

Faraday Discovery Fellowships 2025 Stage 1 Application Form Guidance

The Stage 1 application questions are listed with guidance for completion. Please read this document in conjunction with the [scheme notes](#) for further context.

Applications can only be submitted online using the Royal Society's Grants management system (Flexi-Grant®) via <https://grants.royalsociety.org>. Further information about the Grants management system can be found via <https://royalsociety.org/grants-schemes-awards/grants/flexi-grant/>. If you have not previously used Flexi-Grant®, please follow the registration process from the Flexi-Grant® homepage. ***Paper-based applications will not be accepted.***

Before completing the online form, all applicants should check that they comply with the eligibility requirements and ensure all necessary information is presented in the application. These requirements are strictly adhered to and applications without all the necessary information, or evidence to show the assessment criteria are met, will be rejected.

All applications must be approved by the Host Organisation and the applicant's departmental support must be completed before you can submit via Flexi-Grant®. Late applications will not be accepted.

The Stage 1 application can be completed by using the navigation tabs on the application summary page, with each page categorised as follows:

Summary

Understanding our Promotion

Eligibility Criteria

Contact Details

Applicant Career Summary

Project Summary

Personal Statement and Research Vision

Institutional and Departmental Support

Please note that questions with * are mandatory fields, which is typically the majority of questions. You will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation once all sections of the application form have been marked as complete, and your participants have marked their work as complete (please check the status of participants under the participants tab on the application form summary page).

Summary	
Summary Page	The summary page of the application form provides instructions for submission of your application for approval from the UK host organisation. In addition, you are provided with an overview for each section of your application form, including the approximate length of time it will take to complete each section.

	<p>The summary page also allows applicants to manage and invite participants (e.g. Head of Department) who are required to contribute to the application form. Instructions for inviting participants can be found under the 'participants' tab on the application summary page.</p> <p>Note: you will only be able to submit your application for approval by the Host Organisation once all sections of the form have been completed by all participants.</p>
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Understanding our Promotion	
Understanding our Promotion *	Please select how you found out about the scheme

Eligibility Criteria	
Eligibility Criteria *	Please provide confirmation that you meet the eligibility criteria. Details of the eligibility criteria can be found in the 'Eligibility' Section of these Scheme Notes.

Contact Details	
Title, Names, address, organisation and country *	<p>Review and complete your personal details accurately. Errors in this section can cause difficulties in processing your application. Errors will not be corrected after submission.</p> <p>Under this section, you should edit the contact type of the participants who will partake in your application form. The system default contact type is set as 'collaborator'. To amend the contact type of your Head of Department, click 'edit', and under the contact type field, select the 'Head of Department'.</p> <p>Organisation: this table will automatically display details of the intended Host Organisation (marked by a tick) which you selected previously and your current organisation, if different from the organisation where the award will be held and administered.</p>
Email address *	This field defaults to the account in which the application has commenced and is where all correspondence pertaining to the application throughout the application process will be sent. The applicant must therefore commence the application using the login email address used to register a user account on Flexi-Grant®.

Applicant Career Summary	
Title of Current Position *	Please state the title of your current position.
Current Employer *	Please enter the official organisation name of your current employer (e.g. University of Bath).
Current Department *	Please enter details of your current department (e.g. Department of Astrophysics).

Country/Territory *	Please select the country/territory where your current employer (or last employer if currently unemployed or on leave) is based.
Host Organisation*	Please enter the official name of the organisation where the award will be held from the drop down list. Please consult the eligibility criteria on our website .
Host Organisation Type *	Please select the Host Organisation type from the drop-down menu
Host Department *	Please provide the name of the proposed department at your host organisation. Please enter the official name (e.g. <i>Department of Chemistry</i> rather than <i>Chemistry</i>).
Justification for the Choice of Host Organisation *	Please provide a short statement justifying your choice of host organisation.
PhD Award Date *	Please enter the date that you were awarded your PhD (the date when you received formal notification of your PhD thesis being accepted in its final form and approved by the Board of Graduate Studies). If you have not received a PhD, please enter 31 December 2050.
Applicant Career History *	<p>Please provide a full list of your appointments since your PhD in reverse chronological order, stating if part-time (and percentage part-time) when necessary.</p> <p>Please provide full details of any periods of part-time working, career breaks, extended sick leave or maternity/paternity/adoptive leave as your eligibility may depend on the accuracy of this information.</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your career history information from your profile to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p>
Impact of Covid -19	The Society appreciates that the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on researchers and their work will be varied. Please provide a summary of how the pandemic has affected your research activities. This can include but is not limited to: delays in publishing/submitting a key paper(s) (please note preprints can be included in your publications list), pause on experiments/research plans, reduced ability to work due to additional caring responsibilities. (Maximum 500 words)
CV *	<p>Please upload a copy of your CV as a PDF. This should be no longer than 3 sides of A4, portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p> <p>The format and content of the CV is at the applicant's discretion, however it should include details of the applicant's track record, wider contributions to research, research impact and research culture as well as details of research appointments. These contributions might include public engagement, schools' engagement, knowledge exchange, mentoring, industry collaboration, team leadership, patents, commercialisation or broader business activity, peer review and committee membership.</p>
Full Publications list *	Please provide details of authors, titles and references of your preprints and publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. Please note that publications will be reviewed on the basis of scientific content, rather than publication metrics or the identity of the journal.

