



## What Royal Society funding opportunities are there for me?

Dr Marianna D'Arco – Senior Manager,  
UK Grants

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SOCIETY



Founded in 1660, the Royal Society is the National Academy of science in the UK, dedicated to promoting excellence in science.

The Society is a self-governing Fellowship supported by 1620 Fellows and Foreign Members. 50 new Fellows are elected each year.

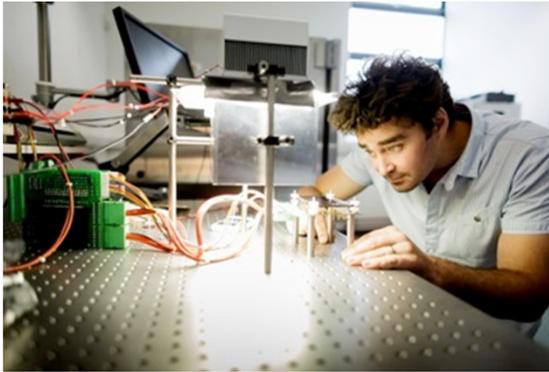
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*“Nullius in verba”*

## Strategic Priorities

- Promoting excellence in science



- Supporting international scientific collaboration



- Demonstrating the importance of science to everyone

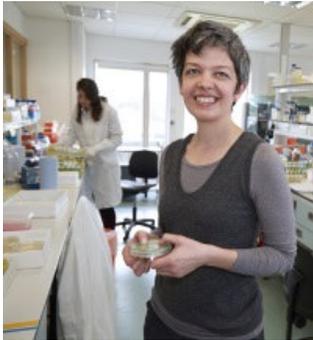


What types of funding are available from the Royal Society?



## Supporting the next generation scientists

University Research Fellowship



Sir Henry Dale Fellowship



Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship



“My University Research Fellowship has given me the freedom and leverage to develop a substantial research programme, along with providing the underpinning security to build long-term research plans.”

Dr Michelle Moram  
University Research Fellow  
Imperial College London

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## Who can apply ?

### University Research Fellowships

- 3-8 years postdoctoral experience
- Long-term, flexible funding
- Opens Summer 2018

There are no nationality restrictions

### Sir Henry Dale Fellowships

- Up to 7 years postdoctoral experience
- Long-term funding for biomedical research
- Preliminary applications ~ April 2018

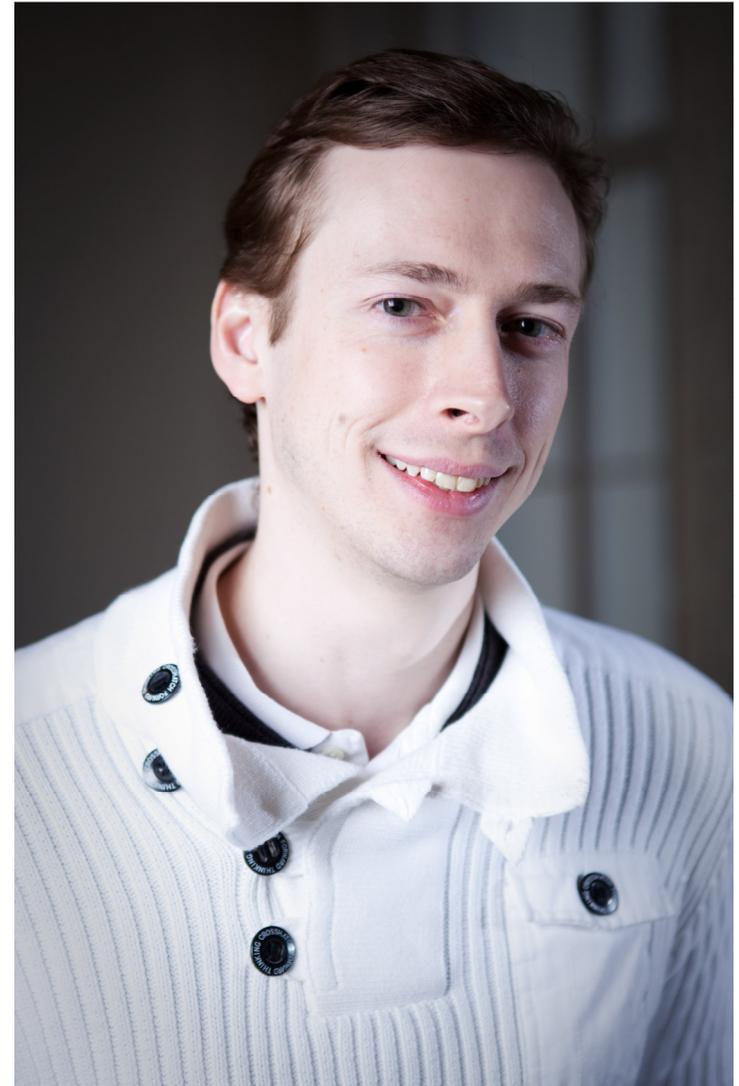
### Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowships

