arial/calibri 11. You are welcome to include a diagram if helpful.

**Q.** Can I upload my full CV? There are elements I’d like to include in addition to the information requested but there is no space on the form to do this.

**A.** No, Our application form is where you add your CV information. It uses the "narrative CV" format that has been adopted by UKRI. The questions will allow the assessment panel to do a fair and consistent assessment against our criteria

Link to the slides - [clinical research excellence fellowships Q&A 18 March 2024.pdf](https://emckclac-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/k0955311_kcl_ac_uk/EVJ_YOeE3zxOvaKWicmGzYwB7MGlX8esEiey6Da2ar1Iyw?e=CW5XFA)