



## NIHR Research Professorships & Global Health Research Professorships

### Guidance for UCL internal selection process

Internal applications are invited for the round 11 NIHR Research Professorships (**RP**) and round 4 NIHR Global Health Research Professorships (**GHRP**) calls. UCL may submit a maximum of **two** applications to the RS call and a maximum of **one** application to the GHRP call. Thus, UCL is implementing an internal review and selection process overseen by SLMS Faculty Deans and Senior Academic. Where two nominees are put forward for the RP call, **at least one of them must be female**. It is expected that these calls will open in September with a deadline in November 2020. UCL is opening the internal selection process before the calls open to enable successful nominees to have sufficient time to prepare strong bids given the prestigious and highly competitive nature of these professorships. The below notes are based on the previous rounds and hence, may be subject to change.

#### Important dates:

UCL's timeline	
UCL deadline for internal applications	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020 (12:00 lunch time)</b>
Shortlisting of written applications	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
Shortlisted candidate interviews	<b>28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (15:00 – 17:00)</b>
NIHR's timeline (anticipated)	
Calls open	September 2020 (TBC)
Deadline for stage 1 applications	November 2020 (TBC)
Calls for stage 2 applications open	April 2021 (TBC)
Deadline for stage 2 applications	May 2021 (TBC)
Interviews	June 2021 (TBC)

**Scope:** Five year personal award to fund outstanding early career academics to develop research capacity in translational research, promote effective translation of research ('bench to bedside [T1] and 'campus to clinic' [T2]) and strengthen research leadership at the highest academic levels.

**Funder website:** [NIHR Research Professorships](#) , see [full guidance](#) (from round 10 for RP); [NIHR Global Health Research Professorships](#), see [full guidance](#) (round 3 for GHRP).

**Budget:** max £2m (average cost of bids to be between £1.5 - £1.7m). Eligible costs include: salary of the fellow, 3 support posts, research costs, travel expenses, leadership development, sabbaticals. Full cost of clinical trials is not eligible.

#### Key Eligibility and Remit Criteria for both RP & GHRP calls:

- Applicants should be working in experimental medicine, public health, health services research, social care research or methodological approaches, seen as research leaders within their field in the UK or abroad and having a demonstrable record in effective translation of research into improved health, public health or adult social care.
- Competitive candidates need to demonstrate a steep career trajectory over the last 5-10 years on course to becoming outstanding leaders. They will currently be at an early career stage having spent **NO MORE** than 5 years at their current level of seniority (Professor, Reader, Senior Lecturer/Fellow, Clinical Scientist, Group Leader or similar) at the time of application (Nov 2020). Applicants close to / at the Professorial Level should be qualified for a professorship within the coming few years or recently have been appointed as Full Professor (not Associate or Assistant).
- Established leaders are not eligible, only applicants at an upward trajectory to become ones at the end of the award. NIHR Senior Investigators are not eligible either.
- Non-medical healthcare, public health and social care professions (e.g. social scientists, health economists, bio-informatics, clinical psychologists, nutritionists, research scientists) are particularly encouraged to apply. For those not directly involved in delivering clinical, public health or care services, you will need to demonstrate how you will link with clinical, public health or care practice colleagues in order to deliver your research for the benefit of patients, public health or adult social care users.

- NIHR supports early translational, clinical and applied health research, public health and care research. The proposal must have **clear potential for benefitting patients, public health and care users and carers**. The research can involve: patients, the public, care users and/or carers; and/or their samples or data; populations; health technology assessment; or health services research. Please note these calls **do not support basic research or work involving animals or their tissue**.
- **Specifically for the RP call:** as the lead (employing) organisation will be a HEI, the application should make clear the arrangements with partner organisation(s) (e.g. NHS, public health, social care services) which will enable the nominee to work with service providers to translate research into practice. The majority of RPs' time will be spent on research; however a continuing link with service delivery will be an essential part of funded professorships. In this regard, RPs will be funded to continue to spend up to 2 sessions per week delivering service directly or, if the nominee is not a health, public health or care professional, an equivalent time collaborating with others to facilitate service delivery.
- **Specifically for the GHRP call:** applicants' proposal must fulfil the below ODA eligibility criteria with the research focussed on people in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs). Applications must demonstrate:
  - Which country or countries on the [OECD DAC list](#) of ODA eligible countries will directly benefit
  - How the application is directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of those countries
  - How the outcomes will promote the health and welfare of a country or countries on the [OECD DAC list](#).
- For the GHRP call, collaboration with researchers in OECD DAC list countries is essential. GHRP nominees will be required to have existing strong collaborations or links with collaborators or partners in institutions in countries on the [OECD DAC list](#) and the award should plan to strengthen these/support training and capacity development/mentorship in these partners.
- As in the case of RPs, GHRPs will be funded to spend the equivalent time (up to 2 sessions per week) delivering services directly in the relevant LMIC or have relevant collaborations which can be supported to fulfil this. Equally, if the nominee is not a health professional, an equivalent time collaborating with others to facilitate service delivery in the relevant LMIC.
- NIHR advice is that applicants who are already Professors would need a clear justification as to what benefit this award would bring to their upward career trajectory and how it would change their potential to be a leader in their field. In practice, NIHR are certainly willing to fund Professors if the above is addressed.
- Successful proposals must have clear potential for benefitting patients and public.
- These are **personal awards, not programme grants**. Applications must clearly demonstrate the principal investigator's leadership role and research vision, and the plan for how the award would be transformative to the candidate's career.
- Key institutional commitments: a) support the ongoing employment of the applicants beyond the duration of the award b) explain how any funds freed up by the award will be recycled to increase research capacity c) support the project and the applicants' leadership development.

### Instructions for internal selection process

- Please review carefully the PDF file with the Guidance Notes for both calls from round 10 (RP call) and 3 (GHRP call), available on [SLMS Research Facilitators](#) webpage.
- The UCL internal application comprises two documents:
  1. **Expression of Interest (EOI) form** (complete using Arial 11pt)
  2. **A letter of support signed by the relevant Divisional/Institute Director** (max 2 A4 pages)
    - This must confirm that the relevant Division/Institute Director supports the candidate and their ongoing employment beyond the duration of the award and that the candidate will be provided the required space and resources as well as relief (if applicable) from teaching or administration duties to focus on the professorship.
    - Indicate when the applicant is expected to be appointed as full professor, and if already a professor why they still qualify and how this award will impact their potential to become established leaders.
    - Indicate any additional support to be provided to applicants to become established leaders in their field. Further, explain how the applicant's salary costs will be recycled to increase research capacity. Finally, explain how this proposal aligns with the Division's strategic priorities.

- Please combine the completed EOI form and signed LoS into a single PDF file and submit the application to [slms.facilitators@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:slms.facilitators@ucl.ac.uk), indicating “NIHR RP 2020/21” or “NIHR GHRP 2020/21” in the subject line followed by the **applicant’s name**.
- Please keep the interview date of 28<sup>th</sup> September clear in your calendar: we are unable to offer alternatives.

*Late submissions to the internal deadline will not be accepted.*

**Questions?** Please refer to Guidance Notes and FAQs on [SLMS Research Facilitators](#) webpage. If you can’t find the answer to your question, please contact [slms.facilitators@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:slms.facilitators@ucl.ac.uk).