# The University of Sydney Fellowship Scheme 2019

**CLOSING DATE:** 11.30pm Sydney time (AEST), Sunday **19 August 2018**.

**Contact:** **for further information please email Sherridan Blackman at** [sherridan.blackman@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sherridan.blackman@sydney.edu.au)

The University of Sydney Fellowships aim to attract outstanding early career researchers to contribute to and enhance the research strengths and culture of the university. Holders of the Fellowships will be lifetime members of the [Sydney Society of Fellows](https://sydney.edu.au/research/research-funding/research-fellowships/sydney-society-of-fellows.html). The society fosters inter-faculty collaboration, builds on a network of outstanding international alumni and provides further career development opportunities.

Applications are encouraged from any discipline or research area, with recipients able to work with our leading [Faculties, schools](https://sydney.edu.au/about-us/faculties-and-schools.html) and [centres](https://sydney.edu.au/research/centres.html) as well as with one of our 10 whole-of-university [multidisciplinary initiatives](https://sydney.edu.au/research/centres/research-centres.html) that are focused on some of the greatest challenges of our time:

* **Charles Perkins Centre**
* **Brain and Mind Centre**
* **Sydney Nano**
* **China Studies Centre**
* **Sydney Southeast Asia Centre**
* **Cancer Research Network**
* **Sydney Environment Institute**
* **Marie Bashir Institute for Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity**
* **Centre for Translational Data Science**
* **Sydney Policy Lab**

Further information about the University’s research strategy, including our commitment to multidisciplinary research, can be found in the [**University’s Strategic Plan 2016-20**](http://sydney.edu.au/dam/intranet/documents/strategy-and-planning/strategic-plan-2016-20.pdf)**.**

## Eligibility

1. Applicants must have a PhD award dated no earlier than 1January 2013 and no later than 19 August 2018. PhD award/conferred date is defined as the date on the testamur.
2. Applicants must obtain the endorsement of a proposed supervisor before applying. Refer to ‘Preparing an application’ below.
3. Strong preference will be given to applicants seeking to join the University from another organisation in Australia or from overseas. However, applicants currently employed at the University of Sydney or other affiliated institutions (including medical research institutes) who commenced such employment after 1 July 2017 are eligible to apply.
4. Applicants with a PhD awarded by the University of Sydney may only apply if they have held a paid position with another organisation subsequent to the award of their PhD.

**Career interruption**

Candidates awarded their PhD after 1 January 2010 who have had a period of significant career interruption (3 months or more is considered significant in this context) will have their eligibility considered.

* The Career Interruption tool can be downloaded from the [Sydney Fellowships information page](http://sydney.edu.au/research_support/funding/sydney/postdoctoral_fellowship.shtml), and must be uploaded with the application for eligibility verification.
* Career interruptions include parental leave, major illness and carer responsibilities for immediate family (e.g. spouse, children or elderly parent). Candidates with career interruption of a sensitive nature can email [sherridan.blackman@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sherridan.blackman@sydney.edu.au) directly rather than fill in the Excel tool.
* Supporting evidence for each career interruption must be provided with the application.

## Assessment Criteria

There are two essential criteria.

1. Research excellence will be a primary criterion, both in terms of the project quality, innovation and feasibility and the track-record and potential of the researcher (relative to opportunity).
2. The alignment of the proposed research with the University’s agenda of excellence and multidisciplinary research (both with the initiatives listed above and more broadly).

The University of Sydney is committed to gender equity, and at least 50 percent of the fellowships will be awarded to women.

## Overlap with other Fellowship schemes including the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council

Applicants who have requested Fellowship support from other sources for funding in 2019 may submit the same project to this scheme and disclose this in the online application form. If a successful applicant is awarded a Fellowship from another source, the University of Sydney Fellowship must be relinquished within 2 months of notification of the other award. If necessary, the University will provide a supplement to ensure the salary and research support are equal to the University of Sydney Fellowship.

## Preparing an Application

1. Download the relevant templates from the [**application link on the Fellowship page**](http://sydney.edu.au/research_support/funding/sydney/postdoctoral_fellowship.shtml) **(after July 9 when the job opens)**.
2. [**Find a University of Sydney academic supervisor**](https://sydney.edu.au/research/research-areas.html) ***-* A supervisor is a current University of Sydney academic who agrees to endorse your application and intends to act as your academic supervisor for the duration of your Fellowship. Please contact them directly for a brief written endorsement that indicates how you would be able to contribute to the relevant Faculty, centre or multidisciplinary initiative (see endorsement letter template). You do not need to contact the centre or initiative directors. Associate Deans of Research and Multidisciplinary Initiative Directors may also fill in the endorsement template, but must then name an academic supervisor for the candidate.**
3. **Submit your application** through our online systemby 11.30pm AEST Sunday **19 August 2018**.

