

Imperial Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT Research Fellowship (IPPRF)

Applicant Guidelines: November 2024

Purpose of Fellowship

The aim of the Imperial College London Imperial Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT Research Fellowship (IPPRF) opportunity is to draw on the research strengths of Imperial College London and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and attract clinical academics finishing medical clinical training to work towards Clinician Scientist, Wellcome or other externally funded clinical research mid-level awards.

Key Output

The key output of the 2-year Fellowship is for post holders to prepare and submit an application for an intermediate Fellowship/Clinician Scientist award.

Funding

The funding for the IPPRF comes jointly from the [NIHR Imperial Biomedical Research Centre](#) (BRC) and Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine academic Departments (FoM). The BRC will fund a maximum of £150k per fellowship and Departments are expected to fund the remaining costs (~50%). As Departments are making a significant contribution to the award all application proposals must be discussed with the appropriate Departmental Research Manager and Head of Department first, and require sign-off from both.

Proposed research

Given that approx. half of the funding is provided by the BRC the proposed research project should ideally align with one of the 14 BRC Research Themes, or be relevant to one of the 4 common threads integrated into the research themes:

BRC Research Themes	BRC Common Threads
1.Biomedical Engineering	1.Creating, evaluating and implementing digital tools to support diagnosis, clinical management and service delivery
2.Brain Sciences	2.Early diagnosis of disease using imaging, genomic, metabolomic and data-driven analytic tools to identify initial stages of disease
3.Cardiovascular	3.Precision Medicine using laboratory and imaging tools to stratify patients for optimal treatments.
4.Digestive Diseases	4.Convergence science to integrate discovery scientists with clinical academics to ensure that the technology and research push is balanced by the pull of unmet clinical needs.
5.Digital Health	
6.Immunology	
7.Infection and AMR	
8.Metabolic and Endocrine	
9.Molecular Phenotyping	
10.Multiple long-term conditions	
11.Pregnancy and Prematurity	
12.Respiratory	
13.Social, Genetic & Environmental Determinants of Health	
14.Surgery & Cancer	

The following NIHR restrictions will apply to the use of IPPRF fellowship funds:

- No individual items of equipment greater than £5,000
- No expenditure related to animal research or other work which is not patient- or people-focused translational clinical research in the NHS
- Work involving patients, volunteers, human data and/or tissue samples must have a clear written protocol and been through appropriate peer and HRA/ethical review, as well as the relevant internal capacity and capability assessment
- No expenditure on University infrastructure, estates, or indirect costs
- No expenditure on activities outside the BRC, including infrastructure and support costs of related research supported by other funding bodies.

Who can Apply?

- Awards will be made to Post-Doctoral, Post-CCT (medically qualified) candidates who have the potential to become leaders in academic medicine and can demonstrate evidence of high-quality publications from research.
- Eligibility requirements include that applicants;
 - Be within 12 months of obtaining a Certificate of Completion of Training (or equivalent non-UK certification) or normally to have been awarded a CCT within the last 12 months, at the time of applying
 - Possess a PhD or MD* already – or - to have submitted or all experimental work completed pending submission by the time of application, and awarded before starting the post. (*research based MD)
- Applicants not currently affiliated with Imperial College London are eligible to apply, but the research proposed **MUST** be undertaken in an Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine academic department and with an Imperial research group, and will require the applicant to move into an Imperial university site, but can be collaborative with other universities.
- Applicants should review the Job Description and Person Specification **carefully** before applying. They should be confident that they are able to fulfil **all** requirements stated in the Person Specification and have a clear and credible aim of application for an Intermediate Fellowship **before** approaching an Imperial Department to discuss potential support.

How to Apply

The Application process consists of **two** stages, *Stage 1* is gaining Departmental support and then *Stage 2* is submission of a formal application. After gaining support from 'host' academic Departments formal applications should be submitted to the Job Applicants section of the Imperial website, <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/jobs/>. Vacancy Reference: **MED04970**). The following documents should be submitted:

1. Fully completed Job application form
2. Fully completed/signed IPPRF application form (including confirmation of support from a FoM Head of Department and Research Manager and costings/Worktribe)
3. Curriculum Vitae (maximum 5 pages)

Important Notes for Applicants

- The application process consists of **two** stages. Further details on requirements at each stage are in the Deadlines and Key dates section
 - **Stage 1 Research Proposal & CV: [Deadline: Weds 5 February 2025 for most academic departments, Weds 29 January for Dept Surgery & Cancer]**
 - **Stage 2 Job Application: [Deadline: Thurs 20 February 2025]**
- The Imperial Job Application Form includes a space/option for you to write a 'Supporting statement' to accompany your application. This section should be used to state why you believe you are a suitable candidate for the IPPRF post and explain how you meet the requirements described in the Person Specification at the back of the Job Description.

Please follow these instructions when preparing your personal statement. This section should **not** be used as space to simply re-present your CV or research proposal.

- The Job Application Form includes a section for 'Research'. This should be used to describe your research undertaken to date and not details of your proposed research for the IPPRF award. Details about your IPPRF research proposal should be entered in the separate IPPRF Application form.
- CVs should be a **Maximum 5 pages long**. Please include information about your current role; past employment; relevant experience; higher education (degrees etc); publications and conferences.

Clinical Lecturers

Applications from current Clinical Lecturers will **only** be considered if applicants can clearly justify why they require further time before applying for an intermediate fellowship and what the IPPRF award will offer above the current CL post.

Evaluation of applications

Applications with academic department support will be considered by a panel of senior researchers from across the Imperial BRC and Faculty of Medicine. The PPI/E section will also be reviewed by a panel of Community Partners. The highest scoring applications will be invited to attend an interview in April 2025.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Recruitment to the IPPRF award will run in line with the underpinning principles and objectives of the BRC's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework.

Deadlines and key dates

Stage 1: Research Proposal Deadline: **Weds 5 February 2025*** (17.00hrs) (or **Weds 29 January** for submissions to *Department of Surgery & Cancer*)

**Applicants to contact Imperial Faculty of Medicine Depts to identify potential projects, get confirmation of support and Worktribe costings for including in the IPPRF application form & CV (before submitting formal 'job' application). This the absolute latest date that applicants can approach departments, they are advised to do so early as possible to discuss their application and give enough time for departmental approval. [See CATO website](#) for FoM Departmental contact details.*

Stage 2: Job Application Deadline: **Thurs 20 February 2025*** (midnight)

** Applicants to submit all finalised application documentation online via ICL Job Applicant section to include: Job Application form, CV, completed and approved IPPRF Application form (including costings)*

Interview Date: **w/c 7 April 2025** (tbc)

Fellowship Start Date: **1 September 2025 - 31 March 2026**

[NOTE: to align with the duration of NIHR Imperial BRC funding the Fellowship project must be completed by 31 March 2028

Contacts

- Further details about the IPPRF opportunity can be found on the Clinical Academic Training Office (CATO) website: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/study/clinical-academic-training-office/training-pathways-for-doctors/ipp-research-fellowship/>
- Informal enquiries about the IPPRF opportunities can be sent to the CATO team at: cato@imperial.ac.uk
- Questions about the online Job Application form should be directed to the CATO team for passing on to colleagues in HR.
- Questions about BRC research themes and priorities should be directed to: brcofficer@imperial.ac.uk