- Up to 6 years postdoctoral experience
- For scientists who require flexible working
- Opens late 2018

“I've taken 6 months paternity leave during my URF; my partner and I split the parental leave 50/50. The Royal Society have completely supported of this. For both maternity and paternity leave, the duration of the fellowship is simply extended accordingly.”

Dr Toby Cubitt  
University Research Fellow  
University College London

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## **‘Starter’ Research Grants**

- Only 1<sup>st</sup> year Research Fellows eligible
- Funding for research-related costs, including postgraduate students
- Up to £150,000/€176,000 for 48 months
- Invitation to apply

## Tier 1 Exceptional Talent Visa

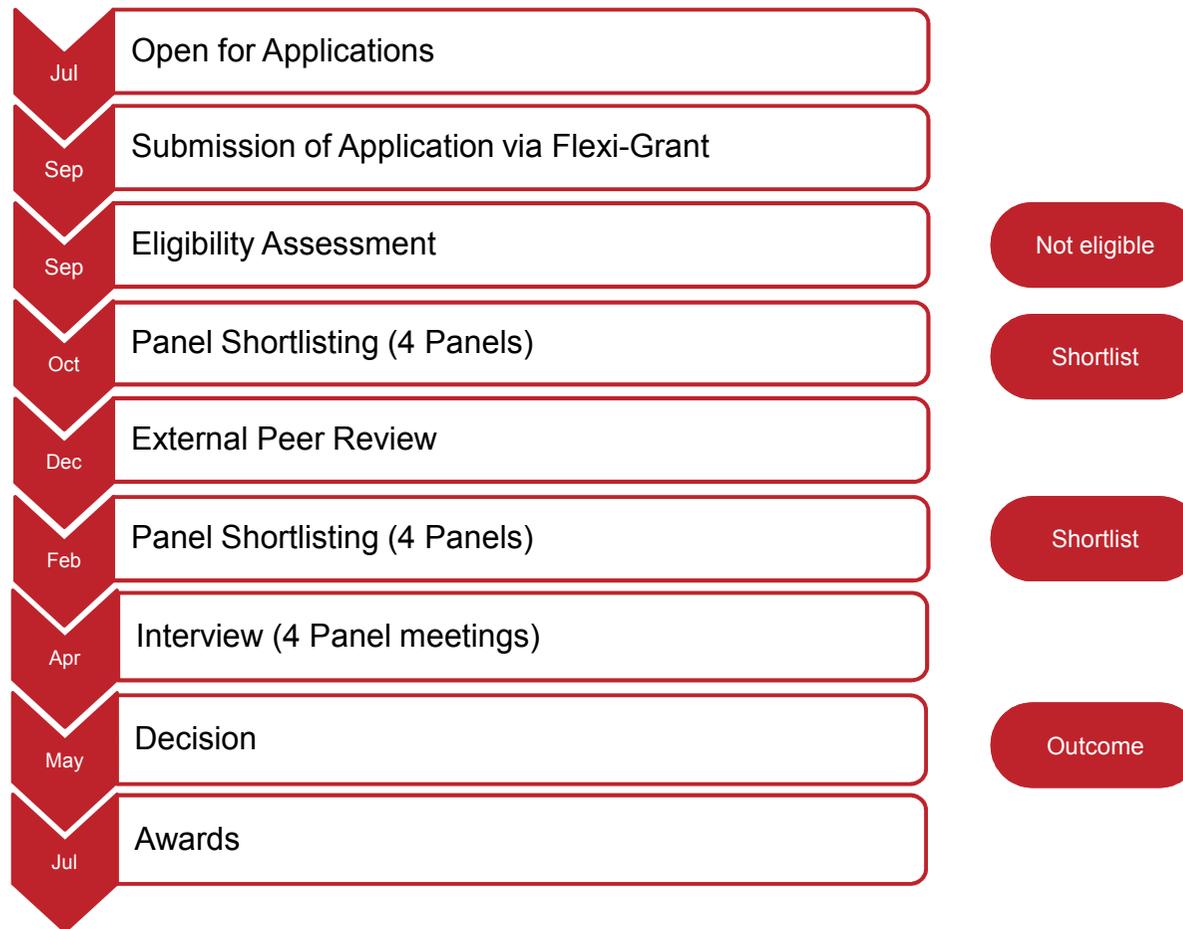
- The Royal Society is recognised as a 'competent body' able to endorse applications for Tier 1 visas from individuals who have shown exceptional talent or exceptional promise within the natural and medical sciences.
- Details on Home Office website [www.gov.uk/tier-1-exceptional-talent](http://www.gov.uk/tier-1-exceptional-talent) - get in contact with us

