**UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowships**

**Reporting and Review Meetings Guidance**

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# **1. Reporting**

## **Initiation report**

Once the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship has started, the research fellow is required to submit a short, two question, initiation report via the [Academy’s Grants Management System (GMS)](https://grants.raeng.org.uk/default.aspx) to confirm the research project has started on schedule.

## **1.2 Progress reports**

A quarterly progress report must be submitted to the Academy in accordance with the monitoring schedule annex of the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship contract. The report must be completed using the template below. The report should be a summary of the work undertaken during the previous period. **Annual reports must be submitted in months 12 and 24**. We suggest submitting the report as a **pdf** and it should be **a maximum of 3 pages**, excluding appendices. Please read the guidance notes included in the Progress Report template for further details.

### **Progress Report template**



## **1.3 Annual expenditure statement (Month 12)**

UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellows are also required to submit an annual expenditure statement in month 12. This should be compiled by the relevant university finance team/contact. A final expenditure statement is due in month 24 (see below for more details).

The expenditure statement **must**:

* Be submitted on headed paper
* Include the correct Academy reference number and awardee name
* Confirm the period of expenditure, i.e. Year 1, and the corresponding dates
* State the expenditure amount at 100%fEC for the year against each budget line included in the original cost table in the application form (see example table below)
* Not exceed the amount requested in each cost category of the original cost table for each year (except where virements are permitted and underspend is carried forward from previous reporting periods).

The amounts indicated in the expenditure statement must be audit compliant with relevant receipts/proof of expenditure.

### **Example annual expenditure statement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Awardee:** |  |
| **Award reference:** |  |
| **Total Amount Awarded:** |  |
| **Year of Award/reporting period:** |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost category** | **Mandatory**  **Year x**  **Costs stated in the application cost table (100%)** | **Mandatory**  **Year x**  **Actual costs**  **(100%)** | **Optional**  **Year x**  **Actual cost Level to be claimed from the Academy** | **Notes** |
| Directly incurred staff |  |  |  |  |
| Directly incurred travel and subsistence |  |  |  |  |
| Directly incurred other costs |  |  |  |  |
| Directly allocated estates |  |  |  |  |
| Directly allocated other |  |  |  |  |
| Indirect costs |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |  |

I confirm this is a true and correct summary of the project spend to date.

### **Cost virement and underspend**

Virement between the cost categories of ‘Travel and Subsistence’ and ‘Other Costs’ is permitted without approval from the Academy. Other reallocation of expenditure between different cost categories requires prior approval from the Academy. Any underspend across all cost categories can be carried forward to the corresponding cost category for the remaining period of the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.

## **1.4 Final expenditure statement (Month 24)**

The final expenditure statement must confirm the expenditure for the entire period of the research fellowship. Once the final report along with the final expenditure statement have been submitted, the Academy will confirm the balance of the research fellowship grant and arrange the final payment accordingly. Any underspend must be returned to the Academy.

The final expenditure statement **must**:

* Be submitted on headed paper
* Include the correct Academy reference number and awardee name
* Confirm the full period of expenditure and the corresponding dates
* State the expenditure amount at 100%fEC for the full duration of the award against each budget line included in the original cost table in the application form (see example table below)
* State the amount claimed at Academy funded %
* Not exceed the amount requested in each cost category of the original cost (except where virements are permitted).

Please note that in the case of a final expenditure statement (or interim final expenditure statements in case of transfer of the award to another institution), the amount claimed and the final balance must comply with the requirements stated above. The final expenditure statement will be reviewed for unapproved and/or non-allowable virements and overclaims. In case of transfer, we will also review the final expenditure statement to ensure the amount claimed is pro-rated for the duration of the award. Where required, new statements will be requested.

The amounts indicated in the expenditure statement must be audit compliant with relevant receipts/proof of expenditure.

### **Example final expenditure statement (interim in case of transfer of the award)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Awardee:** |  |
| **Award reference:** |  |
| **Total Amount Awarded:** |  |
| **Reporting period:** |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost category** | **Mandatory**  **Full duration**  **Costs stated in the application cost table (100%)** | **Mandatory**  **Full duration**  **Actual costs**  **(100%)** | **Mandatory**  **Full duration**  **Actual cost Level to be claimed from the Academy\*** | **Notes\*\*** |
| Directly incurred staff |  |  |  |  |
| Directly incurred travel and subsistence |  |  |  |  |
| Directly incurred other costs |  |  |  |  |
| Directly allocated estates |  |  |  |  |
| Directly allocated other |  |  |  |  |
| Indirect costs |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |  |
| *\* this should not exceed the Academy funded % of the costs stated in the original application cost table per each cost category excluding any underspend or virements* | | | | |
| *\*\** *If required, please provide details to justify the costs being claimed i.e., where the amounts requested differ from the original application costs table (i.e., virements/underspend carried forward)* | | | | |

I confirm this is a true and correct summary of the project spend to date.

