

The Royal Academy of Engineering/ Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships

Applicant Guidance Notes

Deadline: 3 November 2026, 5pm GMT

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Introduction to the Academy

The [Royal Academy of Engineering](https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/)¹ is a charity delivering public benefit, a National Academy providing progressive leadership, and a Fellowship bringing together an unrivalled community of leaders from every part of engineering and technology. Our Patron is His Majesty King Charles III.

The Academy's Strategy 2030, "[Engineering Better Lives](https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/our-strategy/)"², sets out a vision to unite a community of outstanding experts and innovators in engineering to drive positive societal impact. The strategy is built around three core goals: a sustainable and innovative economy, technology improving lives, and an engineering community fit for the future. The Academy's grant programmes support these strategic goals by investing in people, partnerships, and projects that advance engineering excellence, foster inclusion and diversity, and deliver meaningful societal impact in alignment with the Academy's vision and values.

Programme overview

The Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng) / Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship scheme allows early- to mid-career academics to concentrate on research.

The Fellowship covers a maximum of £65,000 for the salary costs of a replacement academic who will cover the Awardee's teaching and administrative duties for up to one year. This provides engineering academics with an opportunity to reinvigorate their research careers, enhance their current research interests or initiate new lines of research without teaching or administrative constraints.

The Fellowship also provides a support fund of up to £5,000 for miscellaneous research costs incurred by the awardee, including conference attendance and public engagement activities.

Fellowships must begin between **1 August 2027** and **1 October 2027**.

¹ <https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/>

² <https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/our-strategy/>

In addition to the direct financial support, the scheme benefits include:

- Mentoring support from an Academy Fellow to offer advice on research and career development.
- Networking opportunities with other Research Fellows and Academy Fellows.
- Training, events and additional funding opportunities.
- An opportunity to establish a strong research track record which will improve the chances of securing additional funding and expanding research teams.
- Being part of the RAEng Awardee Excellence Community. See the [Awardee Excellence Community Website](#)³ for more information.

These Fellowships are funded by The Leverhulme Trust.

The Leverhulme Trust

The Leverhulme Trust is an independent charity that seeks to fund ambitious blue skies research and scholarship, which has the potential to generate new ideas and research breakthroughs that benefit society. The Trust aims to support a diverse range of scholars in their educational endeavours. It focuses its efforts mainly in the UK, which has a world-class higher education research sector.

Since its foundation in 1925, the Trust has provided grants and scholarships for research and education, funding research projects, fellowships, studentships, bursaries and prizes; it operates across all academic disciplines to support talented individuals as they realise their vision in research and professional training.

Today, it is one of the largest all-subject providers of research funding in the UK, distributing approximately £120 million a year: [leverhulme.ac.uk](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/)⁴.

³ <https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/awardee-excellence-community>

⁴ <https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/>

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants should hold a permanent academic position at a UK university at lecturer, senior lecturer, or reader level (or equivalent).
- Applicants must be teaching an engineering discipline at undergraduate or postgraduate level.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate a significant administrative workload which prevents them from dedicating as much time to research as they would like and that they, therefore, merit being relieved of their teaching and administrative duties.
- The proposed research project can be in any engineering discipline. Engineering is defined in its broadest sense, encompassing a wide range of diverse fields, including computer science and materials (please refer to [Appendix A](#)). Applications will be assessed based on whether there is a clear engineering problem being addressed and whether engineering-led methods or solutions are central to the proposed work. Applications with interdisciplinary elements must therefore demonstrate a clear engineering component. If you are unsure whether your project is in an engineering area, please contact the Research Team: research@raeng.org.uk.
- Awards can be held on a part-time basis; please refer to the section on part-time and flexible working below for more details.

We remind you also that:

- Research Fellowships cannot be jointly hosted by multiple institutions.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to contact the host institution to gain their formal approval before applying.
- Any applications that are incomplete or do not adhere to the guidance will be rejected.

Equity, diversity and inclusion

The Royal Academy of Engineering is committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all underrepresented groups across engineering. It is the Academy's [policy](#)⁵ to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged or receives less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Before you commence your application, you will be asked a few diversity monitoring questions to help the Academy monitor and assess our diversity and inclusion policy. It will only be used for statistical purposes with access restricted to staff involved in processing and monitoring the data. No information will be published or used in any way that identifies individuals. The Academy will retain personal information as per our [Data Retention Policy](#)⁶ in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

The information will be treated as strictly confidential, nonattributable and will not be seen by anyone involved in any selection processes. You will need to complete the diversity monitoring section before you can submit the grant application form, but can choose “prefer not to say” as responses.

Reasonable adjustments

We want to ensure all applicants can participate and present their best selves during the application process, and for the duration of the award if you are successful.

If you need any adjustments or changes to support your participation in the process or throughout the programme, please contact Olivia Saunders (Programme Manager) by telephone (+44 207 167 8149) or email (Olivia.Saunders@raeng.org.uk) to discuss your needs.

⁵ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/flghp4gn/rae005-diversity-and-inclusion-policy-2024.pdf>

⁶ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/duhjwap2/raeng-privacy-policy-grant-or-award.pdf>

All information shared will be treated confidentially in line with GDPR principles. For more details, please see the Academy's [privacy policy](#)⁷.

We encourage you to **get in touch at least 10 working days before the submission deadline**, so we can respond accordingly and tailor possible adjustments to your circumstances.

Access Mentoring support

The Academy aims to provide additional support to applicants from groups that are persistently underrepresented within UK engineering through the grant application process.

This [positive action](#)⁸ will contribute to improving diversity in the talent pipeline and widening the diversity of applicants and awardees within the Academy's research grant schemes.

To be eligible for Access Mentoring support for RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships applications, applicants need to meet the eligibility criteria for the scheme and must be from one of the following groups:

- **Women**
- **Black people (including those with any mixed ethnicity with Black ethnic backgrounds)**
- **Disabled people**

The Academy accepts applicants' self-declaration on the above identified underrepresented groups.

Access Mentoring is a resource-limited opportunity. Applicants do not need to wait until the deadline to submit and early submission is encouraged. Mentors will be assigned on a first come first served basis as soon as the application is approved.

For more information on Access Mentoring, please see [guidance and how to apply](#)⁹.

⁷ <https://raeng.org.uk/privacy-policy/>

⁸ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/158>

⁹ <https://raeng.org.uk/access-mentoring>

Part-time and flexible working

The Academy wants to support applicants to achieve a balance between their personal and work demands and is happy to discuss individual requirements and consider part-time and other flexible working arrangements.

RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships can be held part time. The request for a part-time RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship (at no less than 50% of full-time equivalent) must be clearly stated within the application (in the final question on Page 5 of the application form).

Funding for part-time awards can be requested based on the salary cost of the replacement academic, adjusted for the applicant's full-time equivalent, up to the maximum award value. Recognising that salary structures vary between institutions, where the salary requested appears unusually high relative to the stated full-time equivalent, applicants will be asked to provide a short justification within the application form.

Research Fellows are entitled to maternity, paternity and adoption leave under the host institution's normal conditions of employment. The Academy will extend the duration of the RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship pro-rata to take into account such periods of leave and any conversions to part-time working.

Research Fellows with caring responsibilities should liaise directly with the host institution if they wish to apply for part-time or flexible working.

Fellowships under one year in duration

For Fellowships lasting less than one year, applicants should request funding based on the actual eligible costs required for the period of support. As the main cost is expected to be the salary cost of the replacement academic, the amount requested may not be directly proportional to the Fellowship duration. Applicants should consult their host institution when completing the costs table.

How to apply

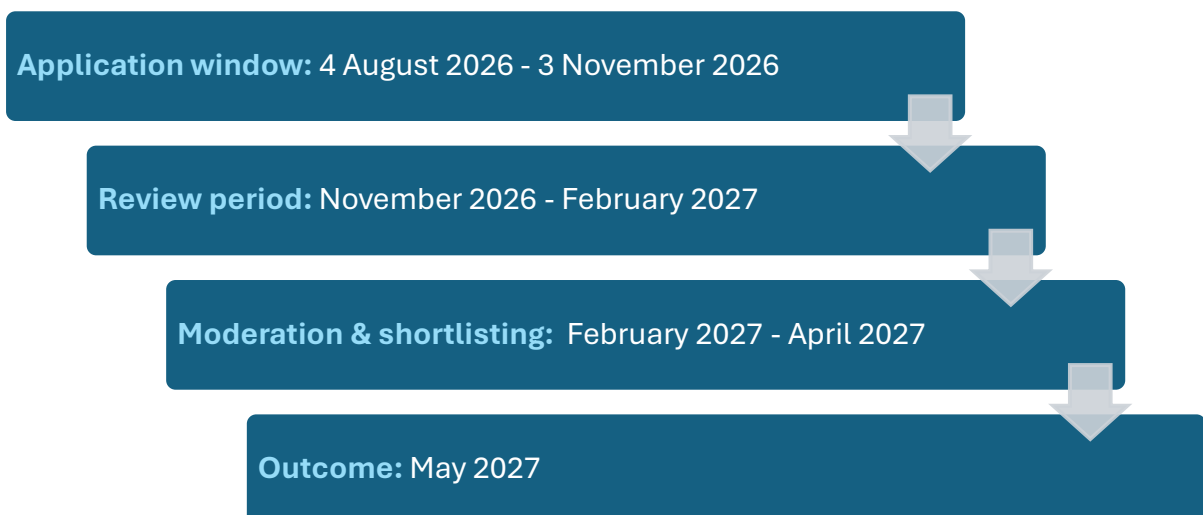
All applications must be submitted via the [Academy's online grants management system](#)¹⁰ (GMS). Applicants must first register and provide some basic login details to create a profile. The application should be submitted by the applicant.

We recommend leaving plenty of time to complete the application form ahead of the deadline and thoroughly going through your application prior to submission. Applicants can download a PDF of their application after submission, which is recommended for reference.

While the guidance notes are embedded within the system itself, we recommend you keep this document to hand when completing the application form. Please also read the Academy's [Grant Policies in Appendix B](#) and on our [website](#)¹¹ before starting your application.

Many of the questions have prescribed word limits, which are designed to keep answers focused and give applicants an indication of the level of detail required. In such cases the number of words used will be displayed beneath the question and updated in real time.

Timeline



¹⁰ <https://grants.raeng.org.uk>

¹¹ <https://raeng.org.uk/about-us/our-policies/grant-policies/>

Completing the application form

After logging into the grants management system and selecting 'The RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships' in the 'Start Application' section, you should be presented with the 'Instructions' screen.

Here you will see some general instructions on how to use the system, as well as links to each of the seven sections of the application form listed below:

1. Applicant and host institution details
2. Project details
3. Case for support
4. Teaching and administrative responsibilities
5. Support requested
6. Responsible research
7. Support letters and declarations

You can save your work at any stage in the application process and return to it later. You can answer the questions in any order you like, so you can freely skip some sections and return to them later.

Please read the guidance provided in this document in detail as well as the [Grant Policies in Appendix B](#) before starting an application. Grant funding policies and positions can also be found on our [website](#)¹².

You should also ensure that you have all the necessary documentation to complete the application, such as your CV / ORCID identifier and supporting letters.

¹² <https://raeng.org.uk/grants-policies>

Section 1: Applicant and host institution details

1.1 Applicant name and contact details

Please confirm your name and preferred contact details. Some of your details and those of your institution should be automatically generated by the system, as you provided these at registration. Please ensure that the contact email address is correct and will be valid for the entire entirety of the application process as this will be the main method of communication regarding the application.

ORCID identifier

Applicants are welcome to use data from their [ORCID](https://orcid.org/)¹³ (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifier in this application. Usage is optional and available to minimise your manual data entry. You may add your ORCID identifier on the Contact information page or by clicking on the Retrieve/Update link within a relevant question. A pop-up will appear allowing you to provide your ORCID details and authorise access. The existence and use of an ORCID identifier will **not** have an impact on how an application is assessed.

1.2 Please provide a full list of your employment appointments since your university graduation in reverse chronological order

Please provide full details of any periods of part-time working (noting what percentage part-time), career breaks, extended sick leave or maternity/paternity/adoptive leave as your eligibility may depend on the accuracy of this information.

The depth of information you provide is up to you. As this information will represent you in the eligibility and assessment process, it is worthwhile to include as much good evidence for your merit as possible.

You can retrieve your career history information from your ORCID profile to complete this section of the application form. If you do not have an ORCID identifier, please use the below format:

Organisation: City

Year Started | Year Ended | Role Title

¹³ <https://orcid.org/>

1.3 Please list all your qualifications in reverse chronological order

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.

