**SFI- Royal Society**

**University Research Fellowship**

**Pre-application Proposal Template**

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| **Applicant Name, Surname** |  |
| **Current Host Institution** | *If not UCD, otherwise leave blank* |
| **UCD School** | *Intended as the School hosting the award, if successful* |
| **UCD Academic Advisor** |  |

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| --- |
| **\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\***  This template will help applicants for the SFI/RS University Research Fellowship to prepare their expression of interest proposal. This document must be uploaded on the Pre-application form, to be submitted to UCD Research.  **Deadline for submission of the pre-application form**: **3 pm** **Friday** **20th June 2025**  Formatting requirements for the pre-application (read carefully):   * Font size: min 10 points, Font-type: Arial * Margins: 2 cm Top and Bottom, 1.5 cm left and right * **Document must be saved with the following filename: *ApplicantSurname\_URF2026\_Pre-application*** * The page limit or word count indicated for each section must be respected. * Overall file size cannot exceed 1 Gb * Text in grey boxes can be removed before submission. |

For queries, please contact [Margherita Castronovo](mailto:margherita.castronovo@ucd.ie)

**General information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Proposal Title** |  |
| **Subject Group:**  *Please select the group from the list on the right that most closely reflects your area of research and delete the non-relevant one.* | Computer Science  Pure and Applied Mathematics  Astronomy and Physics, Theoretical Physics, Applied Physics  Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Theoretical Chemistry  Engineering, Technology, Instrumentation, Material Science, Experimental Fluid Dynamics  Earth Sciences, Environmental Physical Sciences  Biochemistry, Structural Biology, Molecular Cell Biology  Developmental Biology, Genetics (excl. population genetics), Immunology, Microbiology (excl. medical microbiology)  Anatomy, Physiology, Neurosciences  Organismal Biology, Evolutionary and Ecological Science (incl. soils and agriculture)  Health and Human Sciences |
| **Subject Area:**  *Please select the subjects that most closely reflect your area of research from the list available* [*here*](https://royalsociety.org/grants/subject-groups/)*.* |  |
| **Keywords**  *Please provide 5-10 keywords that could be useful to identify your research.* |  |

**Abstract (max 400 words)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*This should be a scientific summary of your research proposal, briefly outlining the background and summarising the aims of your project.*

**Lay Abstract (Max 250 words)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*This should be a summary of your proposed project understandable by a lay person. You should explain why you have chosen to work in the selected subject area and what it is about your proposed research that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. If relevant, please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research. Please be aware the Panel is experienced and composed of a broad range of experts who will not all be specialists in your specific area. Please bear this in mind when writing your summary for a non-specialist audience. Panel members place importance on this part of the application.*

**Research Proposal (max 4 pages)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*Please provide a detailed five-year project plan alongside a broader eight-year vision and strategy. Your research proposal should include, but is not limited to, the following:*

* *clear research objectives*
* *description of the experimental method and techniques used, including data analysis if applicable*
* *an indication of milestones/timescales*
* *broad long-term vision and strategy*

*References and images, if relevant, must fit within the 4 pages limit.*

**Personal Statement (max 1 page)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*Please provide a personal statement about your research career to date including research-related contributions, prizes and achievements and your career and research aspirations in the long term. You should state why the aims of this fellowship will be beneficial to you at this stage in your career, how do you intend to build your independent research career providing a clear pathway to independence, and how the fellowship will help you to reach your goals.*

*Please note that you may use the personal statement to provide details of additional activities you have undertaken to demonstrate your contribution to the wider scientific endeavour (e.g. conferences, patents, workshops, invited talks, public engagement activities, etc).*

**Justification for Choice of Host Organisation (max 1 page)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*Please provide a short statement justifying your choice of host organisation (i.e. why is it best suited for your research and career?). Please ensure that you clarify how the fellowship will help you to achieve independence at your chosen host organisation.*

**Applicant’s Career History and Qualifications** **(max 2 pages)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*Please provide a full list of your appointments since your PhD in a clear and concise reverse chronological order stating if part-time (and percentage part-time) when necessary. The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible.*

*Please provide full details of any periods of part-time working, career breaks, extended sick leave or maternity/paternity/adoptive leave as your eligibility may depend on the accuracy of this information.*

*You are not required to include prizes and achievements in this section; this can be included in the Personal Statement field.*

*Please also list all your qualifications in reverse chronological order (i.e. from the most recent).   
The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence of your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.*

**Applicant’s Track Record of Publication and Funding (max 2 pages)**

***\*\*\*This box can be removed before submission\*\*\****

*Please provide details of authors, titles and references of up to 20 of your key preprints and publications in refereed journals, in reverse chronological order. Most significant publications - Please identify with asterisks (\*) up to five publications which you consider to be most significant.*

*Please list all your current and previous research funding in reverse chronological order (i.e. from the most recent ones).*

*Please note that publications will be reviewed on the basis of scientific content, rather than publication metrics or the identity of the journal.*

*Your list should have three sections:*

1. *refereed papers in primary journals,*
2. *(ii) contributions to symposia and compiled volumes (refereed only);*
3. *and (iii) preprints.*

*For publications arising from large collaborative programmes clearly specify the exact role and contribution made towards large collaborative research programmes that have resulted in multi-authored publications.*

*If your field of research differs in any way from normal conventions, e.g. lead author, first author, and publications in journals being the main gauge of success, please provide a brief explanation at the top of your publication list.*

*The depth of information you provide is up to you, but this will represent you under assessment and so it is worth including as much good evidence for your academic merit as possible and as appropriate for the funding for which you are applying.*