

UCL BHF Centre of Research Excellence

Springboard Fellowships

The [UCL BHF Centre for Research Excellence](#) (CRE) is offering new fellowship opportunities to outstanding post-doctoral researchers, with exceptional research track records for their career stage. We seek to recruit and support the highest calibre early & mid-career researchers (E&MCRs) to establish their independent career and become the cardiovascular research leaders of the future. The call is open to internal (UCL) and external (non-UCL) applicants, and the research must be inter-disciplinary with a specific focus on one or more of the UCL BHF CRE themes: [Therapeutic Innovation in Rare and Inherited CVD](#), [Engineered Solutions for Structural and Congenital Heart Disease](#), [Heart and Brain](#), and [Ethnicity and Cardiometabolic Health](#).

The UCL BHF CRE Springboard Fellowships aims to enable fellows to establish themselves at UCL and consolidate their position nationally and internationally. Springboard Fellows can be from clinical and non-clinical backgrounds, and work across the full range of disciplines in cardiovascular sciences, including clinical, basic, applied and population health science, engineering and computer science.

Fellows are provided with a competitive salary and research expenses for up to 2 years to enable candidates to prepare competitive applications for externally-funded fellowships or major personal awards. These external fellowship/personal award are expected to be from one of the UK national funding bodies, such as the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), the Wellcome Trust, the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) or the BHF, or international funding bodies, such as the European Research Council (ERC), the Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum (GCRFF) and the National Institute of Health (NIH), amongst others.

Overview

Candidates: Early & mid-career researchers (UCL grade 7, 8, 9 or equivalent), clinical or non-clinical, from any institution (not limited to internal UCL), and working across a range of disciplines in cardiovascular sciences.

Candidates are expected to have completed their doctoral studies by the start of the fellowship and have an exceptional track record in their research field, with a growing reputation for the quality of their research and competitive for a national/international personal fellowship/major award.

Duration: up to 2 years (can be held on a part-time basis up to 3 years)

Fellows are expected to apply for external funding (e.g. fellowship/ major award) within the first year (e.g., BHF Intermediate Fellowship, Wellcome Career Development Award, MRC Career Development Award, UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship, ERC Starting/Consolidator grant, etc.).

Sponsor

All applicants must secure a UCL Sponsor prior to application. The Sponsor must be a senior academic (e.g. UCL BHF CRE Theme Lead/co-Lead, UCL Head of Research Department, Institute Director, UCL Group Leader) working in any relevant domain.

A letter must be provided by the Sponsor detailing the support, space and facilities that will be provided to the applicant to springboard their independent research.

Potential applicants should discuss their interest with at least one of the CRE Theme Leads/co-Leads before submitting their application, if their selected Sponsor is not already one of these. The CRE Theme Leads or co-Leads together with the Sponsor will act as mentors during the preparation of the external fellowship/ major award application.

For external candidates, the UCL Sponsor is expected to support the candidate in submission of the application form (non-UCL users cannot upload the required files to the UCL submission form) together with preparation of the proposal's budget according to UCL requirements (Worktribe).

What is offered

This scheme will provide a personal salary and research consumables (up to £10,000 per year) for a limited period of up to 2 years (or 3 years part-time). Posts will be offered at UCL Grades 7, 8 or 9, depending on experience. Clinical applicants will be appointed at the appropriate clinical scale. Please note that grade 10 and consultant salaries will not be covered by this programme. The fellowship should be activated any time from 1st May 2025 and no later than 31st October 2025.

How to apply:

Applications should be submitted using this [MS Form](#) by **5pm (GMT) on Friday 28th February 2025**. Please note that together with the project description, you will be required to upload a full CV (UCL template, in pdf format), and a Worktribe costing (non-UCL applicants please seek Sponsor support for this as explained above). Applications will be reviewed by the UCL BHF CRE Executive Board, together with additional expert reviews, if necessary.

Shortlisted applicants will be notified by 19th March 2025 and interviews will be held between the last week of March and the first week in April 2025.