You can retrieve your education information from your ORCID profile to complete this section of the application form. If you do not have an ORCID identifier, please use the below format:

University: City

Year Started to Year Completed | Degree Type

1.4 Please provide details of authors, titles and references of your key preprints and publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order

You should include those outputs most relevant to the application to support your case. Please note that publications will be reviewed on the basis of scientific content, rather than publication metrics or the identity of the journal.

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.

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.

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.

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 article's persistent identifier (e.g. DOI).

You can retrieve your published works from your ORCID profile to complete this section of the application form. If you do not have an ORCID identifier, please use the below format:

Publication Title

Publication

Year | Publication type

1.5 Please list your current and previous research and/or other investment funding in reverse chronological order

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 merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.

You can retrieve your funding information from your ORCID profile to complete this section of the application form. If you do not have an ORCID identifier, please use the below format:

Title

Funder

Amount

Year Started to Year Completed | Type of funding (grant, investment, etc)

1.6 Do you currently hold a permanent academic position at lecturer, senior lecturer, reader or equivalent level?

You must hold a permanent academic position at lecturer, senior lecturer, reader level (or equivalent) **at the time of making the application** to be eligible for this Fellowship. This is a requirement of the scheme.

(Yes – see question below / No – see statement below)

i. Please provide your job title

To confirm you meet the eligibility requirements of the scheme, please state the title of the permanent academic position you hold at lecturer, senior lecturer, reader level or equivalent.

If you do not meet this criterion and would need to select 'no' to this question, you are ineligible to apply for the RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship.

1.7 Host institution details

Please confirm the details of the host institution where the RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship will be held and confirm that this is the 'lead organisation'.

The host institution is the UK university at which the applicant is employed and is teaching an engineering discipline at undergraduate or postgraduate level. The host institution must agree to release the applicant from those teaching and related administrative duties if awarded and to support the successful delivery of the Fellowship.

1.8 Candidate's most significant achievements

Please describe three to five of your most significant achievements in your research career.

Briefly explain the significance of each achievement in a way that will explain it to a researcher from your discipline who may not be familiar with latest work in the particular field.

The Academy's research programmes are aligned with the principles of the [Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#). We would like to emphasise that all achievements and outputs are welcome and considered valuable to the Academy, not just peer-reviewed publications. Outputs also include, and are not limited to, code, patents, spin-out companies, events, public engagement and policy impact.

(500 words maximum)

Section 2: Project details

2.1 Please provide a title for your proposal

The essence of the research should be captured in the title and should be as informative as possible. Please ensure that it is understandable to a non-specialist reader and does not contain any confidential or sensitive information.

(15 words maximum)

2.2 Please provide a summary of your proposal

Please provide a summary of the proposed activity, including key goals and expected impact. Your summary should be understandable to the non-specialist reader.

We may make this summary publicly available if successful, so please do not include any confidential or sensitive information.

(250 words maximum)

2.3 What is the proposed start date?

Fellowships must begin between **1 August 2027** and **1 October 2027**. You must agree these timescales with the host institution. The exact dates you provide here are indicative and there will be an opportunity to confirm or amend them, within the permitted timeframe, if successful.

2.4 What is the proposed end date?

All Fellowships last between one academic term and one year. Therefore, the latest date a Fellowship can end would be 30 September 2028.

Requests for a Fellowship shorter than one academic term will not be accepted. Please note that all grant expenditure and activities must be within the start and end dates.

2.5 Select one single broad engineering category that best aligns with your proposal

If your research proposal fits into several categories, please pick the category that is most applicable to your proposal. The category selected will be used to help identify reviewers and panel members.

Details of the engineering categories can be found in [Appendix A](#) at the end of this document and are also available under the '[List of Panels](#)' on [our website](#)¹⁴.

2.6 Please provide a maximum of 10 keywords that describe your proposal

The keywords provided help the Academy identify suitable reviewers.

(10 words maximum, separated by a comma)

2.7 List all organisations that you will collaborate with on the project

Please list any external organisations that you will be collaborating with as part of the project in the UK or worldwide. As well as demonstrating your collaborative intentions, this will help avoid any conflicts of interest during the assessment process.

You should not explain the extent or nature of the collaboration here, as that is covered in the next question.

(50 words maximum)

2.7 Provide details of existing and future collaborations

Please describe in detail any existing and future collaborations and how these will contribute to the project, enhance the quality of your research and/or strengthen the pathway to impact.

You should explain who you will work with, why they are appropriate, and the specific contribution each collaborator will make. Collaborations should be clearly justified and where letters of support are necessary to evidence a collaborator's commitment, these should be provided in the section that follows.

Collaborations can take many forms, including financial contributions, access to facilities and equipment, provision of equipment / materials / supplies / services, access to data and results, provision of staff (e.g. a secondment), advice, mentoring, participation in a steering group, expertise, networking/introductions. This covers both internal and external collaborations.

(200 words maximum)

¹⁴ <https://www.raeng.org.uk/about-us/fellowship/election-to-the-fellowship>

2.8 Letters of support from collaborators (optional, but an opportunity to demonstrate wider support for you and your project to reviewers)

Please ensure the letters of support are collated and submitted in a **single PDF document**.

Each letter of support must:

- Be on headed paper and clearly state who they are from.
- Be from external collaborators, i.e. people and organisations NOT working at the host institution and its affiliates.
- Be signed.
- Confirm that the author knows the applicant.
- Explain why they are interested in the project.
- Provide details on what form the collaboration will take.
- Clearly demonstrate the nature of the collaboration and how it will be beneficial to the applicant and the project.
- **Be no more than two pages.**

Although support letters from collaborators are not mandatory, reviewers will assess any support letters provided alongside your plans for collaboration. The letters will provide evidence of the collaborator's commitment and details of any contribution the collaborator will make to the project.

Aim for quality over quantity and keep the letters short and concise to better enable the reviewer to identify the salient information. A bullet-point list of contributions is a highly effective method of making the reviewers' role easier.

Section 3: Case for support

3.1 Why are you applying for this Fellowship?

Please explain why you are seeking relief from your teaching and administrative duties to concentrate on research and provide any other reasons you have for applying for this specific Fellowship.

What impact would dedicated research time have on your career? How would you use this time effectively and what would be the expected key deliverables if you are awarded the Fellowship?

(200 words maximum)

3.2 Goals and objectives

Please state the goals and objectives for your research project in order of priority.

Please note that, if awarded, your performance will be assessed against these objectives.

(200 words maximum)

3.3 Research programme and methodology

Please provide a detailed description of the exact work to be completed.

