THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Newton International Fellowships 2026 - Summary Eligibility Checklist

The below document is for your reference only. You **do not** need to submit this document to the Royal Society for your application to be considered.

This list is not exhaustive but contains frequent areas of enquiry. You may be able to find the answer to your questions in the Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage) for the round. Please check all relevant documents before contacting the Grants Team. Queries related to the Newton International Fellowship can be directed to info@newtonfellowships.org

SECTION A: Eligibility criteria

If you answer 'yes' to all questions in Section A, you are eligible to apply.

Questions 1-6 detail mandatory eligibility criteria. Questions 7 and 8 give guidance on eligibility criteria for exceptional circumstances.

Number	Criteria	Yes/No
1	Have you completed, or do you expect to complete, your PhD before the closing date for applications (11 March 2026)?	
2	Has it been less than five years since you obtained your PhD? For guidance and exceptions, including for career breaks, please refer to **Section 4: Eligibility** in the Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage).	
3	Is your proposed research subject area covered by the remit of the Royal Society? Please see our website here for further information. Applicants for social sciences and humanities should apply to the British Academy.	
4	Do you have citizenship of a country outside the UK? **Please note:** you may still answer yes if you hold dual citizenship with the UK, if you have lived outside the UK for all or the majority of your life.	
5	Are you currently living, working or studying outside the UK? **Please note:** if you are working outside the UK but employed by a UK organisation you are not eligible to apply.	
6	Do you intend to apply to an eligible UK Host Organisation and with a Sponsor who is based at the same UK Host Organisation?	

	Please note: you can only be based at **one** UK host Organisation with **one** UK Sponsor, who must be based at the same Organisation as you. Please see here for guidance on Host Organisations.	
7	If you have visited the UK in the 12 months prior to application, have these visits been less than three months in total? If no, then you are ineligible to apply. **Please note:** The exception to this is if you are a refugee in the UK according to the Geneva Convention or have humanitarian protection status.	
8	Did you complete your PhD at a university outside the UK? If no, please answer 8a and 8b below. **Please note:** If the answers to both 8a and 8b are "yes", then you are eligible to apply.	
8a	*Please complete this question only if you answered "no" to question 8.* a) Have you been based outside the UK for more than 12 months prior to submitting your application?	
8b	*Please complete this question only if you answered "no" to question 8.* b) Will your Fellowship be based at a different eligible UK Host Organisation to where you completed your PhD?	

If you are eligible to apply, please go to SECTION B

SECTION B: Application requirements

Please see the page one of this document for details of our Scheme Notes and email address for queries. Most answers to Section B will require a "yes" answer in order for you to apply for the Newton International Fellowship, but please see individual questions for more information and exceptions to this.

Number	Criteria	Yes/No
Eligible Referees and Supporting Statements		
1	**One nominated referee:** **Please note:** referees cannot be based at the same UK Host Organisation you are applying to. More information about referees can be found in our Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage) under **Section 6: References and Participants**	
2	**Departmental support:** Do you have Head of Department support that covers the commitments outlined in the Scheme Notes from the UK Host Organisation you wish to apply to? **Please note:** If your UK Sponsor is also the Head of Department, then please provide an alternative supporting statement from the Deputy Head or Head of School. More information about Departmental support can be found in our Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage) under **Section 4.4: Commitments from the Host Organisation**	
Duration of Fellowship		
3	Is the expected duration of your Fellowship exactly two years? **Please note:** we do not accept applications for less than or more than two years in duration unless the grant holder plans to hold the fellowship part-time for health reasons or caring responsibilities. Please see our Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage) for more information.	
4	Are your proposed Fellowship start dates between 01 October 2026 and 31 March 2027? **Please check the proposed start and end dates of your Fellowship:** for example, if your Fellowship starts on 01 October 2026, it will end on 30 September 2028. If your Fellowship starts on 31 March 2027, it will end on 30 March 2029.	

Host Organisation Eligibility		
5	Is your proposed UK Host an eligible organisation? Please see here for further information on eligible organisations. **Please note:** Your UK Host Organisation will be required to approve your application.	
Sponsor Eligibility		
6	Is your UK Sponsor an established independent researcher of at least postdoctoral status?	
7	Is your UK Sponsor on a permanent or fixed term contract at your UK Host Organisation for the duration of your proposed fellowship?	
8	Are you the only Newton International Fellowship candidate your UK Sponsor is supporting in this round of applications? **Please note**: Sponsors are limited to supporting one application per round. This does not mean one application per institution, it means that each UK academic Sponsor can only support one application in any round.	
Fieldwork (if applicable)		
9	If you are planning to conduct fieldwork outside of the UK as part of your research, will this be less than one month per annum? If no, please answer 8a. **Please note:** fieldwork is optional. Fieldwork trips outside the UK must not normally total more than one month per annum. Please see our Scheme Notes (available on the scheme webpage) for more information	
10a	If your answer to 8 is “no”, have you explained clearly within your application form the reason for requesting fieldwork trips of exceptionally more than one month per annum?	