The Royal Society endorsed Professor James Rothman's Tier 1 application in 2013.

In 2013, Professor Rothman applied for a Tier 1 (Exceptional talent) visa in order to facilitate a collaborative project with The Institute of Neurology at University College London.



## Application Process



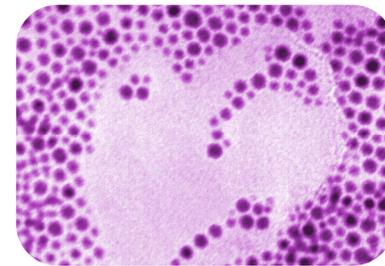
**Applications – What are we looking for?**



**Excellent scientific merit**



**Track Record**



**Creativity**



**Validity of hypothesis**



**Career development**



**Host institution**

## Hints & tips!



Read the  
scheme notes



Write a good  
lay summary



Be  
enthusiastic



Leave plenty  
of time



Contact us

## Interviews

- The interview will be conducted by a panel of committee members
- Two main assessors will lead the interview, but all panel members can ask questions
- Candidates will be asked to give a brief overview of their applications and area of research

The questions will focus on the following issues:

- The science of the application
- Developments since the submission of the application
- The choice of host institution/research group
- The route of independence
- Any issues needing further clarification





**Success!**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Success rates

- Varies from scheme to scheme and year to year depending on the number of applications, awards available...
- Remember – don't be put off by statistics, you need to apply to be successful!

### Diversity

- The Society recognises that many talented individuals do not fulfil their scientific potential due to various issues and barriers and we are committed to helping to put this right.
- We are currently addressing this through measures such as improving promotion and reviewing our selection processes.

### Feedback & Re-applying

- Limited feedback is available for those who are unsuccessful (depending on the stage reached in the application process).
- For most of our schemes we welcome people to reapply.
- Get in contact with us and speak to the relevant Scheme Manager.

## Why apply for a Royal Society Early Career Fellowship?



*2016 New Research Fellows' Induction Day*

“My University Research Fellowship provided me the opportunity to pursue independent blue-skies and applied research, while connecting me to a large interdisciplinary network of world-class scientists”

Dr Steven Spoel  
University Research Fellow  
University of Edinburgh



## Contact details

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