Describe the programme of work, indicating the research to be undertaken and justifying the choice of methodology to be used in pursuit of the research.

You should include details on how novel, realistic/ambitious the project is and include milestones that can be used to measure progress.

(1000 words maximum)

3.4 Project timeline

Upload a Gantt chart or equivalent showing the schedule of activities for the duration of the Fellowship, with major milestones clearly indicated.

There is no specific template that should be followed. You may wish to include a diagram showing how the work packages and your collaborations – if any - will interact.

This must be collated and uploaded **as a single PDF**.

3.5 Reference materials (optional question)

Use this section to upload a list of the relevant material referred to in your application. Where possible, include web links to any open access articles to help reviewers locate the articles. You may want to highlight the most relevant ones.

Images/diagrams must be referenced in the application form and **uploaded as a single PDF in the order they should be viewed** (if applicable).

3.6 Timeliness and novelty

Describe why this research is important and why it should be conducted now.

State what is novel about the proposed project, referencing what similar research is being/has been undertaken nationally and internationally and how your project differs.

(200 words maximum)

3.7 Suitability of host institution

Explain why your university is a suitable host institution for the proposed research. You may wish to comment on the facilities and expertise that will be available to you.

The host institution is the UK university at which the applicant is employed and where the Fellowship will be held. Applicants should describe how the institution will support the successful delivery of the Fellowship and their career development.

(100 words maximum)

3.8 Equity, diversity and inclusion

The Academy strives to create cultures in which everyone can thrive, and we believe that diverse perspectives enrich our collective performance.

Explain what equity, diversity and inclusion mean to you in the context of your research and working practices.

You should describe how you will embed these principles in your research design, topic and delivery, as well as in your collaborations and your team development, and how this will contribute to a positive research culture and the success of your research.

(250 words maximum)

3.9 Ambitions and future plans

Describe your future career plans and ambitions (for the next five years), including anticipated team size, recognition and how you expect to progress after the Fellowship.

(200 words maximum)

3.10 Beneficiaries and impact

Identify the groups in society that will benefit from the research, as well as any positive societal and economic impacts it will have. What are the benefits of this research and for whom?

Can you quantify the extent of the benefits / number of likely or potential beneficiaries?

If the benefits do not directly relate to wealth creation or to improving quality of life, give details of other beneficiaries and explain their importance. You should indicate when these impacts are likely to accrue.

Beneficiaries should extend to a wider community than those of the applicant's immediate professional circle. Specific beneficiaries might be companies or public sector, researchers in other disciplines, academic institutions, and society at large.

If there is no specific beneficiary but the output may have general relevance to a specific sector of industry, science or engineering, then an indication of how this might be relevant should be given.

(200 words maximum)

3.11 Exploitation and dissemination

Describe the ways you plan to exploit your research, including the industry and public sector partners that you will collaborate with to achieve this. Here you should explain how you will ensure the benefits and impacts mentioned above will be delivered.

Identify what mechanisms are in place for identification, protection and subsequent exploitation of any deliverable that may arise from the research. You should also indicate when these routes to exploitation are likely to be implemented, including if this will be after the period of the Fellowship itself.

Explain your plans for public dissemination and engagement with potential audiences.

(200 words maximum)

3.12 Risks and mitigation

Identify and assess any risks that may jeopardise the project's success.

Risks will not necessarily be perceived as weaknesses; this is an opportunity to demonstrate awareness and management of potential problems.

(200 words maximum)

Section 4: Teaching and administrative responsibilities

4.1 Please list the engineering courses you currently teach either as a lead, module organiser, co-lecturer or in a supporting role

Please list in the table the names of the courses you currently teach.

For each module listed:

- indicate your role (i.e. lead lecturer, module organiser, co-lecturer);
- confirm the number of co-lecturers (if applicable); and
- provide the average number of students.

One row is provided as default, but you can add an unlimited number of rows to the table. Each separate module should be listed in a new row.

4.2 Confirm the total number of students supervised

Include both undergraduate and master's level students.

4.3 Confirm the approximate number of hours per year dedicated to major committee memberships

4.4 List any other major administrative loads and their approximate time demands (200 words maximum)

4.5 Confirm any existing commitments which you will continue to perform for the duration of the award

Specify which duties will be fully relieved, which duties will be partially relieved and which duties you will retain during the award period.

Please describe your intended working pattern if you plan to retain certain duties.

(200 words maximum)

4.6 Do you intend to hold the award on a part-time basis?

Please select 'yes' or 'no' from the drop-down menu.

If you intend to hold the award on a part-time basis, please state the percentage of full-time equivalent and provide further details in the question that follows.

i. Please provide further details of your proposed part-time work pattern

Please state the percentage of full-time equivalent (at no less than 50% of full-time equivalent) to be dedicated to the Fellowship.

Funding can be requested based on the salary of the replacement academic, adjusted for the applicant's percentage of full-time equivalent, up to the maximum award value, as it is recognised that salary structures vary between institutions.

If the salary replacement costs being requested are higher than the planned percentage of full-time equivalent, a short justification should be provided.

(150 words maximum)

Section 5: Support requested

5.1 What is the total value of the award requested?

A maximum of £65,000 is available for the salary costs of a replacement academic, plus a support fund of up to £5,000 for miscellaneous research costs.

Please provide the total value requested **up to £70,000**. A breakdown of the costs requested must then be provided in the cost table that follows in the next question. Costs can be given to 2 decimal places.

5.2 Costs table

Applicants must consult with the host institution in completing the costs table to ensure it is correct for the specific award period.

Salary: up to a **maximum of £65,000**. This should be the gross salary, corresponding to the **first spinal point** of the host institution's lecturer pay scale, and include pension, national insurance and anticipated pay awards for the duration of the Fellowship. These funds will be used to support the replacement academic.

If the Fellowship will last less than one year, funding should be requested based on the actual eligible costs required for the period of support, which may not be directly proportional to the Fellowship duration.

Support fund: up to a **maximum of £5,000**. This fund will contribute towards the awardee's research costs, such as travel, conferences, subsistence, access to specialist facilities, computer software and laboratory consumables.

Total: the sum of the salary and support fund. This should match the total value of award requested in the previous question.

- Computers are not an eligible cost.
- Any funds requested must be spent within the Fellowship period.
- Any unspent funds must be reported and returned to the Academy.

5.3 Justification of costs

Please provide justification for the costs that you have requested in the costs table and outline how the funds will be utilised.

