

Research Funding Opportunities 2020/2021: PhD Fellowships

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

RCBCWales will fund PhDs on a full time basis for 3 years. Applications for part-time study (no less than 3 days per week) may be considered only at the discretion of the host university.

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 the scheme 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 require a first degree (preferably graded 2:1 or above) from a University or Institution recognised by the 6 Higher Education Institutions involved in RCBCWales.

- Successful applicants must be resident in Wales for the duration of the award or be employed within the Welsh NHS/Welsh Higher Education Institution.

In addition to the personal eligibility criteria set out in the advert which must be met, we would encourage all applicants to aim at developing a study that will be eligible for registration on the HCRW Clinical Research Portfolio (where appropriate). Information, including a detailed document available for download, can be found at: <http://www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales/get-your-study-on-the-clinical-research-portfolio/>. In a nutshell, to be eligible for the Health and Care Research Wales Clinical Research Portfolio, studies should include:

1. Research with NHS patients, social care service users or people involved with their care;
2. have research grant funding awarded through an open, peer-reviewed, nationally competitive funding stream;
3. have a research question/hypothesis;
4. be led from and/or recruit participants in Wales.

Recruitment for PhD 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.

The application process will comprise the following:

1. Contact the Operational Lead at your first-choice university to discuss your potential application and to identify a supervisor
2. Eligibility check forms are to be completed and returned to marina.mcdonald@southwales.ac.uk any time up to **30TH SEPTEMBER 2020**. Applicants will be notified within 10 working days of receipt of the check form whether they meet eligibility criteria.
3. To assist in refining their ideas, eligible applicants will be 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 **7TH OCTOBER 2020**.
4. Eligible applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal application form by **11TH NOVEMBER 2020**.
5. After shortlisting full proposal applications, selection will be conducted via interviews. Interviews will be held on **9th DECEMBER 2020**.
6. Fellowships will commence **JANUARY 2021**.

The tabled application process can be seen below:

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	30TH SEPTEMBER 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 7TH OCTOBER 2020 .

Step 4	Eligible applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal application form	11TH NOVEMBER 2020
Step 5	After shortlisting full proposal applications, selection will be conducted via interviews	Interviews will be held on 9TH DECEMBER 2021
Step 6	Fellowships will commence	JANUARY 2021

The relevant application forms and further guidance (including funding details) are available 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

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

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

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

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

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