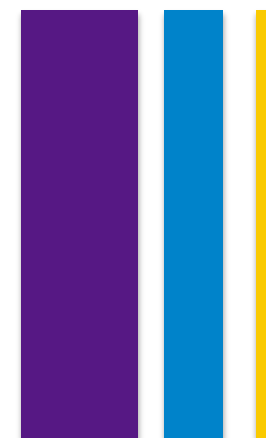




Funding opportunities for early career researchers

Dr James Dracott
Portfolio manager
Atomic, molecular and optical physics



KEY FACTS



KEY FACTS

42%

OF PORTFOLIO
IS MULTIDISCIPLINARY

£1.69bn

OF OUR PORTFOLIO
IS RELEVANT TO THE
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

45%

OF RESEARCH
PORTFOLIO IS
COLLABORATIVE



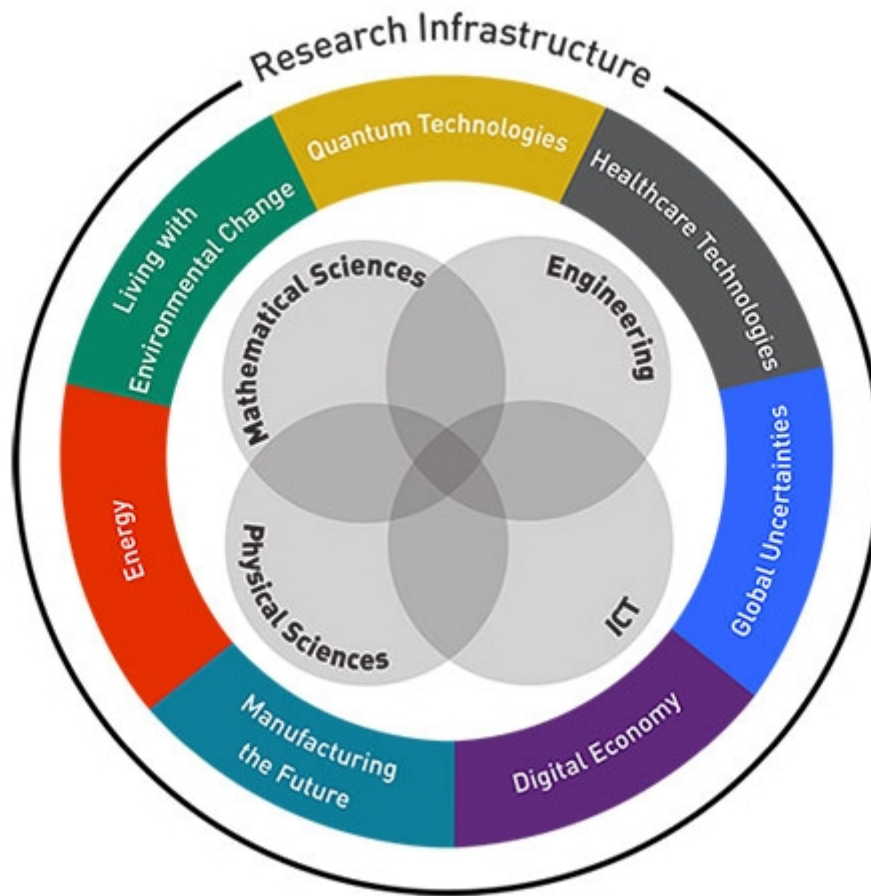
OVER **2,800**
ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN
COLLABORATIVE GRANTS

£838m

OF
LEVERAGE
FROM



KEY FACTS



For EPS subjects, the UK is

2nd in the world

in terms of the proportion of the
top highly cited publications



■ ■ ■ Standard grants

■ ■ ■ First Grants

■ ■ ■ Fellowships

■ ■ ■ Overseas travel grants

■ ■ ■ Program grants


■ ■ ■ Platform grants

■ ■ ■ Network grants





EPSRC Fellowships

-  To provide support for aspiring or current world leading individuals delivering the highest quality research to meet UK and global priorities



EPSRC Fellowships – Who Can Apply

- ■ ■ Expected to hold a PhD or have equivalent research experience
- ■ ■ No eligibility rules based on number of years of post-doctoral experience
- ■ ■ No rules regarding whether you hold/ do not hold a permanent academic position.
- ■ ■ Three career stages – post-doctoral, early and established.
- ■ ■ Assess track record along with your host organisation to determine which career stage is most appropriate