(100 words maximum)

Section 6: Responsible research

These questions address responsible research practices in alignment with the Academy's [Animals in Research, Innovation and Development Policy](#)¹⁵ and [Human Participants in Research, Innovation and Development Policy](#)¹⁶. For further guidance, please refer to the linked policies.

For proposals involving animals or animal tissue, and for research involving human participants, tissue, or personal data, you must provide detailed information to ensure compliance with ethical and regulatory standards.

While applicable approvals and licenses are not required at the point of application, all necessary approvals must be secured before the work begins, with a clear plan outlined at the application stage.

Animals in research, development and innovation

Animals in research, development and innovation – policy statement

The Academy acknowledges that, at present, the use of animals remains the only way for some areas of research to progress. Research involving animals is regulated by comprehensive and strict legislation in the UK and must be conducted with a high regard for animal welfare.

The Academy will fund work involving the use of animals in the UK which complies with our Animals in Research, Innovation and Development Policy.

If your proposal involves the use of animals and takes place outside of the UK, the Academy will generally not fund this work. Please contact the Academy before proceeding with your application. If we are able to fund it, we will also ask you where it will take place and provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures.

¹⁵ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/ctelvlvi/animals-in-research-innovation-and-development-policy.pdf>

¹⁶ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/4qmhhqf4/human-participants-in-research-development-and-innovation-policy.pdf>

6.1 Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue as defined by the [Animals \(Scientific Procedures\) Act 1986](#)¹⁷?

Academy funded research involving international partners, or work undertaken outside of the UK, will generally not be allowed to engage in research involving animals as defined by the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.

a. No – end of question**b. Yes, and my work is taking place within the UK****i. Please explain why animal use is necessary within this proposal; are there any other possible approaches?**

Applicants are expected to develop their project design using [NC3Rs guidelines](#)¹⁸ in alignment with the principles of replace, reduce and refine.

Work using animals must employ an appropriate design and use the minimum number of animals consistent with ensuring that the objectives will be met, as well as ensuring that distress and pain are minimized and the severity level for all procedures is the lowest possible. All programmes must only use animals where there are no alternatives.

(200 words maximum)

ii. Does your work involve the use of non-human primates (NHPs), cats, dogs or equines, which are specially protected species under the [Animals \(Scientific Procedures\) Act 1986](#)¹⁹?**iii. Please provide details of the animal species and number(s) to be used**

(30 words maximum)

iv. Why is the species/model to be used the most appropriate?

Please discuss the relevance of your species/model(s) along with any limitations and how you have accounted for this within your study design.

(200 words maximum)

¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consolidated-version-of-aspa-1986>

¹⁸ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/3rs-resources>

¹⁹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/14/contents>

v. Please explain how you have considered the NC3Rs in the design of your proposal

Applicants are expected to develop their study design using [NC3Rs guidelines](#)²⁰ in alignment with the principles of replace, reduce, and refine. We recommend the use of the [Experimental Design Assistant](#)²¹ to help with the design of your work. You will also have the opportunity to upload any supporting evidence later in the form.
(300 words maximum)

**vi. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses for work involving animals
(200 words maximum)****vii. Please upload any supporting documentation (optional question)**

We recommend the use of the [Experimental Design Assistant](#)²² to help with the design of your proposal which you can upload here. You may also use this space to upload power calculations, if applicable.

c. Yes, and my work is taking place outside the UK**i. Please confirm the country where the animal work will be conducted****ii. Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures****iii. Please explain why animal use is necessary within this proposal; are there any other possible approaches?**

Applicants are expected to develop their project design using [NC3Rs guidelines](#)²³ in alignment with the principles of replace, reduce, and refine.

Work using animals must employ an appropriate design and use the minimum number of animals consistent with ensuring that the

²⁰ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/3rs-resources>

²¹ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/our-portfolio/experimental-design-assistant-eda>

²² <https://nc3rs.org.uk/our-portfolio/experimental-design-assistant-eda>

²³ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/3rs-resources>



objectives will be met, as well as ensuring that distress and pain are minimized and the severity level for all procedures is the lowest possible. All programmes must only use animals where there are no alternatives.

(200 words maximum)

iv. Does your proposal involve the use of non-human primates (NHPs), cats, dogs or equines, which are specially protected species under the [Animals \(Scientific Procedures\) Act 1986](#)²⁴?

v. Please provide details of the animal species and number(s) to be used

Please also provide details of sex, if relevant.

(30 words maximum)

vi. Why is the species/model to be used the most appropriate?

Please discuss the relevance of your species/model(s) along with any limitations and how you have accounted for this within your study design.

(200 words maximum)

vii. Please explain how you have considered the NC3Rs in the design of your proposal?

Applicants are expected to develop their study design using [NC3Rs guidelines](#)²⁵ in alignment with the principles of replace, reduce, and refine. We recommend the use of the [Experimental Design Assistant](#)²⁶ to help with the design of your work. You will also have the opportunity to upload any supporting evidence later in the form.

(300 words maximum)

viii. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses

(200 words maximum)

ix. Please upload any supporting documentation (optional question)

²⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/14/contents>

²⁵ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/3rs-resources>

²⁶ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/our-portfolio/experimental-design-assistant-eda>



We recommend the use of the [Experimental Design Assistant](#)²⁷ to help with the design of your proposal which you can upload here. You may also use this space to upload power calculations, if applicable.

Human participants, materials and personal data in research, development, and innovation

Human participants, materials and personal data in Research, Development and Innovation - policy statement

Research, development and innovation involving human participants, human material or personal data can contribute to a better understanding of human health and disease as well as the technological efficacy of new and evolving innovations.

The Academy will fund research, development and innovation involving the use of human participants, human material or personal data which complies with our Human Participants in Research, Innovation and Development Policy.

