

Succeed and Lead Fellowship Programme Participation Criteria

The Succeed and Lead Fellowship Programme provides a suite of academic, research and career development supports to talented and ambitious researchers identified as future leaders in their chosen fields. Each Succeed and Lead Fellow will undertake a personalised, training programme while conducting innovative research in education and health sciences. Under the mentorship of world-renowned researchers at UL, these Fellows will produce high-quality research and communicate their work to the academic community and wider public.

The Succeed and Lead Fellowship Programme currently has the capacity to accept 10 Fellows. There will be a call for applications twice annually, subject to availability.

There are two routes of entry onto the programme:

1. Internally funded Fellowships (Dean's Fellowships) who will receive automatic entry onto the programme as this is a condition of their award.
2. Applicants holding an externally funded individual fellowship (MSCA IF, IRC Post-doctoral fellowship, Health Research Board ARPP Fellowship etc) or post-doctoral research contract meeting the service criteria¹ outlined below.

This programme is open to all post-doctoral researchers, fulfilling the participation criteria (both the applicant and research leader) regardless of funding source.

1. Post-doctoral Fellow:

The Succeed and Lead programme is primarily focused at early career researchers, and applicants would typically have less than eight years' post-doctoral experience. However, we have not imposed eligibility rules based on years of post-doctoral experience in order to allow for variations of career paths across disciplines. Candidates will be assessed on their quality, potential, track record and fit with the programme, relative to their career stage.

Applicants should typically:

1. be post-doctoral researchers holding contract of greater than 18 months in duration¹.
 - make a commitment to the training and development programme.
 - have an excellent academic track record relative to their career stage
 - demonstrate their potential and ambition to become a future research leader

¹ Service Criteria: Applicant's must be employed by the University (whether permanent or fixed term) for each of the following periods:-

a) at the time of any application submitted, and

b) for the full 18 month duration of the programme from its commencement to its conclusion, noting that the actual programme commencement date will reasonable time lag from the application date.

The objective justification for this criteria is to ensure the programme available is considered only for applicants that will be capable from the outset of undertaking the programme in full. It is not possible to consider persons who do not meet the service criteria as they are not be in a position to commit to the completion of the programme. Thus the above service criteria are deemed reasonable and necessary in that regard.

2. Research Leaders

Within the context of the Succeed and Lead programme Faculty members/ Principal investigators who participate and provide mentorship to post-doctoral research Fellows are defined as Research Leaders.

- Research Leaders must be willing to actively participate in the programme activities including attendance at steering group and quarterly meetings.
- If the applicant has been recruited through a research grant. The grant holder must confirm that time will be available for the Fellow to complete the training and development aspects of the programme.
- The scope of the research grant must provide an opportunity for development of an independent research portfolio in line with the ethos of the programme. Research project ideas will be co-created by the Fellows and a research leader, leveraging the research interests and achievements of both individuals and aligned to the Faculty priority research areas and cross cutting themes.

Application Process:

Applications should consist of:

1. Completed application forms (Signed by applicant and research leader) and which includes:
 - Description of key research achievements (max 500 words)
 - Statement of career goals and motivation to join the programme (max 500 words)
 - Statement of support from the research leader endorsing the applicant, stating their commitment to support the Fellow in developing their research portfolio and outlining their commitment to the ethos of programme (max 500 words)
2. Current CV (no more than 5 pages)

Completed applications should be returned to: succeedandlead@ul.ie

Shortlisting of applicants for interview will be based on the following criteria:

Applicant excellence (50%), alignment of career goals with ethos the programme (25%), supervisor support (25%).

Applications will be reviewed by an internal panel consisting of at least 3 members from:

- EHS executive Dean (or nominee)
- EHS ADR
- Member of the steering group
- Representative of the relevant research institute (HRI or NISE)
- EHS Research Funding Officer
- Human Resources Representative

Where any of the above members are a research leader associated with an applicant, this person will not form part of the review panel. All shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by a single panel and research leaders associated with any applicant will not form part of that panel. Applicants will be selected on merit.