

Post-doctoral Research Fellowships (non-clinical) 2017 call for applications



Remit

We are seeking proposals from outstanding post-doctoral researchers seeking to develop an independent career in childhood cancer research.

Applicants' research must be in line with at least one of the objectives set out in our research strategy:

1. To improve knowledge of the genetic and environmental causes and relevant biological mechanisms of childhood cancers.
2. To identify diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers for childhood cancers.
3. To optimise and develop more effective and less toxic treatments for children with cancer, with a special focus on those forms of cancer that still carry a poor prognosis.
4. To understand the long-term health implications of childhood cancer and its treatment.

The Fellowships are for five years, subject to formal review after three years. Continuation of funding will be dependent on satisfactory review. Funding will include the Fellow's salary costs, according to the relevant grade and scale*, and additional support of up to £20,000 per annum to support basic laboratory costs and attendance at relevant conferences and meetings.

*maximum spine point 38 on the academic salary scale for UK Universities

Who may apply?

- We invite applications from individuals working in **any area of childhood cancer research** – including biology, aetiology, prevention, treatment and survival.
- We are looking to support outstanding researchers who have an **excellent track record in their previous work** and who can demonstrate the promise of becoming future research leaders.
- Applicants must have **at least two- and no more than eight- years' post-doctoral experience, measured from the date of PhD viva to the submission deadline for preliminary proposals (20th June 2017)**. Extended periods of leave will be taken into account. Please contact the Grants Office if you require clarification and confirmation of your eligibility.
- The Fellowships are intended to provide researchers with their **first chance to establish independence**. Applicants who have had a prior opportunity to establish independence, for example by having been awarded a previous Fellowship or being appointed to a tenured or tenure-track position, should not apply.
- The applicant must have the **support of an Institution and Department (in the UK) that is willing to host them** as a Fellow and to act as Sponsor for their research. The Department will need to demonstrate that they have the appropriate infrastructure, for example by way of an existing research team and/or appropriate grant support, and can provide the necessary laboratory/office space for the duration of the Fellowship. Although the Fellowships are intended to be portable to

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www.childrenwithcancer.org.uk

Registered charity no. 298405

some extent, any change of Institution would need to be formally approved by Children with Cancer UK.

- Although it is not a condition of application, we are keen to support individuals whose Institution would be willing to offer tenure at the conclusion of the Fellowship.
- Applications are considered on the basis of the applicant's academic achievements to date and future potential, the scientific merit and originality of the research proposal and the research environment provided by the sponsoring department.

Please do not apply if you do not meet the criteria set out above. Any applicants with less than two or more than eight years' relevant post-doctoral experience will automatically be disqualified.

Application process

There is a three stage application process.

- i) Preliminary application stage. This requires submission of a two-page CV plus outline application (using the templates provided). The deadline for receipt of this submission is **5pm on Tuesday 20th June 2017.**

Preliminary applications will be considered by our Scientific Advisory Panel and short-listed applicants will be notified in July.

- ii) Full application stage. Applicants short-listed at the preliminary stage will be invited to submit a detailed research proposal. Academic references and Host Institution approval will be required at this stage.

The deadline for receipt of full applications will be **Thursday 14th September 2017.**

Full applications will be sent out for peer review by international experts in the relevant field. The Panel will then review the full applications, along with academic references and external reviews.

- iii) Interview. We expect to interview all of the candidates short-listed at the preliminary stage. Interviews will take place in late November 2017.

Successful awards will be announced in December 2017, following Trustee ratification, and are expected to commence in 2018.

Queries

Please email research@childrenwithcancer.org.uk with any queries, or call Neil Meemaduma on 020 7404 0808.