6.2 Does your proposal involve human participants according to the WHO definition²⁸?

a. No – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK

**i. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses relating to work involving human participants
(200 words maximum)**

**ii. Please explain you will protect the dignity, rights, safety and wellbeing of all participants, particularly when involving vulnerable groups?
(200 words maximum)**

²⁷ <https://nc3rs.org.uk/our-portfolio/experimental-design-assistant-eda>

²⁸ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/4qmhqf4/human-participants-in-research-development-and-innovation-policy.pdf>

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK

i. Please confirm the country where the work will be conducted

**ii. Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures for the country where the work involving human participants is taking place
(200 words maximum)**

**iii. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses relating to work involving human participants
(200 words maximum)**

**iv. Please explain how you will protect the dignity, rights, safety and wellbeing of all participants, particularly when involving vulnerable groups?
(200 words maximum)**

6.3 Does your proposal involve the use of human tissue or other human material?

a. No – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK

**i. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses relating to work involving use of human tissue or other human materials
(200 words maximum)**

**ii. Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of human tissue and other human materials, and comply with all relevant legislation
(200 words maximum)**

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK

i. Please confirm the country where the work involving use of human tissues and/or other human materials will be conducted



ii. Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures for the country where the work involving use of human tissues and/or other human materials is taking place (200 words maximum)

iii. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses relating to work involving use of human tissue or other human materials (200 words maximum)

iv. Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of human tissue and other human materials, and comply with all relevant legislation (200 words maximum)

6.4 Does your proposal involve the use of personal data?

a. No – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK

i. Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of personal data and comply with all relevant legislation (200 words maximum)

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK

i. Please confirm where the work involving use of personal data will be conducted

ii. Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures for the country where the work involving use of personal data is taking place (200 words maximum)

iii. Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of personal data and comply with all relevant legislation (200 words maximum)

Section 7: Support letters and declarations

7.1 Is the proposed work in an area with direct military applications or in an area with potential for a dual use²⁹ application?

Please note that failure to declare any potential dual use application of your work may lead to your application being automatically rejected.

7.2 Is any information contained within your application necessary for the development, production or use of controlled goods and therefore subject to export control rules³⁰?

Please refer to the [Government Export Control Joint Unit](#)³¹ (ECJU) who administers the UK's system of export controls and licensing for military and dual-use items for further information where needed.

(Yes – see question below / No / Don't know)

We will be unable to progress submissions until a Yes/No response is confirmed.

Please note that **this question relates only to the information included in your application form**, not your wider area of work or research activity.

i. Please identify the specific part(s) of your application that contain information subject to UK export control regulations³².

This information is required so that we can manage the review process appropriately. Please reference the relevant question(s) and/or section(s) of the application form that contain export-controlled information.

Please note that this question relates only to the information included in your application form, not your wider area of work or research activity.

7.3 Have any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools been used in the preparation of this application? (not visible to reviewers)

²⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/export-controls-dual-use-items-software-and-technology-goods-for-torture-and-radioactive-sources#dual-use-items-software-and-technology>

³⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-strategic-export-controls>

³¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/export-control-joint-unit>

³² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-strategic-export-controls>

The Academy has aligned with other UK funders around the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools in funding applications through the Research Funders Policy Group [joint statement](#)³³.

(Yes – see question below / No)

Applicants are fully responsible for all of the content presented in their grant application(s). While these tools may be used to assist in various aspects and the grant process does not penalise the use of generative AI tools, applications **must** reflect the applicant's own ideas, work and voice.

i. Please provide details on how generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools were used in the preparation of your application (not visible to reviewers)

Details should be provided on the following:

- specify the generative AI tool or platform used
- describe how the tool(s) were used
- where possible include any prompts that were used and how the resulting outputs were incorporated into this application

Applicants must provide clear acknowledgement if they have used generative AI tools in the process of writing their grant application and a failure to declare use may result in your application being removed from the review process.

7.4 Letter of support from the head of department

The letter of support should be written by the applicant's Head of Department (or their Head of Faculty if the applicant is the Head of Department). **The submission deadline will not be extended due to an individual's unavailability.**

The letter must be on headed paper, signed, and should clearly state the following:

- the signatory's name, position and contact details
- the date, including the year
- the scheme name
- the applicant's name and
- the institution's name and official stamp (if available)

³³ <https://wellcome.org/about-us/positions-and-statements/joint-statement-generative-ai>

The letter from the head of department should be no longer than two pages and should be uploaded by the applicant in PDF format.

The letter of support should include the points listed below:

- A clear statement on the university's willingness to completely release the candidate from all their teaching and administrative duties during the term of the award should the candidate be successful.
- A statement on how the applicant's teaching load will be covered in their absence.
- Confirmation that the university will support the proposed Fellowship.
- An explanation of the reasons why the applicant is a suitable candidate for the award.
- Comments on the suitability of the proposed research activities and alignment with the university's research strategy and priorities.
- Confirmation that the applicant has provided accurate information about their eligibility for the award and their workload, as well as any further relevant information about the applicant's teaching (and teaching-related) duties.
- Details of any other mentoring, resources and contributions that may be provided by the university to support the proposed research and the career development of the applicant.

The Academy expects the host institution to be committed to, and provide support that aligns with, principles set out in:

- [The Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers](#)³⁴
- [The Concordat for Engaging the Public with Research](#)³⁵
- [DORA](#)

7.5 Host university declaration letter

The host institution's declaration letter must be completed by an appropriate individual from the institution's research support office or equivalent.

³⁴ <https://researcherdevelopmentconcordat.ac.uk/>

³⁵ www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/UKRI-151020-ConcordatforEngagingthePublicwithResearch.pdf

The letter must be uploaded by the applicant in PDF format. It must be on headed paper, signed, and should clearly state the following:

- the signatory's name, position and contact details
- the date, including the year
- the scheme name
- the applicant's name and
- the institution's name and official stamp (if available)

The declaration letter must confirm the application has been approved by the university and must contain the **exact wording provided below**.

Declaration for The RAEng / Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship award scheme:

On behalf of the university, I can confirm that I have read and accept the application guidance and other information regarding this award scheme that is provided on the Royal Academy of Engineering's website. I also confirm that:

- If awarded, the applicant will be given full access to the facilities, equipment, personnel and funding as required by the application.
- The applicant will be employed by the university for the duration of the award.
- The university will employ a replacement academic to cover the teaching and administrative duties of the Awardee for the duration of the Fellowship.
- The salary costs submitted in the application correspond to the first spinal point of the Lecturer pay scale at the university, and the funds will only be used to cover the salary of the replacement academic. Any shortfall in funding discovered after the award has been made will be covered by the university.
- This Fellowship is not a sabbatical and if awarded, will not affect the applicant's eligibility for a sabbatical.
- I am authorised to approve the submission of applications for funding.

7.6 Applicant declaration

Please tick the checkbox once you have read and understood the declaration included in the application form.

7.7 How did you hear about this scheme? (optional question, not visible to reviewers)

This question is optional but selecting the primary source from the list provided will help the Academy to understand which marketing materials are most successful at reaching the academic community to improve future communications work.

7.8 Please select this box if you are happy to receive emails from The Royal Academy of Engineering regarding future funding opportunities (optional question, not visible to reviewers)

Please tick the checkbox if you consent to receiving emails from the Academy regarding funding opportunities.

