

STFC ERNEST RUTHERFORD FELLOWSHIP - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

[Ernest Rutherford Fellowships \(ERF\)](#) enables early career researchers with clear leadership potential to establish a strong, independent research programme.

The Ernest Rutherford Fellowships are intended for early career researchers who do not have an academic position.

Fellowships may be held at an eligible UK research organisation with an STFC ERF quota.

The **Department of Physics and Astronomy** at the **University of Sussex** has an Ernest Rutherford Fellowship quota. To be considered as a candidate to be put forward please complete this template for the departmental selection process.

Expressions of interest should include:

- **Vision - What you are hoping to achieve with your proposed work?**

Explain how your proposed work:

- is of excellent quality and importance within or beyond the field(s) or area(s)
- has the potential to advance current understanding, or generate new knowledge, thinking or discovery within or beyond the field or area of its focus
- is timely, given current trends, context, and needs
- impacts world-leading research, society, the economy or the environment
- identify the potential direct or indirect benefits and who the beneficiaries might be

- **Approach – How are you going to deliver your proposed work?**

Explain how you have designed your work so that it:

- is effective and appropriate to achieve your objectives
- is feasible, and comprehensively identifies any risks to delivery and how you will manage them
- uses a clearly written and transparent methodology (if applicable)
- summarises the previous work and describes how you will build on and progress this work (if applicable)
- will maximise translation of outputs into outcomes and impacts

- **Capability to deliver – Why are you the right individual to successfully deliver the proposed work?**

Evidence of how you have:

- the relevant experience (appropriate to career stage) to make best use of the benefits presented by this funding opportunity to develop your career
- the right balance of skills and aptitude to deliver the proposed work
- contributed to developing a positive research environment and wider community
- the appropriate team working or leadership skills (appropriate to career stage)

- **Career Development**

Ensure you identify:

- career development goals appropriate to the fellowship funding opportunity
- how the fellowship will provide a feasible and appropriate trajectory for your personal development and to achieve your stated career development goals (as appropriate to your career stage and field)
- how you will instigate positive change in the wider research and innovation community, for example through Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), advocacy or advisory roles, stakeholder engagement, participation in peer review, influencing policy, public engagement, or outreach

- **List top five research publications or outputs.**

The department will use the criteria above to assess your expression of interest.

Expressions of interest should be submitted to Professor Stephen Wilkins
S.Wilkins@sussex.ac.uk

Deadline for consideration: 10th July 2025

If you are selected as a candidate to put forward for an STFC Ernest Rutherford Fellowship, we will work with you to prepare the application using the full ERF assessment criteria.

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Name:
Email address:
Vision - What you are hoping to achieve with your proposed work? <i>Word limit: 500</i>
Approach – How are you going to deliver your proposed work? <i>Word limit: 1500</i>
Capability to deliver – Why are you the right individual to successfully deliver the proposed work? <i>Word limit: 500</i>
Career development – Why is this fellowship the right way to develop your career and how will you use it to benefit others? <i>Word limit: 500</i>
List top five research publications or outputs. <i>Word limit: 500</i>

Monitoring diversity (Optional)

Research organisation to add relevant questions to collect EDI data using the organisation's normal processes to ensure compliance with public sector equality duty. Add if this information is not collected elsewhere.