
Turing Fellow Call 2023 - Frequently Asked Questions

Contents

Introduction	2
What are Turing Fellowships?	2
<i>Is funding available for Turing Fellows?</i>	2
Eligibility criteria	2
<i>Who is eligible to apply for a Turing Fellowship?</i>	2
<i>Are early career researchers or PhD students eligible?</i>	2
<i>Can current Turing Fellows apply?</i>	3
<i>Can I apply for a Turing Fellowship if I work part-time?</i>	3
<i>Can those currently employed at or seconded to the Turing apply to this call?</i>	3
<i>What is the remit of this call? Which disciplines are eligible?</i>	3
How will diversity be monitored?	3
Fellowship duration and future calls	4
<i>What are the dates of appointment?</i>	4
<i>Will there be future calls and who will they be open to?</i>	4
<i>If applicants are unsuccessful, will they be able to reapply in future calls?</i>	4
Eligible organisations	4
<i>Do I need to be employed at a UK university or research institute to apply?</i>	4
<i>Can I apply from a non-UK organisation?</i>	4
<i>How should I secure support from my employing organisation?</i>	4
<i>Does my employing organisation need to commit buy-out/FTE for my application to be considered?</i>	4
<i>Is the Fellowship transferable if the holder moves to another organisation?</i>	5
Application and assessment process	5
<i>How will my application be assessed?</i>	5
<i>Can I get feedback on my application?</i>	5
<i>Is there a cap on the number of fellowships granted?</i>	5

Introduction

This Frequently Asked Questions document has been created to complement the Turing Fellow Call Document and to provide applicants with an additional resource when completing the application stage.

Please ensure you have read the Call Document before reading this document and applying to the Turing Fellow scheme.

If you have any questions or experience any difficulties completing the application, please email fellowship@turing.ac.uk.

What are Turing Fellowships?

An outline of the Turing Fellow scheme, including its aims, a definition of a Turing Fellow, eligibility criteria and expectations on Turing Fellows are all included in the Call Document.

Is funding available for Turing Fellows?

Turing Fellowships within this call are offered on an unfunded basis with various benefits that being part of the Turing's vibrant, interdisciplinary, and collaborative research community brings. The fellowships are a development opportunity for future leaders and researchers will need time available to maximise the impact of their fellowship. Those with a high workload and limited time are unlikely to do so.

Fellows will be informed during their fellowship if additional funding becomes available (e.g seed funding, or funding for events).

Fellows can claim reasonable travel and subsistence-related expenses as part of their fellowship (Turing Expenses Policy will apply).

Eligibility criteria

Who is eligible to apply for a Turing Fellowship?

The full eligibility criteria are listed in the Call Document. Applicants should consult these alongside the assessment criteria. Please note that the Fellowships team cannot confirm a candidate's eligibility prior to submission of an application.

Are early career researchers or PhD students eligible?

Turing Fellowships are aimed at established researchers with the potential to be the next generation of world leaders. They have made important contributions to their research area, (e.g. publications, patents, software development or an impact on policy), are likely leading a programme of research, and have significant postdoctoral research experience.

Whilst there is no set number of years' experience for eligible applicants to this call, applicants are expected to demonstrate substantial contributions listed in the assessment criteria. It is very unlikely those who are studying towards a PhD or have recently completed their PhD will have the relevant experience to meet this criterion.

The Turing has a range of researcher development opportunities for early career researchers [here](#).

Can current Turing Fellows apply?

Current Turing Fellows wishing to be part of the 2024-2025 Fellowship cohort are welcome to apply as part of this call. All current Turing Fellows received an update and information on 5 July 2023 regarding how this call impacts their current fellowship. If you have not received this email, please contact fellowship@turing.ac.uk.

Can I apply for a Turing Fellowship if I work part-time?

Yes, applicants who work part-time at a UK university or research institute are eligible to apply.

Can those currently employed at or seconded to the Turing apply to this call?

Turing Fellowships are designed for researchers who wish to engage with the Institute in a meaningful way and develop links and ties that continue beyond the lifetime of their fellowship (i.e. Turing Fellowships can be springboard to more substantial engagement with the Institute). The scheme is designed to introduce new academic talent to the Turing on an annual basis.