Submitting the application

A grey **'submit application'** button will become available once the application form is completed. **Please note that once submitted the application cannot be edited and updated**, but you may view it from your account on the grants management system.

Assessment of applications

Each eligible application will be assigned to two expert reviewers, who will be Academy Fellows or non-Fellows with expertise in the subject area. A Selection Panel composed primarily of Academy Fellows will then moderate the reviews.

A Selection Panel meeting will be held in April 2027 to discuss the applications and select the top ranked candidates for awards. A senior representative from The Leverhulme Trust will also be invited to attend and observe. There is no interview stage.

In assessing the applications, the reviewers and Selection Panel will consider several assessment criteria. Please note that letters of support from any external collaborators are not mandatory but the selection panel does consider them.

Assessment criteria

Suitability of the candidate for the RAEng/Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship

- Does the candidate demonstrate quality, independence, scientific insight and originality in their research?
- Does the candidate have relevant experience?
- Does the applicant make a strong case for relief from teaching and administrative activities to be able to dedicate time to research?

Quality of the proposed research project

- How strong is the research project in terms of ambition, novelty and timeliness?
- Are the proposed research methods appropriate and achievable within the timeframe?
- How well has the applicant considered equity, diversity and inclusion in their research?
- Does the proposal consider ethical and inclusive experimental design properly and appropriately (including, if relevant, alignment with the Academy's Animal Use and Human Participants in Research, Innovation and Development Policies)?

Host institution support and collaborations

- How strong is the letter of support and level of commitment from the host institution?
- Is the extent of industrial involvement and collaborations appropriate?

Long-term plans and dissemination

- How ambitious and realistic are the applicant's plans for progress after the Fellowship is completed?
- How well will the applicant build upon any existing or future collaborations?
- Has the applicant proposed a robust plan for dissemination and public engagement?

Beneficiaries and impact

- Have the beneficiaries of this research been identified and has it been explained how they will benefit?
- How well have any societal and economic benefits arising from the research been explained?

Why applications are unsuccessful

- Failure to demonstrate a significant teaching and administrative workload or need for relief from those duties.
- Poorly defined research objectives that are too broad, lacking direction or not clearly aligned with the aims of the scheme.
- Lack of novelty in research or failure to articulate how the proposed work will address a novel research question.
- Unclear or unconvincing explanation of ambition, vision or potential for impact.
- Failure to identify potential risks, plan mitigations or indicate knowledge of competitors.
- Unrealistic details such as overstating the potential for impact or whether the milestones are feasible within the available time, budget and resources.
- A weak letter of support from the host institution.
- Lack of strong, well-documented partnerships and letters of support or a vague plan for collaboration that would be necessary for success.
- Inconsistent or unclear information provided in the application form.

Grant agreement

If you are successful, your funding will be awarded under the Research, Development and Innovation Terms and Conditions found on the [Academy's website](#)³⁶.

This agreement has been developed to ensure funding aligns with our Academy values, is used for the purposes for which it was awarded and is managed in compliance with our own funders' agreements, UK legislation and funding best practice.

Mentoring and monitoring

Awarded Research Fellows will work with the Academy to identify an Academy Fellow to be their mentor. The mentor will provide expert, independent advice and support for the duration of the RAEng / Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship and will also formally monitor the Research Fellow's progress for the Academy.

Research Fellows must submit an interim progress report and a final report, both including expenditure statements, to the Academy. At the annual review meeting the Research Fellow, mentor and Academy staff will discuss the report, progress made and future plans.

Research Fellows will also be asked to provide some key data on their annual performance (e.g. publications and additional research funding) for the purpose of auditing and reporting to the Academy's funders.

Contact details

If you have any questions, please refer to our [RAEng / Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowships FAQs](#)³⁷ or contact the Royal Academy of Engineering's research programmes team at research@raeng.org.uk.

³⁶ <https://raeng.org.uk/grants-policies>

³⁷ <https://raeng.org.uk/programmes-and-prizes/programmes/uk-grants-and-prizes/support-for-research/research-fellowships/faq>

Appendix A: Engineering categories

As described under the ['List of Panels' on our website](#)³⁸.

1) Civil, construction and environmental

Including aspects of civil and structural engineering; construction materials; earthquakes; wind & fire engineering; building engineering physics; construction management; numerical modelling; environmental engineering; water resources and flooding; offshore and coastal engineering; hydraulics; climate change and sustainability; waste management; geotechnical engineering; geomatics/surveying.

2) Materials and mining

Including metallurgy; metal forming; corrosion; failure analysis; structural integrity; non-destructive testing; inspection technologies; failure prevention; fabrication and repair technologies; welding and joining technologies; discovery & development of mineral resources; extraction & processing of minerals; mining engineering; materials performance; materials research; plastics and composites; structural materials (excluding materials specifically covered elsewhere).

3) Chemical and process

Including all aspects of chemical and process engineering; aspects of fuel technology; petrochemicals, oil, coal and gas technologies; petroleum engineering; carbon; carbon sequestration; clean technology; sustainability; catalysis; particulates; food processing; fermentation processes; pharmaceutical engineering; biotechnological processes.

4) Aerospace

Including all aspects of aeronautical engineering and aerospace manufacturing; turbomachinery and aerothermal engineering, avionics; radar systems; antennae; satellite systems; autonomous systems; aspects of systems engineering; airlines; materials for aerospace.

5) Transport and mechanical

Aspects of mechanical engineering including automotive; rail and marine engineering; transportation infrastructure; engines; combustion; turbomachinery; mechatronics; acoustics and vibrations; ultrasonics; heat & thermodynamics; fluid dynamics and CFD.

³⁸ <https://www.raeng.org.uk/about-us/fellowship/election-to-the-fellowship>

6) Manufacturing and design

Including manufacturing management and manufacturing process innovation; manufacturing business improvement and re-engineering; CAD/CAM; robotics for manufacturing; engineering design.

7) Electrical and electronic

Including electrical, electronic and control engineering; design for electronics; aspects of nanotechnology and semiconductor engineering; lasers; optoelectronics; photonics; microwave engineering; instrumentation; display technology; solid state electronics.

8) Energy and power

Including energy technologies; including electric power and energy systems engineering; nuclear and renewable energy generation; energy infrastructure; management of energy and energy resources for generation, storage and transmission; distribution and conversion of electric energy and power; electricity supply and energy conservation; hydrogen power; fuel cells.

