

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

585 eligible applications. 40 offers.

The Royal Society reports a 6.8% award rate for 2024/25. These are eligible applications and offers, not a diagnosis of why the others were unsuccessful.

6.8%

2024/25 PUBLISHED AWARD RATE

The figures exclude upgraded reserves. Treat them as historical scheme context, not your personal odds and not a prediction for the 2027 round.

CURRENT 2027 ROUND

9 Sep

CLOSING DATE

The public page says 9 September 2026. Confirm the portal before submission.

£1.91m

PUBLISHED MAXIMUM

Up to £1,907,400 over eight years. This is a ceiling, not an expected award.

3 to 8

YEARS SINCE PHD

Research-experience window, excluding career breaks. Other eligibility rules apply.

THREE PREFLIGHT QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU WRITE DEEPER

1

Career clock

Can you evidence three to eight years of research experience, with relevant career breaks excluded?

2

Independence

Does your current role meet the scheme's restrictions on permanent or tenure-track positions?

3

Scale

Does the proposed duration and cost fit the current scheme notes and host arrangements?

Round closes 9 September 2026. This is a dated preparation brief. Re-check the live scheme page, notes, and application portal before relying on a rule.

Official sources: [Royal Society URF](#)

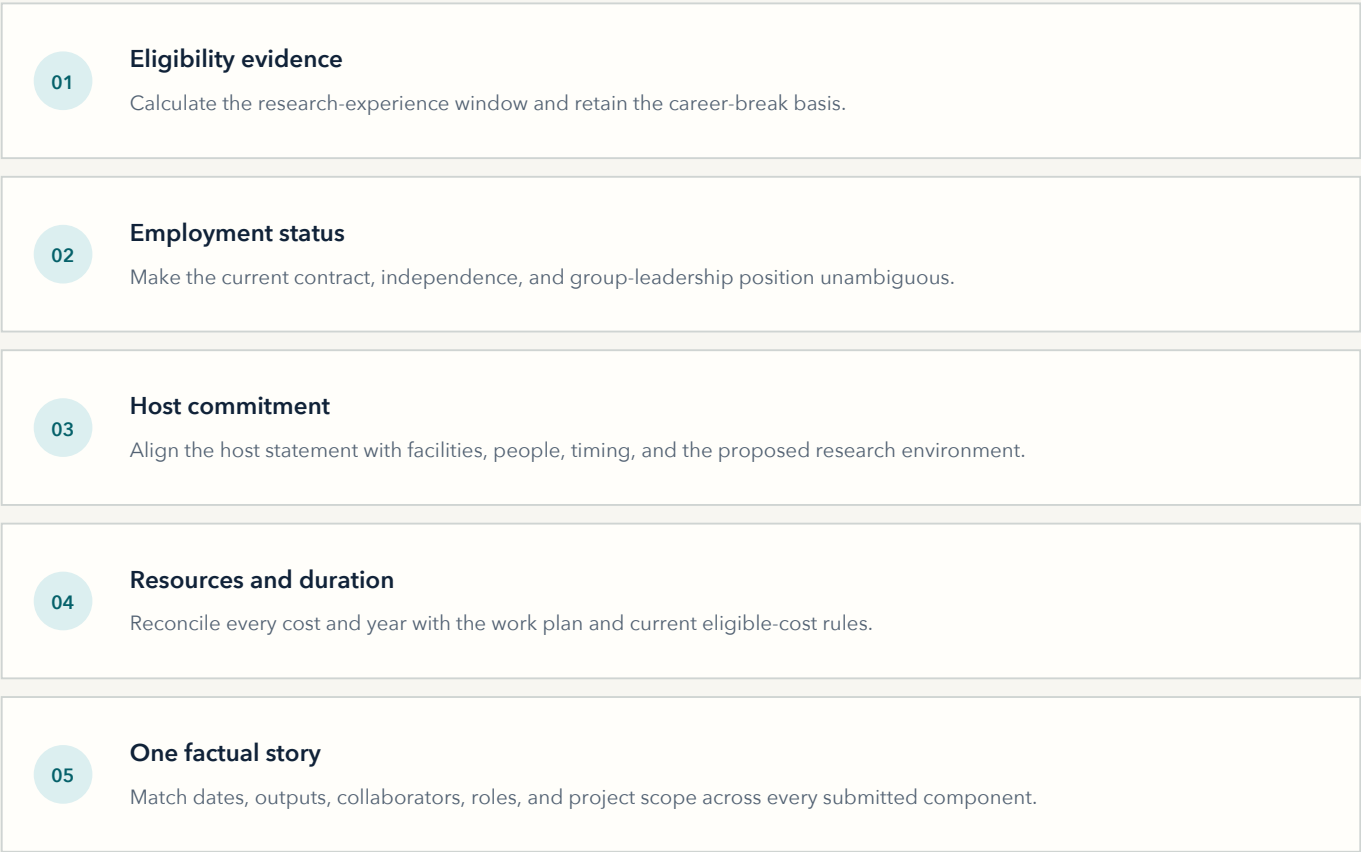
ONE APPLICATION, SEVERAL GATES

A strong idea must survive every stage.

The published process starts with eligibility checks, then panel judgement, independent peer review, shortlisting, and interview. A preflight should preserve those distinctions.



FIVE FINAL-PACK CHECKS



WHAT THIS CANNOT DECIDE

Originality, scientific quality, panel comparison, and interview performance remain expert judgements. A clean pack is not a funding certificate.

Official sources: [Current scheme and process](#)