	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 articles persistent identifier (e.g. DOI).</p> <p>Note: You can retrieve your publications to complete this section of the application form using your ORCID identifier.</p>
Most Significant Publications *	Please highlight your ten most significant publications in order of importance. For each publication, please provide a short statement describing their significance and your contribution (up to 50 words per output)

Project Summary	
Project Title *	Please give the full title of your proposed project. Maximum 20 words.
Scientific Categorisation	Please select which category best describes your application out of "Physical Sciences" or "Biological Sciences". For multidisciplinary projects, please select the category which is the best fit. This categorisation will help to determine which of the two committees assesses your application.
Subject Group *	Please select the subject group that most closely reflects the research area of the research proposal from the drop-down menu.
Subject Area *	Please select one or more subject areas that most clearly defines the research area of the research proposal from the subject sub-category list
Lay Summary *	<p>Please provide a lay summary of your proposed project. This should be understandable by a lay person. Explain why you have chosen to work in this subject area and what it is about your proposed research that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. If applicable, please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research.</p> <p>Plain text only maximum of 250 words.</p>
Collaborations	Please provide details of any collaborative arrangements that currently exist to support this proposed research, including the names of your collaborators
Potential Collaborations	Please provide details of any collaborative arrangements that you plan to develop to support the proposed research. Please enter the name (optional) and the organisation of the proposed collaborators.

Personal Statement and Research Vision	
Personal Statement *	<p>Please provide a statement to highlight your major achievements (including prizes) and the difference securing this award would make to you, the host department and University as well as the research community in the UK.</p> <p>Please confirm your current teaching and admin duties and clearly explain how the Faraday Discovery Fellowship (and relocation to the UK if applicable) will make a difference in terms of your research and specifically what it will enable you to do which is currently not possible.</p> <p>PDF upload only. This should be no longer than 1 side of A4, portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p>
Research Vision *	<p>Research Vision: Please provide an overview of the proposed research, include the vision and the key research questions to be addressed. The challenges, feasibility, risk and key outcomes should also be highlighted in this section.</p> <p>PDF upload only. This must be no longer than 2 sides of A4 for the research vision (plus 1 additional page for references only, if required), portrait orientation, with margins of at least 2cm. Please do not use a text size smaller than Arial 11 and make sure the document is titled.</p>

Institutional and Departmental Support *
<p>You should invite the Head of Department at your host organisation to provide a statement of support by following the instructions under the participants tab on the application form summary page. Please check that they can supply their statement by 15:00 UK time 2 October 2024.</p> <p>Please check which email address your Head of Department would like to use, as they may already be registered on Flexi-Grant® and mistakes may lead to a delay in processing your application.</p> <p>Before inviting the Head of Department to participate in completion of the application form, the applicant is instructed to ensure that the Head of Department is willing and available to provide a confirmation of support prior to the round closing date. Incomplete confirmations will mean that an application cannot be submitted and will be deemed to be ineligible.</p> <p>As Head of Department, you should state how the applicant will be supported in focusing on their proposed research, for example by not having competing duties such as teaching or administrative commitments. You will also be expected to provide assurance that, where the successful applicant is already employed within the Department, the salary released by the Faraday Discovery Fellowships funding would be reinvested through replacement research posts of equivalent value within the Department. This may include posts of equivalent seniority to the award holder in the department or multiple more junior research posts of equivalent value (PDRAs or PhDs). Additionally, please provide details of the resources that the department will commit to the applicant should the application be successful.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the applicant to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the Head of Department of the deadline • Liaise with the Head of Department to ensure that they have received their invitation with instructions to participate in completion of the application, as no provision is made for non-receipt of these automatic emails. • Keep track of the progress of Head of Department completion status on the application summary page. The Applicant can issue a reminder email to the Head of Department through the participants tab on the application summary page.

If the instruction email from the Royal Society has not been received please:

- a) double check the accuracy of the email address supplied on the application form
- b) advise the intended recipient to check their spam filters/junk folders
- c) contact the Royal Society with an alternative email address for the recipient

The Royal Society will not be held responsible for automated emails that are not received due to address errors or spam filters.