

Faculty of History

2021-22 British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship competition Guidance for applicants

British Academy Process and Timetable

<https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/funding/postdoctoral-fellowships/>

The BA are yet to announce the formal call for applications, but assuming that the scheme follows a similar timetable to previous years, then the approximate timings and process will be:

<u>Outline Stage 2021-22</u> Scheme Opens: likely mid-late July 2021 Deadline for Submission: likely Mid October 2021 Result of Outline Stage Announcement: early 2022	Outline Stage applicants are invited to supply information about their past academic experience, publications and research proposal. A referee will be required to answer a questionnaire about the applicant and their research proposal. Outline stage applications do not need to include costings.
<u>Second Stage 2021-22</u> Scheme Opens: mid-January 2022 Deadline for Applicants: mid-February 2022 Result of Second Stage Announcement - June 2022.	The Second Stage of application is by invitation only. The Second Stage requires the additional Head of Department Statement, details of the Full Economic Costing and research expenses.

- The BA uses the online portal, [Flexi-Grant](#), which requires that **references** be submitted **before the application deadline** as otherwise the system will not allow submission of the application.
- Applications and references need to be submitted via Flexi-Grant at least 5 working days before the closing date to allow for final review and submission to the BA by the University's Research Services.
- In addition to stringent eligibility rules, British Academy does not allow resubmissions without invitation, which in practice mean that candidates can apply only once. So, it is important for applicants to consider whether they are in a good position to apply and the proposal is strong enough, or if waiting another year would strengthen the application.
- Experience to date suggests that those applicants with at least 20-24 months postdoctoral experience and a promising publication track record stand a greater chance of success.
- We do not currently know if there will be a change to the eligibility rules post-Brexit. The situation will become clear once the call opens.

Faculty of History/Humanities Division Process and Timetable

In 2021, the Faculty of History is holding a pre-competition to select applications for support through to the British Academy's own deadlines.

<u>Briefing Session, via Teams</u> <i>Date and time tbc</i> Faculty briefing for potential applicants from Research Director, Research Facilitator, and a current award holder.	This session will cover: the application process; how to decide whether to apply; what makes a strong application; tips and advice from a current award holder. Details of the session will be circulated once they have been confirmed. Potential applicants from outside the Faculty should contact rf@history.ox.ac.uk if they would like to attend this briefing.
<u>12 noon 6 August</u> Internal Faculty deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By this date, applicants must have sent in their draft application. This must use the Faculty's template (this follows the headings and word limits of last year's BA's outline stage form.) Submit it via email, in Word or PDF format, to rf@history.ox.ac.uk• Mentors must also send their 400-word statement of support, using the template to rf@history.ox.ac.uk by this date.
<u>20 August</u> Outcome of Faculty selection notified	Unsuccessful applicants may receive brief feedback to guide them in any future applications they may choose to make; successful applicants will receive full comment on their draft proposal
<u>Early September</u> <i>Date and time tbc</i> Humanities Division workshop for applicants selected by the Faculties	The Divisional Research Facilitation team will host a workshop for applications going forward to the BA. Further details to follow.
<u>Late September</u> <i>Date tbc</i> Final internal deadline	Final applications must be received by the Division by this date. History deadline may be earlier. Applicants who are selected through the Faculty's pre-competition will be informed of this date when it has been confirmed.

The Faculty of History's internal selection will be rigorous, and we will only put forward the strongest applications. **We will be unable to accept any applications received after the internal Faculty deadline.**

The primary selection criteria the Faculty panel will use are:

- The strength and coherence of the project
- The strength of the applicant's CV

The secondary criteria are:

- The quality of the candidate's written English
- The extent to which the mentor statement engages in detail with the process