

## Faculty of History

### 2023-24 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 2023-24</u>  Scheme Opens: Thursday 5 July 2023 Deadline for Submission: Wednesday 4 October 2023 Result of Outline Stage Announcement: early 2024	<b>Outline Stage</b> 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 2022-23</u>  Scheme Opens: likely mid-January 2024 Deadline for Applicants: likely early-February 2024 Result of Second Stage Announcement - June 2024	<b>The Second Stage</b> 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 in Flexi-Grant at least 5 working days before the BA's closing date to allow for final review and submission to the BA by the University's Research Services. This means applications must be complete and submitted by Wednesday 27 September 2023.
- 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 as a result of Brexit. The situation will become clear once the call opens. Last year's eligibility rules stated that *'British citizens and any nationals from the European Economic Area are eligible, regardless of where their doctorate was obtained. Anyone of any nationality who has a doctorate from a UK university is eligible.'*

## Faculty of History/Humanities Division Process and Timetable

In 2023, the Faculty of History is holding an Expression of Interest competition to select applications for support through to the British Academy's own deadlines.

<p><u>Briefing Session, via Teams</u> <i>Tuesday 20 June, 2 – 4 pm</i></p> <p>Faculty briefing for potential applicants</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Potential applicants, from inside and outside the Faculty, should register using this <a href="#">Teams link</a> if they would like to attend this briefing.</p>
<p><b><u>12 noon, Friday 11 August 2023</u></b></p> <p><b>Internal Faculty deadline</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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) and be submitted via email, in Word or PDF format, to <a href="mailto:rf@history.ox.ac.uk">rf@history.ox.ac.uk</a></li> <li>• Mentors must also send their 400-word statement of support, using the template to <a href="mailto:rf@history.ox.ac.uk">rf@history.ox.ac.uk</a> by this date. <i>Candidates should have the agreement of a member of the Faculty to act as a mentor before submitting their application, but should not expect any input, beyond the statement of support, into their expression of interest.</i></li> <li>• Candidates may also provide a statement of any circumstances which they feel may have impacted on their research track-record: such statements will be treated in confidence and made available to the Faculty's Research Director, but not circulated more widely.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Late-August</u></p> <p>Outcome of Faculty selection notified</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><u>Wednesday 6 September</u></p> <p>Humanities Division workshop for applicants selected by the Faculties</p>	<p>The Divisional Research Facilitation team will host a workshop for applications going forward to the BA. Further details to follow.</p>
<p><u>Monday 18 September</u></p> <p>Final Faculty deadline</p>	<p>Final applications must be received by the Faculty by this date. Applicants who are selected through the Faculty's pre-competition will supported in preparing their application for submission to the BA by Wednesday 4 October.</p>

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 incomplete applications or those 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