

Frequently Asked Questions

1. ELIGIBILITY

Q1a. Under the SFI Fellowship Programme what is the definition of an eligible applicant?

The applicant must be

- i) A team member currently funded through an SFI award;
- ii) A member of staff currently working in an administrative role/office of an eligible Research Body;
- iii) Non SFI Funded Researchers.

The candidate must currently be on a contract in an eligible research body. It is the expectation that the applicant may be at a natural break between projects or nearing the end of their current contract. However, at the time of application, for the period of the recruitment process and at the point of offer the candidate must be under contract with an eligible research body.

Some, but not all fellowships require that candidates hold a PhD degree or equivalent. A graduate degree will be a minimum requirement. Please see the job specs in Appendix 1 of the call document for further details.

Please note that applicants applying for Fellowship positions in Corporate Communications or Education & Public Engagement do not require a PhD.

Q1b. Are PhD students funded through SFI awards eligible to apply for the Fellowship Programme?

No. Applicants must have obtained their PhD degree or equivalent.

Applicants applying for positions in the Corporate Communications and Education & Public Engagement Divisions do not require a PhD degree or equivalent, a graduate degree is the minimum requirement for these placements.

Q1c. Are team members funded through other funding agencies eligible to apply to the SFI Fellowship Programme?

The candidate must currently be on a contract in an eligible research body. It is the expectation that the applicant may be at a natural break between projects or nearing the end of their current contract. However, at the time of application, for the period of the recruitment process and at the point of offer the candidate must be under contract with an eligible research body.

2. DURATION

Q2a. Will Fellowships be offered for a period of less than 36 months?

Yes. Successful applicants will be offered a fellowship for a maximum period of 36 months. However, SFI are prepared to offer successful applicants a fellowship of lesser duration if the applicant prefers. The minimum duration of a fellowship position is 12 months.

Q2b. What is the latest date that will be considered as a starting date for the Fellow?

For this particular call we are looking for successful applicants to take up the SFI Fellowship Placement as soon as possible following the reference check and funding approval stage.

Q2c. Is the Research body permitted to hire a replacement for the loss of a team member?

A supplement will be paid by SFI to the VP of Research in the eligible research body to compensate for the cost of the team member. The award holder is permitted to hire a replacement team member if they so wish.

3. QUALIFICATIONS

Q3a. Will Fellows require specific qualifications to work in different SFI divisions?

Yes. Fellows who indicate that they would like to work in the scientific and technical divisions of SFI (Enterprise Partnerships & SFI Research Centres in Science for the Economy Directorate, Challenge Research and Individual-Led Research in Science for Society Directorate) will be expected to have obtained a PhD degree or equivalent.

Fellows who indicate they would like to work in other divisions (Education & Public Engagement in the Science for Society Directorate and Corporate Communications in the Strategy & Transformation Directorate) will be expected to hold a graduate degree and hold relevant qualifications as appropriate to the division they express a preference for.

Please see the job specs in Appendix 1 of the call document for further details on the requirements for each of the Fellowship positions.

4. OTHER

Q4a. *What organisations have the Fellows joined subsequent to completing the Fellowship Programme?*

The SFI Fellowship Programme has proved very successful and on conclusion all Fellows have secured excellent positions within international funding agencies, research offices and training & research centres.