

Cancer Research UK Senior Cancer Research Fellowship

PRELIMINARY APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The closing date for preliminary applications is Friday 24th July 2009.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome by 11th September 2009.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit a full application

Interviews will be held during April 2010.

Funding for successful candidates will be available from 1 July 2010.

These notes have been prepared to help you complete your preliminary application. Please read them carefully before submitting your application. You should also read the document, "Terms and Conditions and Administration Information for Research Grants and Awards", which is available on the website.

Both you and your host institution will need to agree to these terms and conditions before we are able to accept your full application.

If your preliminary application is incomplete, or incorrectly presented, or if you or your proposed host institution are not eligible to hold this award, or if you have not followed the applications guidelines or met the requirements of the terms and conditions in any other way, your application will be returned and it may not be possible to consider it in this round of the fellowship scheme.

SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION

You must submit your proposal by email and a paper copy.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION BY E-MAIL

A copy of the application (part 1) and the office information (part 2) must be saved as two separated documents in a **PDF** format and e-mailed to matthew.wakelin@cancer.org.uk

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION BY POST

Prior to submitting your application, please check that:

- You have signed and dated the cover sheet
- The paper copy is single sided, not stapled and of a quality suitable for photocopying, including colour figures where appropriate

Please send the hard copy to:

Dr Matthew Wakelin
Research Funding
Cancer Research UK
61 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London
WC2A 3PX

SELECTION PROCESS

Preliminary applications will be considered by a sub-committee of the Training and Career Development Board, and selected applicants will be invited to submit a full application. Experts in the appropriate field will review the full applications and academic references will be obtained at this stage. The Non-clinical Fellowships Panel will review the full applications along with the comments of the reviewers and the academic referees, and will select applicants for interview in April 2010. Funding for successful applicants is available from 1st July 2010.

CONTACTS

If you have any queries about any aspect of the application process, please contact

Dr Matthew Wakelin; Tel: 020 7438 5333 email: matthew.wakelin@cancer.org.uk

Cancer Research UK Senior Cancer Research Fellowship

Cancer Research UK seeks to attract the best young scientists and clinicians to develop careers in the field of cancer research.

Senior Fellowships provide an opportunity for outstanding non-clinical researchers and clinician-scientists to establish or to further develop an independent research group. Applicants will have a strong publication record and be considered on the basis of their academic achievements and potential, the scientific merit of the research proposal, and the research environment provided by the sponsoring department.

Cancer Research UK has recently published its five-year research strategy. The strategy for the next five years is directed at reducing cancer mortality further and will guide our decision-making, our investment and funding plans and our annual operations. It will provide our people, the public, our partners and the scientific community with a description of the impact we wish to have and how we will go about achieving it. Applicants must ensure that their proposed research fits with the aims of the strategy. The Research Strategy can be found on our website at: www.cancerresearchuk.org/research_strategy

Eligibility

Applicants who have already established an independent research group through alternative routes such as the Cancer Research UK Career Development Fellowship scheme or the junior fellowship schemes supported by other funding agencies, or tenure-track positions, are welcome to apply. In exceptional cases we will consider applications from candidates who already hold a tenured post, up to senior lectureship level.

Non-clinical researchers

Should have completed at least six and no more than ten years postdoctoral work, although consideration will be given to exceptional candidates with less experience. Applicants will be expected to have a proven track record as an independent researcher, and to have demonstrated the vision required to become a future leader in their field of interest.

However, applicants should not have been running a group for longer than six years at the time of application.

Clinician-scientists

Must have completed their specialist training, have a PhD and have extensive post-doctoral research experience, and will be expected to have a proven track record as an independent researcher. Clinician-scientists who wish to apply **must** contact **Dr Matthew Wakelin** in the first instance to discuss their eligibility further.

The host institution

These Fellowships cannot be held in the Cancer Research UK core funded Institutes: London Research Institute; Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, Manchester; Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow; Cambridge Research Institute; or the Gray Institute for Radiation Oncology and Biology, Oxford. Most university departments in the UK are eligible locations. However, there are a number of locations that are not eligible, and applicants should contact Cancer Research UK prior to application to ensure that their selected host institution is acceptable.

Research support available

The Senior Cancer Research Fellowship will be awarded for a period of 6 years. It will provide a competitive salary for the fellow, up to two postdoctoral workers, technical

assistance (a technician, or a post-graduate research assistant or a scientific officer), a four year PhD student, research expenses and an equipment grant to set up the laboratory.

