



Research Funding Opportunities 2020/2021: First into Research Fellowships

RCBC (Research Building Capacity Collaboration) Wales (<http://www.rcbcwales.org.uk>) is pleased to announce funding for First into Research (FiR) Fellowships in Nursing, Midwifery, Pharmacy and Allied Health Professions to commence **1ST APRIL 2021**. Applications are invited from eligible registered health professionals for RCBCWales fellowships funded via Health and Care Research Wales. Fellowships will be awarded to the collaborating Universities (institutions are listed below).

RCBC Wales will fund the First into Research Fellowships for one day a week for 12 months. The Fellowships are targeted at newcomers to research or those wishing to develop confidence in research, to work on projects seeking answers to questions relevant to Nursing, Midwifery, the Allied Health Professions and Pharmacists in the specified fields. Projects must be achievable in the timescale and may cover a wide spectrum of activity ranging from institutional strategies to more discrete individual research.

The FiR Fellowship funds are intended to contribute to the day release of the Fellow from their place of work. Fellows will be supervised by experienced researchers and may have access to research methods training with their host university. It is a requirement of the award that all Fellows will become members of the Community of Scholars (CoS) and attend CoS study days. Fellows will be required to present their research at the conclusion of their award at a Community of Scholars event.

All applications should have a commitment to the themes and priorities of Health and Care Research Wales and the Institution to which they apply in supporting and developing excellent research which has a positive impact on the health, wellbeing and prosperity of the people in Wales. These can include studies into any aspect of nursing, midwifery, allied health care or pharmacy which have a particular focus on:

- new and emerging professional roles
- integrated care
- the principles of prudent healthcare, i.e.:
 - patients and professionals as equal partners through co-production
 - care for those with the greatest health need first
 - do only what is needed and do no harm
 - reduce inappropriate variation through evidence-based approaches.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must hold registration within the UK as a Nurse, Midwife, Pharmacist or Allied Health Professional (i.e. they must be registered with the NMC, GPC or HCPC upon commencement of study). The definition of Allied Health Professions is taken from the Health Professions Council Register (see <http://www.hpc-uk.org/aboutregistration/professions/>) and incorporates approximately 16 health professions. Biomedical and clinical scientists may be registered with the HCPC or registered through recognised voluntary regulatory arrangements via the Academy for Healthcare Science. Please note that RCBCWales does not have the funding capacity to consider professionals from outside of these healthcare professional groups.

- Candidates normally require a first degree or equivalent from a University or Institution recognised by the 6 Higher Education Institutions involved in RCBC Wales.
- Successful applicants must be resident in Wales for the duration of the award.
- Please note that RCBCWales is not an employing body and all Fellows must be in employment in Wales in order to take up a Fellowship.

Recruitment for the First into Research Fellowships will be managed by the University of South Wales with input from all collaborating universities. Fellowships will be located within established research groups within the collaborating Schools/Departments listed below. All Fellows will be assigned at least one supervisor, the principal mentor being located within one of the RCBC partnership Schools/ Departments.

Application Process		Deadline/ Key dates
Step 1	Contact the Operational Lead at your first-choice university to discuss your potential application and to identify a supervisor	Immediate and before submitting your eligibility check form
Step 2	Eligibility check forms are to be completed and returned to marina.mcdonald@southwales.ac.uk	14th OCTOBER 2020
Step 3	To assist in refining their ideas, eligible applicants are invited to participate in a webinar with experts in research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, patient involvement, ethics, and health policy and service improvement. They will also consider maximising impact and managing their project	The webinar will be held on 21st OCTOBER 2020 .
Step 4	Eligible applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal application form	4th DECEMBER 2020
Step 5	After shortlisting full proposal applications, selection will be conducted via interviews	Interviews will be held on 11th JANUARY 2021
Step 6	Fellowships will commence	1st APRIL 2021

Applicants will be notified within 10 working days of receipt of the eligibility check form whether they meet eligibility criteria.

The relevant application forms and further guidance (including funding details) are available at www.rcbcwales.org.uk

For information about the specific opportunities, please contact the relevant institutions directly (contact details listed below). General enquiries may be addressed to Marina McDonald, RCBCWales, University of South Wales. Email: marina.mcdonald@southwales.ac.uk

Collaborating Institutions and Contacts:

University of South Wales
Faculty of Life Sciences and Education
Operational Leads: Dr Gina Dolan
Email: gina.dolan@southwales.ac.uk
Or Prof Joyce Kenkre
Email: joyce.kenkre@southwales.ac.uk

Bangor University
School of Healthcare Sciences
Operational Lead: Dr Lorelei Jones
Email: lorelei.jones@bangor.ac.uk

Cardiff Metropolitan University
School of Health Sciences
Operational Lead: Dr Robert Mayr
Email: rmayr@cardiffmet.ac.uk

Cardiff University
School of Healthcare Studies
Operational Lead: Prof Danny Kelly
Email: KellyDM@cardiff.ac.uk
Or Dr Paul Gill
Email: GillP3@cardiff.ac.uk

Glyndwr University
Social Science and Education Division
Operational Lead: Dr Joanne Pike
Email: j.pike@glyndwr.ac.uk

Swansea University
School of Health Science
Operational Lead: Prof Jaynie Rance
Email: j.y.rance@swansea.ac.uk