ATTRIBUTE	POST-DOCTORAL	EARLY CAREER	ESTABLISHED CAREER
Research Excellence	Delivery of outstanding research and an indication of where the research contributes to delivering impact. Awareness of the international context of the research.	Has a track record of outstanding research and in delivering impact. Shows a strong awareness of the international context of the research and starting to show evidence of recognition in the community on an international scale.	Has a track record of outstanding research and in delivering impact. Evidence of international standing and influence in the context of the research and shows evidence of recognition in the community on an international scale.
Setting the research agenda	Has a clear vision of the contribution the applicant can make to their research area. Evidence of independence of (research) ideas.	Evidence of showing leadership within the research community and evidence of pushing the boundaries of the research area.	Demonstration of leadership within the research community and evidence of pushing the boundaries of the research area.
Strategic Vision	Shows an awareness of different research in other fields or across technology readiness levels, an aspiration to work across boundaries and/or to conduct high risk research and finding a network of independent contacts so that the applicant is getting positioned to do this.	Has some experience in identifying, exploring and developing research opportunities more broadly and across different interfaces. An awareness of how to position themselves to take up these opportunities and an ability to make decisions to deliver this vision.	An aptitude for identifying, exploring and developing research opportunities more broadly and across different interfaces. Can demonstrate where they have positioned themselves to take up these opportunities and has the ability to make decisions to deliver this vision.
Profile and Influence	Not strongly applicable at this career stage.	Shows potential and aptitude to act as an ambassador and advocate for a research field/theme and for research in general. Advising and influencing into policy making.	Evidence of acting as an ambassador and advocate for a research field/theme and for research in general. Advising and influencing into policy making.
Inspirational Team leader	Can provide evidence of an aptitude to lead and inspire for example, through mentoring or self organisation of peers.	Has ability to lead and inspire their own research team. Ability to identify and maximise potential in others (or get the best out of people).	Ability to lead and inspire. Ability to identify and maximise potential in others (or get the best out of people).
Communication and engagement skills	Demonstrates excellent communications and interpersonal skills and aspires to develop these across a broad audience.	Demonstrates excellent communications and interpersonal skills and aspires to develop these further across a broad audience.	Possesses excellent communications and interpersonal skills.

EPSRC Fellowships – Post Doctoral

- ■ ■ Up to 3 years funding
- ■ ■ Salary for PI only.
- ■ ■ No staff
- ■ ■ Consumables, small items of equipment, T&S, visiting researcher



- ■ ■ Up to 5 years funding
- ■ ■ Salary for PI and research staff.
- ■ ■ Consumables, equipment in line with current EPSRC policy, T&S, visiting researcher



Areas open for fellowships

Postdoctoral fellowships

- Theoretical physics

Early career fellowships

- Analytical science*
- Catalysis*
- Chemical Biology and Biological Chemistry*
- Computational and Theoretical chemistry
- Electrochemical Sciences
- Functional Ceramics and Inorganics
- Graphene and Carbon-based Nanomaterials
- Materials for Energy Applications
- Quantum optics and information*
- Software development for Novel Physical Sciences Research
- Synthetic Supramolecular Chemistry



Grand Challenge Areas (Early and Established)

- ■ ■ Emergence and Physics Far From Equilibrium
- ■ ■ Quantum Physics for New Quantum Technologies
- ■ ■ Nanoscale Design of Functional Materials
- ■ ■ Understanding the Physics of Life

- ■ ■ 'Dial-a-Molecule' - 100% Efficient Synthesis
- ■ ■ Directed Assembly of Extended Structures with Targeted Properties
- ■ ■ Systems Chemistry: Exploring the Chemical Roots of Biological Organisation
- ■ ■ Utilising CO₂ in Synthesis and Transforming the Chemicals Industry



Fellowships – Assessment Criteria

- ■ ■ Research Quality
- ■ ■ The Candidate (including qualities and experience)
- ■ ■ Importance
- ■ ■ Research Environment
- ■ ■ Impact
- ■ ■ Resources and Management
- ■ ■ Fit to Strategic Priorities



- ■ ■ No closing date
- ■ ■ Flexibility (50-100%, part time, resources for family)
- ■ ■ Assessed twice a year at Standard Panels (February and July)
- ■ ■ Successful applicants invited to an interview stage (March and September)

For more information, please visit our fellowships webpage:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/skills/fellows/>

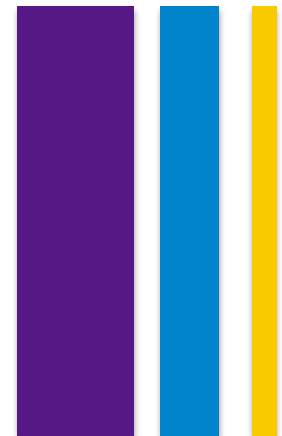
Or contact:

