OPEN Policy Fellowships - Up to £25K

Call for Expressions of Interest – Deadline: 20 July 2018, 5pm

Applications are welcomed from University of Oxford researchers from any discipline

Introduction
Expressions of Interest are sought for a new University-wide competitive knowledge exchange scheme to support the development of mutually beneficial partnerships between researchers and policymakers. The Fellowships are supported by OPEN - the Oxford Policy Exchange Network, a new University initiative designed to support policy engagement.

As governments come under increasing pressure for political accountability, there is an increased demand for evidence-based policy derived from the insights of ‘expert’ research. The aims of this Fellowship scheme are:

- To build partnerships with a view to shaping the policy agenda in global, national, and regional contexts
- To improve or support evidence-based policymaking
- To develop and sustain strategic relationships with key policymakers
- To improve and diversify the breadth of policy engagement at Oxford through policy partnerships

Fellowship proposals could take several forms, including (but not limited to):

- developing new and growing existing relationships with policymakers
- exploring possibilities for collaboration
- developing partnerships with policymakers
- co-designing projects that answer policy problems
- co-developing research questions and potential new research proposals

Fellowships can be outgoing (researchers spending time with an external organisation related to policy) or incoming (with policymakers spending time at Oxford) or a mutual exchange. Fellowship holders will receive peer support and guidance before, throughout, and after the project as part of a cohort of Fellows.

Partners
Public policy partners could include:

- Local authorities and regional policymakers
- National level policymakers – UK or overseas
- International and intergovernmental bodies
- Think tanks
- Lobby groups
- Regulators
- Third sector policy-related organisations
- Public sector bodies

Please note – if you are interested in changing business policy, we have a separate scheme for Business and Industry KE Fellowships which would be the more appropriate scheme (only open to Social Science researchers).

Funding
There is a total of £100K available for this scheme.

- The maximum amount per Fellowship award is £25K.
- Funding can be spent between 01 October 2018 and 31 July 2019. No extensions will be possible.
- This funding is not for primary research.

How to apply
Applicants should complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) application form and return this via their departmental research support officer/facilitator to impact@socsci.ox.ac.uk by 5pm on 20 July 2018.

After an initial review, researchers will be invited to submit full-stage applications, which will be due in September 2018.

Support
If you would like support with developing an application, or have any queries about the scheme, please contact impact@socsci.ox.ac.uk.