Review

The Fellowship will be subject to a review after three years, with continuation dependent upon satisfactory progress.

Commitment from Host Institution

Fellows are expected to work independently of other laboratories in the host institution, and to demonstrate the ability to lead a research team and direct a programme of work.

However, it is anticipated that Fellows will wish to develop collaborations with others within the institution. Fellows will be expected to have the status of a Group Leader or equivalent.

The host institution will be required to identify a senior member of the department to act as mentor to the Fellow. The mentor must be identified prior to submission of the full application, and will be required to provide the advice required for submission of a competitive application. As such the mentor will be required to sign the application. Where applications are successful, the mentor will also be expected to have regular meetings with Fellow, and will be required to sign the annual report submitted by the Fellow to Cancer Research UK.

Cancer Research UK also expects that all institutions hosting one of these prestigious Fellowships will make a commitment to the longer-term support of the Fellow. The depth of this commitment may vary from an undertaking to consider a Fellow for a lectureship or other non-time limited post, should one become available, to the firm guarantee of such a post at the end of the Fellowship. Candidates should discuss this issue with their proposed host institution before a full application is made as Cancer Research UK will require confirmation of the details of the commitment from the host institution.

Senior Cancer Research Fellows may apply for renewal of the Fellowship, but only if the Training and Career Development Board considers that the Fellow has made outstanding progress during the initial funding period and the Fellow is still at an appropriate stage of their career to hold a fellowship. Therefore, such renewals are likely to be the exception rather than the rule. The host institution will be required to agree to a 50:50 split of the renewing Fellow's salary with Cancer Research UK.

Resubmissions

Applicants who have previously applied for a Cancer Research UK Senior Cancer Research Fellowship are permitted to resubmit but must contact **Dr Matthew Wakelin** in the first instance. Applicants must still meet the eligibility criteria and should ensure that the reasons for resubmission are set out clearly in a covering letter, including why you believe that the Panel should reconsider your application.

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETION OF THE APPLICATION FORM

PART 1 APPLICATION FORM	
Cover Sheet	This form should be completed after you have filled in the rest of the application form.
Section 1 – Application Summary	Please provide the requested information. Applications will not be accepted unless a suitable host institution is identified in this section. Applicants are expected to be in discussion with the host institution by the time the preliminary application is submitted, although it is accepted that some applicants will not finalise their choice until later in the selection process. Please note that Fellows are expected to have Group Leader status (or equivalent) at their host institution. If you are currently in discussion with more than one institution, please provide details of them all (you may copy the form and submit one form per institution).
Section 2 – Research Proposal Outline	<p>Please complete sections 2.1 to 2.5 as requested. In section 2.3 you should provide a short lay summary of your proposed work. In section 2.4, you should tick revised application if you have previously applied for this Fellowship, even if the research proposal itself has changed considerably.</p> <p>Section 2.5 is for your preliminary research proposal. This should not exceed 1500 words (excluding references) and should include brief details of the background to your proposal, its relevance to cancer research, the specific aims and approaches to be taken. At the end, you should give full details of references cited, including all authors, titles and journals.</p>
Section 3 – Principal applicant details	Please complete all relevant sections. In section 3.2 you should give details of your current host institution (which may be different from the institution at which you plan to hold the Fellowship). This is the address we will use for correspondence during the application process, unless you provide an alternative address in section 3.3.
Section 4 – Curriculum Vitae	Please complete all sections of the CV form. In sections 4.3 and 4.4, please ensure that you include the name of the group leader with whom you worked during any periods of post doctoral or doctoral research. Non-clinical researchers do not need to complete section 4.6.
PART 2 OFFICE INFORMATION	
Section 1 – Peer review	The preliminary applications will be assessed by the Selection Panel only, but the full applications will be sent out to external experts for additional review. Please give the names of up to 5 reviewers whom you believe would be qualified to assess your full application. These may be individuals in the UK or abroad. You should not have published, worked or collaborated closely with any of these individuals. Cancer Research UK is under no obligation to use these suggested reviewers and will not enter into any discussions relating to reviewers. You may also veto reviewers, but should only do so where real conflicts of interest arise. Your reason for the veto should be clearly stated.
Section 2 – Research Classification	This form is for office information only and will not go to the selection panel. Please provide key words for your application in order to assist Cancer Research UK in monitoring the applications it receives.
Section 3 – Equal Opportunities	This form is for office information only and will not go to the selection panel.