

Appendix 1



Programme Title & Team	Science Foundation Ireland Fellowship Programme Challenge Research Team
Duration	36 months

SFI Challenge Research Team

Challenge-based funding models are an increasingly prevalent tool used by governments, philanthropists and other funders to drive research, development and innovation activities toward addressing significant societal challenges with the aim of driving societal benefit. Challenge-based funding is used to bring interdisciplinary teams together and is focused on delivery of a solution, maximizing the potential for societal impact.

Challenge competitions are typically performed through a combination of performance-based funding and/or the use of significant prizes. Importantly, stakeholders and beneficiaries are consulted at the outset to define a problem or challenge of significance. This approach has been found to be especially suited to identifying highly innovative solutions to problems.

The SFI Challenge Research Team was established in 2018 and in addition to the development and delivery of challenge-based funding opportunities. The team is also responsible for management of SFI's suite of international partnerships (including with the Wellcome Trust, the UK Royal Society, the EPSRC and the US Ireland partnership etc) and SFI's entrepreneurial training programmes. The team sits within the "Science for Society" Directorate.

Key Responsibilities

Fellows will be required to support a number of challenge-based funding programmes (including for example – the SFI Future Innovator Prize & other new challenge programmes currently under development). The selected candidate will also support the international programmes and other activities of the team, as required. The selected candidate will play a key role in the team in the support of Challenge Research Managers and Scientific Programme Managers. Fellows will:

- Assist in the development of new programmes and the drafting of associated

- call documentation;
- Assist in the administration and processing of applications and awards under the international partnership programmes;
- Assist in the organisation and delivery of workshops;
- Assist in programme promotion and interaction with SFI Communications team;
- Assist in the preparation of research summaries for SFI's website and other venues;
- Sourcing of peer reviewers;
- Organisation of site reviews and panel review meetings;
- Review of annual reports;
- Preparation of updates and reports for internal and external stakeholders;
- Preparation of briefings and webinars;
- Preparation of review summaries and documentation to support the evaluation of grant proposals;
- Participating in SFI working groups and team meetings;

Key Competencies

- Communication
- Initiative & Creativity
- Teamwork
- Personal Effectiveness
- Project Management
- Respect & Integrity

Essential Requirements

- PhD degree or equivalent;
- A self-starter with the ability to multi-task;
- An excellent and confident communicator (both oral and written);
- Interest/training in structured innovation processes and entrepreneurship an advantage;
- Attention to detail important;
- Familiarity with standard software (Word, Excel and PowerPoint)