You will need to prepare the following documents and information:

* Curriculum Vitae including details of a PhD award, research experience, publications or research outputs (asterisk \* top 5 most relevant to this application) and citations or other discipline-relevant metrics. **The Curriculum Vitae should be no more than 5 pages** (11-point font size)**;**
* Evidence of a PhD award. Please include English translations if applicable;
* The 2-page proposed research project (please use the template) including project title; aims, background and significance; methods and techniques; alignment of the proposed research with existing activity and the environment in the host Faculty and/or centre or multidisciplinary initiative. This section should be no more than **2 pages** at 11-point fontincluding bibliographic references. Additional pages will not be considered;
* Signed letter of endorsement from your proposed academic supervisor OR a Multidisciplinary Research Initiative Director OR Associate Dean of Research. Please use the template provided. **Applications without a signed letter will not be considered.**
* Career interruption details and supporting evidence if relevant.
* One referee report (please use the template provided). A referee should be selected based on their capacity to comment on the intellectual calibre and quality of your work, track record relative to opportunity, and your potential to be internationally competitive for subsequent fellowship applications (i.e. within the top 10-15% of their field).
* A nominated supervisor cannot be a referee.

**Award offers will be issued to the successful candidates in the last week of October 2018. You must be available to accept the offer within one week, due to strict Australian Government Visa regulations.**

**Visa support**

Successful candidates who do not have an Australian work right may be sponsored for a work visa by the University. To be sponsored for a work visa, you must have a valid or current passport that is not expiring in the next 6 months. You may contact the University’s Immigration and Relocation team by email [immigration.relocation@sydney.edu.au](mailto:immigration.relocation@sydney.edu.au) for further information.

**Conditions of Award**

1. Applicants must have a PhD award dated no earlier than 1January 2013 and no later than 19 August 2018 (unless career interruption is shown using the tool provided);
2. Applicants currently employed at the University of Sydney or other affiliated institutions (including medical research institutes) who commenced such employment after 1 July 2017 are eligible to apply.
3. Applicants with a PhD awarded by the University of Sydney may only apply if they have held a paid position with another organisation after the award of their PhD.
4. Fellows must not hold a concurrent paid appointment (eg. clinical appointment in a hospital);
5. The duration of the Fellowship shall be for a maximum period of three years;
6. Fellowship must commence by 30 June 2019, unless the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) approves otherwise;
7. If fellows leave the University, they must relinquish their Fellowship as of the date of the termination of their University of Sydney appointment;
8. A salary (taxable) will be provided at Level A8 of the University’s Academic salary scale;
9. A research support grant totalling $25,000 will be provided upon commencement of appointment to assist Fellows establish their research;
10. Fellows are expected to focus on research for the duration of the Fellowship. Fellows may be required to undertake other duties for up to 6 hours per week (e.g. HDR supervision, committee representation);
11. A minimum cost airfare direct to Sydney, and return to the point of departure on expiry of the Fellowship, will be provided. Fares for dependants, visa charges and removal expenses, will not be provided. Claims for travel expenses will normally be paid on production of an invoice or a receipt from a travel agency;
12. The work performance of Fellows will be reviewed annually in accordance with the University’s Performance Management and Development Program. A final report covering all aspects of the work undertaken (including grants awarded, grants applied for and their status, details of student supervision or co-supervision, conference presentations and publications) and details of any new knowledge gained in the field of study must be forwarded to [research.support@sydney.edu.au](mailto:research.support@sydney.edu.au) at the completion of the Fellowship. This should be accompanied by an evaluation by the Head of School. The final report template can be downloaded from [Sydney Fellowships information page](http://sydney.edu.au/research_support/funding/sydney/postdoctoral_fellowship.shtml).
13. Fellows shall be entitled to recreational, sickness and parental leave in accordance with the University’s general policy for all staff. All recreational leave must be taken within the period of the appointment.
14. Fellows with caring responsibilities can take the fellowship part-time (unless on a Temporary Skills Shortage Visa, which requires full-time employment) and are encouraged to apply. Requests to suspend or vary the hours of an award must be submitted to the Research Grants & Contracts at [research.support@sydney.edu.au](mailto:research.support@sydney.edu.au) and approved by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research);
15. University of Sydney Fellows are strongly encouraged to apply for external fellowships, and if successful within the first two years of this Fellowship, the University will provide a one-off amount of $30,000 for research support on condition that the University of Sydney Fellowship is relinquished within 2 months of notification of the external award;
16. Any Fellow considered not to be making satisfactory progress will have the Fellowship reviewed by a committee appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) which, at its absolute discretion, may terminate the Fellowship; and
17. The University asserts certain ownership rights of intellectual property created during the fellowship under the University’s Intellectual Property Policy.

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