9) Medical and bioengineering

Including all aspects of medical and biomedical engineering; orthotics; prosthetics; ultrasound for medicine; medical scanning and imaging; drug delivery; biomedical materials; tissue engineering; medical devices; medical robotics and computer assisted surgery.

10) Computing and communications

Including computational and software engineering; informatics; web and data science; artificial intelligence; machine learning; computer vision; robotics; telecommunications; mobile telephony; broadband; wireless spectrum; signal processing; television, film and broadcasting; computer and video games; special effects.

11) Emerging and multi-disciplinary

New, emerging or multi-disciplinary areas of engineering.

12) Other

Sectors of engineering not covered elsewhere.

Appendix B: Grant policies

Please also refer to the grant funding policies and positions on our [website](#)³⁹.

Academy's commitment to DORA principles

The Academy's research programmes are aligned with the principles of the [Declaration on Research Assessment](#)⁴⁰ (DORA), which is a set of principles aiming to improve the ways in which the output of research is evaluated by funding agencies, academic institutions, and other parties.

The outputs from research are many and varied, and as a funder of engineering research the Academy needs to assess the quality and impact of these outputs to make awards. It is imperative that research output is measured accurately and evaluated wisely.

For applicants and reviewers, we would like to emphasise that all outputs are welcome and considered valuable to the Academy. Outputs can include open data sets, software, publications, commercial, entrepreneurial or industrial products, clinical practice developments, educational products, policy publications, evidence synthesis pieces and conference publications that you have generated.

With regard to research articles published in peer-reviewed journals, we ask applicants to use a range of article metrics and indicators on personal/supporting statements as evidence of the impact of individual published articles and other research outputs.

The Journal Impact Factor in particular is unacceptable for inclusion in any part of an application, and applicants may be asked to resubmit if anything is found to contradict this as part of the eligibility checks.

³⁹ <https://raeng.org.uk/grants-policies>

⁴⁰ <https://sfdora.org/read/>

Use of generative AI tools in funding applications and assessment

The Academy has aligned with other UK funders around the use of generative AI tools in funding applications through the Research Funders Policy Group [joint statement](#)⁴¹.

Regarding the use of AI, applicants are fully responsible for all the content presented in their grant applications. The grant process does not penalise the use of generative AI tools, but it is imperative to ensure that the application reflects the applicant's own voice and ideas. It is not acceptable to solely rely on generative AI tools to write the entire grant application from start to finish. While these tools may be used to assist in various aspects, the application must primarily represent the applicant's own work.

Applicants must provide clear acknowledgement if they have used generative AI tools in the process of writing their grant applications. This includes disclosing the name of the tool used and describing how it was utilized. The following style should be employed for referencing:
I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials for background research, styling, proofreading, etc.
Or,
I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials that were included within my final assessment in modified form.

National security

The Academy is the UK's National Academy for engineering and technology and seeks to increase the potential positive benefit that innovations can have for society, whilst reducing the risks of harm. Hence, in all our activities, we seek to minimise the risk that technology developed as part of work that we support could be misused by a foreign state to build a capacity to target UK interests in a hostile fashion or to control or repress their population. There is a risk that for some grant activities, failure to protect IP and a lack of due diligence into collaborators could result in sensitive technology being transferred to and misused by a hostile or repressive foreign state. As such all applicants should ensure they are familiar with the Academy's [Policy on National Security-Related Risks](#)⁴².

⁴¹ <https://wellcome.org/about-us/positions-and-statements/joint-statement-generative-ai>

⁴² <https://raeng.org.uk/policies>

Export control

The UK Government's Export Control [Joint Unit⁴³ \(ECJU\)](#) administers the UK's system of [export controls and licensing⁴⁴](#) for military and dual-use items. The Export Control Act 2002 and its related legislation establishes the strategic export controls of military and dual-use goods and technologies.

The Academy is required to consider [export controls⁴⁵](#) when assessing and reviewing relevant applications and we therefore need to know whether the information contained within your application is subject to such laws.

As part of our review process, your submitted application will be sent out for review by independent reviewers and/or members of our review panel(s). Please be aware of this when considering the information you include within your application. We particularly want to flag considerations with respect to your/others Intellectual Property and research that is subject to [UK Strategic Export Control Laws⁴⁶](#). Should you flag that the content of your application is subject to Export Control we will manage the review of your application accordingly.

Important Note: If your application response includes a "don't know" answer regarding export control, please be aware that this may result in a delay in processing your application. This is because we will need to clarify your position and, if necessary, consult with the ECJU to confirm whether any export licensing requirements apply to your work.

We encourage you to take the necessary steps to confirm whether export controls are relevant to your application before submitting it, as this will help us process your application without unnecessary delays.

Subsidy Control

The UK subsidy control regime began on 4 January 2023. As part of this regime, the Academy is required to report to the UK Government on how award funding is being used when applications collaborating with commercial enterprises are awarded. The regime determines the lawfulness of monetary awards made using public sector resources when

⁴³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/export-control-joint-unit>

⁴⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-strategic-export-controls>

⁴⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/export-controls-applying-to-academic-research>

⁴⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-strategic-export-controls>

given to businesses and other organisations that are engaged in economic activity.

Research involving human participants or tissue

Research, development and innovation involving human participants, human material or personal data can contribute to a better understanding of human health and disease as well as the technological efficacy of new and evolving innovations. The Academy will fund research, development and innovation involving the use of human participants, human material or personal data which complies with our [Humans in RD&I Policy](#)⁴⁷. If your proposal includes the use of human participants, human materials or personal data you will be asked to declare this at application stage and provide further details of your proposal if you are shortlisted.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins.

Animals in research

The Academy acknowledges that, at present, the use of animals remains the only way for some areas of research to progress. Research involving animals is regulated by comprehensive and strict legislation in the UK and must be conducted with a high regard for animal welfare. The Academy will fund research involving the use of animals in the UK which complies with our [Animals in RD&I Policy](#)⁴⁸. If your proposal includes the use of animals you will be asked to declare this at application stage and provide further details of your proposal if you are shortlisted.

If your proposal involves the use of animals and takes place outside of the UK, the Academy will generally not fund this work. Please contact the Academy before proceeding with your application.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins.

⁴⁷ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/4qmhhqf4/human-participants-in-research-development-and-innovation-policy.pdf>

⁴⁸ <https://raeng.org.uk/media/ctelvlvi/animals-in-research-innovation-and-development-policy.pdf>