

### LEVERHULME EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIPS 2025/26 (PCI internal version)

### INTERNAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Full details of the scheme are on the Trust’s website at [Early Career Fellowships | The Leverhulme Trust](https://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/early-career-fellowships)

Please ensure that you have carefully read the eligibility criteria before completing this form.

The School wishes to ensure that it supports its best applicants and is asking for the completion of Expressions of Interest to identify the candidates it wishes to support. Those selected will then be offered detailed peer review on their full draft applications prior to the deadline.

**If you wish to be considered, please provide the information requested below and overleaf and return it electronically to L.M.Watson@leeds.ac.uk no later than 9am on Monday 1 December 2025.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Email |  |

**Eligibility**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| I confirm I have not held a full-time permanent/ ongoing academic post in a UK university or comparable UK institution |  |
| I confirm that I have/will have submitted my thesis for examination by 4pm on 19 February 2026 |  |
| I confirm that (if applicable) I submitted my thesis for examination on or after 19 February 2022 |  |
| I confirm that I **either** hold a degree from a UK higher education institution, or that I hold a fixed term academic position in the UK which started before October 2025 |  |
| I confirm that I have not already held a three-year post-doc project or position which allowed me to pursue my own research |  |
| Date of submission of PhD and University  Please note that this is not the date of award |  |

**Mentor from the School of Performance and Cultural Industries**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of project mentor in PCI | Confirmation that your PCI mentor has read your project proposal and is willing to support the project in principle |
|  |  |

**Please also submit the following documents as part of your application:**

1. **Outline case for support/project proposal (maximum 3 sides of A4)**

This should include the following:

* Your project title;
* Your project abstract (maximum of 100 words) – please use non-technical terms so as to be easily comprehensible to a non-expert;
* a more detailed description of your proposed project;
* a brief timeline mapping out your plan of activity across the three years of the project;
* an explanation of how the project will contribute to your career development and the skills you would hope to develop over the course of the fellowship.

1. **Why Leeds?**

A separate document providing us with a brief explanation (no more than 300 words) of why your research project would be best carried out in the School of Performance and Cultural Industries at the University of Leeds.

Please note that the Leverhulme Trust believes that the development of an academic career is best served by gaining experience at different institutions. Applicants who have not already moved institutions in the course of their academic career (i.e. between their undergraduate university and proposed host institution) should nominate a new host institution, or otherwise demonstrate clear evidence of the academic and/or personal reasons for remaining at the same institution, such as access to highly specialist equipment or a highly specialised research team.

1. **CV (maximum 2 sides A4)**

This should include contact details, qualifications (including class and subject), and a list of your most relevant and recent publications.

## CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

**I confirm that I have attached the following to my completed Expression of Interest:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Case for support/project proposal |  |
| Why Leeds? |  |
| CV |  |

**FOR INFORMATION**

**Timeline of the PCI shortlisting process for the Leverhulme ECRF scheme 2026**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 9am 1December 2025 | Deadline for PCI applicants to submit their EoI and three attachments |
| Late December 2025 | * PCI applicants to be informed of the outcome of their application. * Only shortlisted candidates will be asked to prepare their full applications for peer review by key School colleagues. |

Your prospective mentor should be prepared to offer informal/ongoing peer review on draft project proposals and other required documents at all stages of the process, including in the build-up to the internal PCI deadline. You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the advice and peer review which they can offer.