## **1.5 Report submission**

The quarterly and annual progress reports must be submitted to the Academy’s Grants Management System (<https://grants.raeng.org.uk/>). Once logged into the Grants Management System, you should be able to view your award account, complete a standard report form, and upload separate files for the progress report and expenditure statement.

**When submitting the quarterly reports please upload a blank document in place of an expenditure statement** to complete the submission in the system. Expenditure statements only need to be uploaded in months 12 and 24.

In months 12 and 24 please upload the annual progress report along with the expenditure statement. The Academy appreciates that university finance teams may require some time to compile an expenditure statement that includes all costs incurred within the reporting period. Therefore, submission of the annual report and expenditure statement after the reporting deadline is accepted by the Academy.

The quarterly and annual progress reports do not require approval from either the IC advisor(s) or the Academy mentor before submission.

Please establish and maintain regular contact with your IC advisor(s), at least once a quarter and share the quarterly report with them before the meeting/contact. A copy of the annual progress report must be sent to the Academy mentor before the Annual Review Meetings (months 12 and 24).

# **2. Review Meetings**

## **2.1 Annual review meetings arrangement**

An annual review meeting must take place around the annual report submission deadline included in the monitoring schedule annex of the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship contract. **The** **UK IC Postdoctoral** **Research Fellow is responsible for arranging the annual review meeting with their Academy mentor, and informing the Academy of the meeting date, time, and location.** In principle, the Academy will join the Year 1 and Final Year review meetings. At the mentor’s discretion, the relevant head of school or department, the research advisor and the IC advisor(s) can be invited to attend the annual review meetings.

The annual review meetings can take place online or in person. The location for in-person meetings should be agreed between the Academy mentor and UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow. If the meeting will take place at the Academy in London, the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow must contact the Academy in advance to arrange a meeting room booking.

The annual review meetings serve three main purposes:

* To monitor the research fellow’s research progress and career development
* To discuss and provide support and guidance required for the remainder of the research fellowship
* To track and capture the research fellow’s achievements for the Academy’s communication and promotion purposes.

If the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow fails (without the prior approval of the Academy) to attend the annual review meetings, the Academy may at its discretion withhold, reduce, or suspend any award payments due to the host university.

The Academy will reimburse reasonable travel and accommodation expenses related to the annual review meetings, and the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow must submit the expenses claim to the Academy within four weeks of the meeting date.

## **2.2 Annual review meetings format**

At the annual review meeting, the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow is required to give a presentation on the research progress and any other developments from that year. Please see the Annual Review Meeting Agenda template for details.

### **Annual Review Meeting Agenda template**



Before the annual review meeting, the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow must send the following documents to their Academy mentor and other participants:

* Annual Progress Report
* Annual Review Meeting Agenda
* Mentor Report Form (blank)

### **Mentor Report Form**



After the annual review meeting, the mentor is required to complete the Mentor Report Form and return the form to the Programme Manager at the Academy.

At an informal level, the mentor and UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellow are encouraged to maintain regular contact by any methods they find convenient.

# **3. Mentoring support**

UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellows are provided with mentoring support from an Academy Fellow and work with an IC advisor(s), who will advise the research fellow on the research topic applied for.

## **3.1 Role of mentor**

The Academy mentor provides expert, independent advice, and support for the duration of the UK IC Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. The mentor is encouraged to support the research fellow as much as they feel appropriate. Their role is to offer guidance and support to the research fellow while looking after the interests of the Academy. At a minimum, the role of mentor includes:

* Establish and maintain regular contact with the awardee, by whatever means convenient (by telephone, email, virtual meetings or in person visits), to offer additional guidance and advice on the research project
* Review the awardee’s annual progress reports
* Meet in person at least once a year at the annual review meeting, to monitor progress, offering advice and guidance where appropriate
* Provide a brief written report to the Academy, following each annual review meeting
* Assess the progress of the awardee on an annual basis according to the scheme’s performance indicators.

Neither the Academy nor the mentor accepts any responsibility for any advice given by the mentor.

## **3.2 Performance indicators**

Several factors may be taken into consideration by the Academy in carrying out its annual review. This may include but not limited to:

* Progress made, to be reviewed against the work programme set down in the original proposal
* The relevance of the research to industry and the extent of industrial involvement in the research programme
* The amount and source(s) of additional research funding (from research councils, charities, industry, etc)
* Outreach/public engagement/media activities undertaken.

Not all assessment criteria will be relevant in every case and additional factors may be agreed between the Academy and the awardee where appropriate. Please read the Annual Progress Report template for details.

## **3.3 Research Fellow’s commitment**

The Academy helps Research Fellows fully appreciate the value of the mentor as a resource for them. By accepting their award, Research Fellows commits to:

* Show commitment to the objectives of the award – as well as to their own learning and development
* Respond in a timely manner to the mentor’s and the Academy’s requests for information concerning the award
* Submit progress reports detailing the progress made and the work completed to both the programme manager and the mentor in a timely manner
* Meet at least once a year with the mentor to discuss progress, based on the latest technical progress report
* Establish and maintain regular informal contact with the mentor, to receive additional guidance and advice.