

Dear Colleagues

Find below interesting information for young scientists (future or new doctors), from Laurence Harwood

Best regards,

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The Royal Society/British Academy Newton International Fellowship scheme is now open to applications: <http://royalsociety.org/grants/schemes/newton-international/>

The deadline is 10 March 2014, and the internal deadline for draft applications (including completed costs and any attachments) is **Mon 3 March 2014**.

The scheme provides the opportunity for non-UK scientists who are at an early stage of their research career to work at UK research institutions for a period of two years. The scheme covers the broad range of the physical, natural and social sciences and the humanities.

Applicants must:

- Have a PhD, or will have a PhD by the time the funding starts
- Have no more than 7 years of active full time postdoctoral experience at the time of application (discounting career breaks, but including teaching experience and/or time spent in industry)
- Be working outside the UK for at least one year prior to the application deadline
- Not hold UK citizenship
- Be competent in oral and written English
- Have a clearly defined and mutually-beneficial research proposal agreed with a UK host scientist

Some important information for potential applicants to consider is:

- The award pays subsistence costs of £24,000 per annum for 2 years, plus £8,000 per annum research expenses and a one-off relocation cost of £2,000. The subsistence payment is non-taxable, therefore successful Fellows cannot be added to the University's payroll. The only way the University can pay a non-taxable subsistence payment is for the person to submit expense claims on a monthly basis. This is something that potential applicants need to be made aware of, i.e. if their application is successful, they will have to submit expense claims for everything, including rent, food, hobbies, and entertainment etc for the 2 year period.
- Applicants cannot request accommodation for the first month in the £2,000 relocation claim. This payment is for transportation costs only, but it can include travel to and from airports and extra baggage allowance
- If successful in their application, Fellows from non-EEA countries would need to apply for a Tier 5 visa for Temporary Workers. Under Tier 5, there are 5 sub-categories and Newton fellowships fall under 'Government Approved Exchanges' sub-category. Fellows would need to apply for this visa in conjunction with the HR department at the University of Reading (relevant details will be given to successful applicants when necessary).

Some points for the academic sponsor to consider are:

- The awards are aimed at enabling the best early stage post-doctoral researchers from around the world to work in a UK institution and to foster long-term relationships. Assessment criteria include the academic background of the applicant, the quality of the proposed research, the potential benefits for the applicant and the UK host institution, as well as the track record and suitability of the UK host.
- The application should therefore highlight the strengths of the UK sponsor (Co-applicant) and School/Department. It should also state how the proposed project fits in with the School/Department's research goals, how the proposed research would help to achieve these goals, as well as how the applicant would benefit from working here.

Please contact Sharon Clark in Research & Enterprise (s.e.clark@reading.ac.uk) if you know of any potential applicants or if you have any queries.

Regards,

Sharon

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