

Research Fellow (MRC UKRI Innovation/Rutherford Fund Fellowship)

UK Regenerative Medicine Platform – The Engineered Cell Environment.

Salary: £38,896 to £55,389 per annum, depending on experience.

Closing Date: 4 pm 9th February 2018

Interview Date: 22nd February 2018

Reference: UKRMP-Fellowship

Location: Various

The [UK Regenerative Medicine Platform](#) (UKRMP) is seeking to appoint six MRC UKRI Innovation/Rutherford Fund Fellowships at a level of £600,000 over three years. The aim of these Fellowships is to develop talented individuals that can underpin future industry growth and productivity, within the context of excellence in Regenerative Medicine. Opportunities to develop industry collaborations or placements through these Fellowships should be pursued where appropriate, although this is not a requirement for these awards.

These are **distinct personal fellowships** equivalent to an MRC Career Development Award, allowing the individual to transition to independence but must align to the aims of the UK's Industrial Strategy and to the [UKRMP's thematic areas moving forwards](#):

- 1) Pluripotent Stem Cells and Engineered Cells (PSEC)
- 2) The Engineered Cell Environment (ECE)
- 3) Acellular/ Smart Materials and 3D architecture

UKRMP was established in 2013 with the goals of: establishing interdisciplinary research hubs with the critical mass and expertise to address the key knowledge-gaps in the translation of stem cell and regenerative biology towards application; providing the novel tools, platform technologies and engineering solutions needed for therapeutic development; creating a world-leading and fully connected national programme to pull through excellent discovery science in support of the commercial development and clinical delivery of regenerative medicine products.

The funding for these mid-career fellowship opportunities is part of a £4.7bn National Productivity Investment Fund investment in science, research and innovation originally announced in the 2016 Autumn Statement. This funding is targeted at supporting the high-skilled research talent required for a growing, innovative economy. The six Fellowships will be evenly split across the three thematic areas listed above. The Fellowship will enable appointees to establish their own research programme at their chosen institution, with the expectation that research interests complement the UKRMP Hub with which they interact.

Candidates are required to have the support of an academic sponsor at their chosen institution and should obtain a letter of support prior to submitting their application. **Please note that the successful candidates must be in post by 1st May 2018 at the latest.**

UKRMP is seeking to recruit two outstanding postdoctoral researchers who are looking to establish their own independent research careers in the priority area of **The Engineered Cell Environment**. These prestigious awards will provide salary support (36 months), covering both clinical and non-clinical trainees and including opportunities for technical specialists/technologists outside of the traditional academic PI track. MRC Terms and Conditions apply.

The research programme of the Fellowship should relate to the priority area of **The Engineered Cell Environment** with a focus on addressing the following:

- Cell fate and function: characterisation and regulation of critical stem cell-ECM interactions, signalling pathways and physiochemical cues
- Tissue modelling: control of cell functionality, promotion of cell maturation and development of tissue equivalent assays

- Niche based biologics/small molecules: stimulation of endogenous repair, promotion of engraftment and revascularisation with mediation of immunological responses

Applications are welcomed in the area of translational regenerative medicine in the following areas:

- (1) Cell therapy development
- (2) High-throughput phenotypic screening for endogenous tissue regeneration and repair
- (3) Development of regenerative technologies

If you would like an informal discussion about the fellowships, please contact Dr Jenny Cusiter, UKRMP Project Manager (jennifer.cusiter@ed.ac.uk).

How to apply

Candidates are required to submit the following documents as single PDF by email with reference **UKRMP Fellowship** in the subject line, to Dr Jenny Cusiter (jennifer.cusiter@ed.ac.uk) no later than **4pm on 9th February 2018**. Candidates can expect a response to their submission within 2 working days. If this is not received it is the responsibility of the candidate to contact 0131 651 9535 to confirm successful submission.

- Covering letter, including an explanation of your choice of host faculty and academic sponsor; candidates must also confirm that they will be able to start this post by **1st May 2018**,
- CV in NIH format including ORCID, including the names of 2-3 referees that can be contacted immediately if shortlisted for interview (maximum 2 pages)
- Outline of the proposed research programme including a description of how the research programme will complement and advice the objectives of the UKRMP (maximum 2 pages not including references)
- Training plan outlining the mentoring plan, description of how the Fellowship will benefit the career of the applicant, and the nature of the proposed interactions with the UKRMP ECE Hub (maximum 1 page)
- Letter of support from proposed academic sponsor/ head of department

Shortlisting for interview will be based on the information provided. Interviews will take place **22nd February 2018 in Edinburgh**. If you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date, it will not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

Following successful interview, selected candidates must submit an abstract of their proposal, their contact and nationality details and the costings associated with their Fellowship to the MRC; in order to deliver the BEIS reporting requirement associated with this funding. The NPIF Fellowship call will be available on Je-S for submission of these details and following this, a Je-S generated offer letter will then be issued to award the funding.

UKRMP and its associated institutions are committed to being equal opportunities employers. We welcome applications from everyone irrespective of gender or ethnic group. As women and members of ethnic minorities are currently under-represented in posts at this level we particularly encourage applications from members of these groups.