PhysicalSciences@epsrc.ac.uk





Standard mode and First Grants



Standard Mode

- Flexible: small travel grants to multi-million pound programmes
- Support wide range of activities:
 - Research projects
 - Feasibility studies
 - Instrument development
 - Equipment
 - Travel
 - Collaboration (including visiting researchers)
- Adventure and risk encouraged
- No closing dates



Calls

The screenshot shows the EPSRC website's funding calls section. The header includes the EPSRC logo and navigation links. The main content area displays search results for '16 results returned'. The first result is 'SUPERGEN FUEL CELLS CHALLENGE CALL', which is an invitation for proposals issued on 10 April 2014, closing on 03 July 2014 at 16:00. The second result is 'CONVENTIONAL POWER GENERATION', issued on 30 April 2014 and closing on 16 July 2014. A sidebar on the right contains filters for 'YEAR ISSUED', 'STATUS', 'CALL TYPES', and 'RELATED THEMES'. A left sidebar lists 'How to apply' steps like 'Calls subscription' and 'Assessment process'.

Home Funding Calls

CALLS

16 results returned. Show 10 | 25 | 50 | 100 items

Sort by: Closing date | ascending | Reorder

1

SUPERGEN FUEL CELLS CHALLENGE CALL

The Research Councils UK Energy Programme is looking to support projects that help address the key research challenges that underpin the deployment of Fuel Cell Technologies.

Issue date: 10 April 2014
Closing date: 03 July 2014 at 16:00
Status: Open
Type: Invitation for proposals
Related themes: Energy

CONVENTIONAL POWER GENERATION

EPSRC, as part of its contribution to the RCUK Energy Programme, invites proposals for collaborative research projects to undertake fundamental research to tackle challenges in Conventional Power Generation

Issue date: 30 April 2014
Closing date: 16 July 2014

FILTER

Show all

YEAR ISSUED

Clear

- ☐ 2014 (37)
- ☐ 2013 (72)
- ☐ 2012 (93)
- ☐ 2011 (58)
- ☐ 2010 and before (2)

STATUS

Clear

- ☒ Open (16)
- ☐ Closed (249)
- ☐ Future (0)

CALL TYPES

Clear

- ☐ Invitation for proposals
- ☐ Invitation for outlines
- ☐ Expression of interest
- ☐ Call for participants
- ☐ Call for nominations
- ☐ Collaborative research
- ☐ Invitation for tenders

RELATED THEMES

Clear

- ☐ Digital economy
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Global uncertainties (GU)
- ☐ Healthcare technologies

<https://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/calls/>

- ■ ■ To help newly appointed academics get a grant early in their academic career
- ■ ■ Capped at £125k (100%fEC; EPSRC contributes 80%)
- ■ ■ Maximum two years duration
- ■ ■ Considered at panel with other First Grants
- ■ ■ No closing date








First Grants – Eligibility

- Within 36 months of first academic lecturing post in a UK university
- Completed PhD or equivalent within 10 years of the time you submit proposal
- Hold University position that involves teaching and administrative responsibilities as well as research
- Applying as PI for the first time - except for overseas travel grant and unfunded EPSRC Fellowship applications



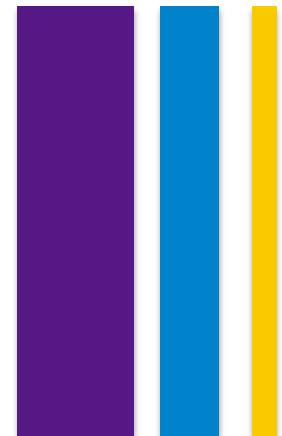
First Grants – Assessment Criteria

-  Quality
-  Importance
-  Impact
-  Ability to Deliver
-  Research Independence
-  Resources and Management
-  Level of University Support





Things to think about



Other things to think about

■ ■ ■ Read the rules:

■ ■ ■ Eligible?

■ ■ ■ Criteria?

■ ■ ■ Use colleagues:

■ ■ ■ Does it make sense?

■ ■ ■ Do they understand it (esp. for multidisciplinary)

■ ■ ■ Get your retaliation in first – answer questions before they're asked



Key points to get across

■ ■ ■ Person – why you?

■ ■ ■ Project – why this?

■ ■ ■ Time – why now?

■ ■ ■ Place – why here (esp. for Fellowship)



 No “thanks”

 Don't counter negatives by emphasising the positives

 Deal with the criticisms

Keep calm!



If in doubt – ask!



Useful Links:

Physical Sciences Contacts:

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/research/ourportfolio/themes/physicalsciences/contacts/>

Preparing a Proposal

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/preparing/>

Funding Guide

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/howtoapply/fundingguide/>

Reviewer forms and guidance notes

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/assessmentprocess/review/rev/>

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