

NRN-LCEE Proposal-Writing Fellowships



The Sêr Cymru National Research Network for Low Carbon, Energy and Environment (NRN-LCEE) wishes to fund up to 10 Fellowships, to enable researchers currently without an academic/research contract to prepare a research proposal to RCUK, Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society or EU funding sources.

Applications to host a *Proposal-Writing Fellowships* can be made by Principal Investigators at one of the Welsh NRN-LCEE partner organisations¹ who will work with a named *Proposal-Writing Fellow* to develop a research proposal on which the Fellow is a named researcher. To be considered for funding, *Proposal-Writing Fellows* cannot currently hold an academic/research contract, or must be within 2 months of a contract ending. Candidates must have past postdoctoral experience and have a minimum of 5 ISI peer-reviewed publications.

The planned research proposal must align clearly with the NRN-LCEE core research themes (sustainable intensification; low carbon energy pathways; the bio-economy; impacts and mitigation of climate change and human activities. More details on: www.nrn-lcee.ac.uk/themes).

Purpose of funding

Funding can be used for **up to two months' salary (100 fte)** of the *Proposal-Writing Fellow*, up to a maximum of £8,500 (including all on-costs). In addition, up to £1,000 can be used for travel and subsistence to facilitate meetings between potential project partners.

N.B. This funding cannot be used for institutional overheads, equipment, consumable items, conference fees, registration fees, books, publication costs or consultancy fees.

Deliverable

The PI, together with the *Proposal-Writing Fellow*, is responsible for producing at least one research proposal of a minimum of £250,000 (FEC) to RCUK, Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society or EU funding sources, on which the *Proposal-Writing Fellow* is a named researcher.

A copy of the proposal and the plan for submission will have to be sent to the NRN-LCEE office, together with the host institution's claim for reimbursement of the award. This should happen within 2 months of the end date of the Fellowship. Not providing these deliverables will result in non-payment.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants should be a Principal Investigator (PI) with a permanent contract of employment at one of the NRN-LCEE partner organisations in Wales¹. Prior to applying for this NRN-LCEE funding, the PI must have agreed to work with a named candidate for the *Proposal-Writing Fellowship* on a research proposal to RCUK, Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society or EU funding sources.

¹ NRN-LCEE partner organisation in Wales are: all Welsh Universities, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology at Bangor and the British Geological Survey in Wales.

- Fellowship candidates should not have an academic/ research contract, or their current contract (and any extension thereof) must be ending within 2 months of the date of the application to the NRN-LCEE, and before the intended start date of the *Proposal-Writing Fellowship*.
- If a candidate receives an extension to their current contract, and/or another academic contract they will no longer be eligible for the NRN-LCEE *Proposal-Writing Fellowship*.
- Candidates must have previous research experience including at least one postdoctoral position.
- Candidates must have a minimum of 5 ISI peer-reviewed papers published/ accepted/ in press.
- At least one of the other NRN-LCEE partner organisations in Wales¹ or the UK Met Office should be a collaborator on the planned research proposal.
- The planned research proposal must clearly align with at least one of the NRN-LCEE core research themes.

Application Process

Applications should be submitted as a single PDF including the following sections:

1. Case for support
 - 600 word summary of the planned research proposal.
 - 100 word justification of how the planned research proposal aligns with one or more of the NRN-LCEE core research themes.
 - 200 word justification of how the planned research proposal aligns with a clearly identified RCUK, Leverhulme Trust, Royal Society or EU funding opportunity.
 - Timescale of planned proposal writing and anticipated submission date for research proposal.
 - Justification of resources applied for, including spend profile detailing salary costs *signed by an authorised representative for the PI's Institution*. Please use the template available at: www.nrn-lcee.ac.uk/funding.
2. List of names and organisations of any other collaborators on the proposed research project. This should include at least one of the other NRN-LCEE partner organisations in Wales¹ or the UK Met Office.
3. Short CV for the candidate including key publications (max. 2 pages).
4. Short CV for the PI including key publications (max. 2 pages).

Submission & award process

This is an open call (i.e. no deadlines) until 31 March 2018 and submissions will be accepted until this date, or until 10 Fellowships have been awarded (whichever is sooner).

Applications must be submitted as a single PDF by email to: nrn-lcee@bangor.ac.uk, with the subject heading '*Proposal-Writing Fellowships application*'.

Submitted applications will be reviewed and a decision will be sent to the applicant within 2 months of the application. Decisions of award will be based on: 1) The track record of the candidate; 2) alignment of the proposed research project with NRN-LCEE research themes; and 3) credibility of the planned research proposal being submitted to the funding opportunity identified. Only applications that meet all the eligibility criteria will be considered.

Any inquiries about the scheme should be made to the NRN-LCEE project manager at: s.j.vanwijk@bangor.ac.uk.