**ESRC Post-doctoral Fellowships 2023-24**

As with every year, The UCL, Bloomsbury and East London Doctoral Training Partnership will be inviting applications for the [ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowship](https://ubel-dtp.ac.uk/current-students/postdoctoral-fellowships/) 2023/24. The new call is not out yet, however, it is unlikely it will change from last year. ESRCPostdoctoral Fellowships are aimed at those in the immediate postdoctoral stage of their career to provide the opportunity to consolidate their PhD through developing publications, their networks, and their research and professional skills. **Fellows must spend 100% of their working time** (whether full-time or part-time) on the fellowship and cannot take any secondary paid employment during the course of the grant. Fellowships will provide funding for up to one year full-time, or up to two years part-time, to cover the fellow’s salary plus up to £10,000 of additional costs (e.g. mentoring costs, travel and subsistence, conference attendance, training, and fieldwork)

The call is open to applicants who have completed their PhD at a research organisation that is part of a [Doctoral Training Centre](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fesrc.ukri.org%2Fskills-and-careers%2Fdoctoral-training%2Fdoctoral-training-centres%2Fdoctoral-training-centre-dtc-contacts%2F&data=04%7C01%7C%7Cdfd9bbdcd9dd4f84752408d897053944%7C1faf88fea9984c5b93c9210a11d9a5c2%7C0%7C0%7C637425395972602496%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=IDbInnotUfKGm%2B9CILhPJGqewN2hy8P1j8PYdYRi4Kg%3D&reserved=0) and who are within 12 months of having completed their PhD. **The 12 months period is calculated from the date of the viva (passed or passed with minor corrections) to the closing date of the full stage application, which should fall approximately on 21st March 2024 (TBC).** In calculating the 12 months the funder will make allowance for career breaks, where the applicant has interrupted their career for family, health or other personal reasons. More on eligibility rules in the attached guidelines and FAQs documents. At the final submission deadline, the applicant must either have been awarded a PhD or have submitted their thesis and passed their viva voce with minor corrections, with the expectation that the PhD will be awarded by the fellowship start date (1st October 2024 mandatory start date).

**At the outline stage** candidates will need to submit an application via the UCL’s [application system](https://ucl.smapply.io/prog/2022_entry_esrc_postdoctoral_fellowships_/), by end of January 2024 (date TBC). UCL and SPP are expected to filter applications beforehand, therefore the Department of Political Science has set their internal deadline at **9am, on** **13th November 2023.** Potential candidates should fill in the ‘**Post-doctoral Fellowship Preliminary form’** and send it to polsci.research@ucl.ac.uk , copying in our Head of Research, Dr Nils Metternich, n.metternich@ucl.ac.uk. Please note the application form template is in PDF format only for the moment, as the online application is not open yet. If necessary, and easier, please copy and paste onto a Word document.

All Fellows are required to have a mentor based at the research organisation where the fellowship will be held. The mentor should have experience and a strong interest in the applicant’s field of research but should not normally have been the applicant’s PhD supervisor. **Therefore candidates must have the support of a Department of Political Science** [**academic**](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/political-science/people/academic-teaching-and-research-staff) **who will act as the mentor and who will have reviewed and commented on the candidate’s proposal before it is submitted to the department for consideration.** Please also note that the mentor will be invited to contribute their letter of support via the UCL online application system by end of Jan 2024.

Candidates will be informed of the departmental selection outcome by 15th December 2023. If selected by the department, candidates will need to copy and paste from the application form template into the UCL online application system and submit their outline to UCL (including mentor’s statement). UCL will communicate outcomes by Feb 2024 and those who have been selected by UCL will work with our research support team (Monica Burgess and Sandy Dhillon/polsci.research@ucl.ac.uk ) on their final application and budget, in order to submit to the funder by end of March 2024.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with polsci.research@ucl.ac.uk