

HAPP at Queen's University Belfast invites expressions of interest (EOIs) from early-career researchers proposing to undertake original, innovative, and high-quality research through the [Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship \(2025\)](#).

The scheme offers funding for outstanding early-career researchers who have not yet held a full-time permanent post in a UK university. Fellowships are funded for three years, including salary costs and research expenses of up to £6,000 p.a.

Our collegial research environment and thriving [Fellowship Academy](#) support academics at every career stage to carry out unique research on topics of local, national, and global importance. Recent and ongoing projects funded by the Leverhulme Trust at the University over the past five years include a portfolio of 35 awards worth over £6.5M, of which over a third are fellowships.

Interested applicants should first contact a member of staff to establish whether their proposed research meshes with our areas of expertise. Staff profiles can be found via the [Queen's University Belfast Research Portal](#). When contacting staff, applicants should clearly state why their proposed research is of relevance to the chosen department.

Eligibility

Full eligibility criteria are available via the [Leverhulme Trust](#). Applicants should familiarise themselves with all relevant conditions, including:

- applicants **must hold a doctorate or have equivalent research experience by the time they take up the Fellowship** and must not yet have held a full-time permanent academic post in a UK university.
- applicants **must hold a degree (any degree) from a UK higher education institution** at the time of taking up the Fellowship or hold an academic position in the UK which commenced no less than 4 months prior to application closing date.
- applications from those with a doctorate must have submitted their doctoral thesis for viva voce examination **by 4pm on 20 February 2025**.
- applicants **who formally submitted their doctoral thesis for viva voce examination before 20 February 2021 are not eligible to apply** unless they have since had a career break.

Please Note – The Leverhulme Trust do not fund studies of disease, illness and disabilities in humans and animals, research that is intended to inform clinical practice, or the development of medical or commercial applications. Research where advocacy is an explicit component or policy-driven research where the principal objective is to assemble an evidence base for policy initiatives, is also ineligible. Please ensure your proposal aligns with the [Leverhulme Trust's assessment criteria](#).

Application Process

Prior to submission of Expressions of Interest, we request that prospective applicants complete an [Intention to Submit](#) form. We will then provide a link to the online Expression of Interest Portal.

Following internal review of Expressions of Interest, shortlisted applicants will be contacted in December 2024 to work on their final application with support from Research Development staff and their mentor before the submission deadline of 20 February 2025.

Key dates:

Activity	Stage
Intention to Submit	Open
Expression of Interest	21 November 2024
Internal Review	December 2024
Decision Expected	w/c 16 December 2024
Develop Application	January-February 2025
Funder Deadline	20 February 2025

For further information on postdoctoral life at Queen's, visit our [Postdoctoral Development Centre](#).