For this reason, those currently employed at or seconded to the Turing are not normally eligible to apply. Most opportunities and benefits available to Turing Fellows are also available to Turing staff and secondees and the fellowships will be most impactful to the Institute and the individual when non-staff/secondees can apply.

What is the remit of this call? Which disciplines are eligible?

Applicants should be conducting research in the fields of data science, artificial intelligence or a related field to be eligible for this call. Each Turing Fellow call will focus on priority areas of strategic importance for the Institute which fellows will support and contribute to during their fellowship. Applicants for this call must have knowledge and expertise in at least one of the following areas:

1. Science and Innovation: Environment and Sustainability
2. Science and Innovation: Fundamental Research in Data Science and AI
3. Build skills for the future
4. Driving an informed public conversation

Further information on these four areas can be found in Appendix 1 in the Call Document.

Please note that the Fellowships team cannot confirm a candidate's eligibility prior to submission of an application.

How will diversity be monitored?

All applicants will have the option of completing a monitoring form as part of the application process. This will allow the Institute to report on its equality and diversity aims. The completion of this form is voluntary, but the information it contains helps us to better understand the composition of our organisation and examine our practices fully. The information you provide will be kept confidentially in line with our Privacy Notice and will not be used as part of the application review and decision-making process.

All personal information will be treated in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act (2018) and UK GDPR, and the data used for statistical monitoring will be

anonymised and published in a way that does not allow individuals to be identified.

If you would like to discuss reasonable adjustments with us, please follow the guidance in the Call Document.

Fellowship duration and future calls

What are the dates of appointment?

All successful applicants will be appointed as Turing Fellows from January 2024 for 24 months until 31 December 2025.

Will there be future calls and who will they be open to?

Details around eligibility, terms and conditions, timeframe and frequency of future calls are to be confirmed.

If applicants are unsuccessful, will they be able to reapply in future calls?

Yes, provided they meet any eligibility criteria outlined in future Turing Fellow calls.

Eligible organisations

Do I need to be employed at a UK university or research institute to apply?

Yes, for this Turing Fellow Call, applicants must hold an employment contract at a UK university or research institute (that is eligible to receive UKRI funding). Honorary positions at a UK university or research institute cannot be considered unless a contract of employment is in place.

Can I apply from a non-UK organisation?

For this particular call, applications will only be accepted from researchers employed at a UK university or research institute.

How should I secure support from my employing organisation?

Applicants need to secure the approval of their Head of Department, line manager or equivalent, prior to applying. The Institute does not require this in writing and a university/employer letter of support **is not required**. Applicants will indicate they have the required approval from their Head of Department, line manager or equivalent as part of the application process.

Does my employing organisation need to commit buy-out/FTE for my application to be considered?

There is no specified time commitment required to become a Turing Fellow. Universities may wish to contribute their researcher's time via a Turing Fellowship as an in-kind contribution to the Institute, but this is not a requirement and will not be considered when assessing an application. The time commitment required is more akin to a volunteer or honorary position at the Institute.

Should a Turing Fellow become substantially involved with a specific Turing project or initiative, the Institute may provide funding/buy-out via a separate formal agreement.

Is the Fellowship transferable if the holder moves to another organisation?

Turing Fellowships may be transferred if the fellowship holder moves to another organisation before the end date of the Fellowship, subject to agreement from the new employing institution and the Turing (terms may vary dependent on the host organisation).

Application and assessment process

A full overview of the application process, including eligibility and assessment criteria, and reasonable adjustment, is available in the Call Document.

How will my application be assessed?

Turing Fellowship applications need to meet the eligibility and assessment criteria as set out in the Call Document. After an initial eligibility check, all applications will be checked against the eligibility criteria for this call, and then assessed by a review panel against the assessment criteria. The Institute will seek to appointment Turing Fellows across all four priority areas identified.

Recommendations for Turing Fellowships will be approved by the Institute's Executive Committee.

Shortlisted applicants will not be required to participate in an interview stage as shortlisting will be carried out by panel review of the application form and associated documents.

Further information, including the application timeline, is available in the Call Document.

Can I get feedback on my application?

We anticipate a large number of applications for this call and are therefore unable to provide feedback on individual applications.

Is there a cap on the number of fellowships granted?

Yes, we anticipate awarding 50 Turing Fellows as part of the 2023 call.