



British Academy - Researchers at Risk Fellowships Programme: Ukraine

In collaboration with other UK Academies and the Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA)

Submission cut off dates:

Wednesday 1 June 2022

Wednesday 29 June 2022

Wednesday 20 July 2022

Further submission dates may be announced if funding allocated to this call remains unspent. Listed submission dates may be withdrawn if scheme funding is fully utilised by awards against earlier submission dates.

Full details of the Programme are on the [British Academy Funding page](#). This call is to support researchers¹ and innovators² at risk in Ukraine, in light of the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine. Applications can present research from any discipline, the aim being that researchers at risk supported through the programme will be able to work at UK institutions to continue their research, enhance their skills and build long-lasting collaborative links with UK counterparts.

We understand that awards made under the Programme will be paid by CARA directly to the Ukrainian researchers as donations of support.

Key eligibility criteria

The Ukrainian researcher or innovator must:

- Hold a doctoral degree (or have equivalent experience)
- Be confirmed by CARA to be at risk (see below)
- Either still be in Ukraine or to have left Ukraine within the last five years
- Possess the language skills required for the successful completion of their research activity
- Possess academic qualifications and be able to provide evidence of an active academic career (e.g. publications)
- Have not yet been supported through an equivalent scheme/opportunity

Level of Funding and Duration

Funding will be for up to two years (minimum period is six months) and will be for £37,000 per year (£74,000 over two years). The scheme Selection Panel can increase or decrease the value of the award by up to 15% depending on the researcher's circumstances (e.g. subsidised accommodation

¹ 'researcher' is a person who has been engaged in teaching or research at a university, research institute or equivalent institution.

² 'innovator' is a person who possesses knowledge, expertise and qualifications similar to a researcher, and is primarily concerned with using such knowledge and expertise to develop, test and deploy new ways of doing things in some field of practice.

arrangements, number of dependants). See the [BA 'Scheme Guidance section'](#) for more information on funding.

Preparing an application

All applications are submitted through the British Academy Grant Management System (GMS) via <https://britishacademy.flexigrant.com>.

An X5 is not required.

Applications must involve:

- **A named researcher at risk**
- **A named applicant**
The applicant is responsible for completing and submitting the online application. The applicant can be any member of staff in the host Oxford Department – including the Head of Department. The applicant and the named academic mentor cannot be the same person.
- **A named academic mentor**
The mentor will usually have a prior relationship with the researcher at risk. The mentor will be based in the host Department and will come from the same / a similar disciplinary field as the researcher at risk. The mentor commits to a close academic and support relationship with the researcher at risk during the period they are at Oxford. The applicant and the academic mentor cannot be the same person.
- **A visa sponsor**
See the 'Visa Requirement' section below (page 3).

Before starting the application on FlexiGrant please check that eligibility requirements are met, and ensure that the application has the support of the Academic Mentor's Oxford Department/Faculty.

The application requires a number of supporting documents, all of which **must** be uploaded before the proposal can be submitted:

1. **CV of the Researcher at Risk** – note the page limit restrictions set out in the scheme guidance.
2. **A joint statement from the proposed academic mentor and researcher/innovator at risk**
The statement covers aspects of the proposed research activity. It has to be on institutional headed paper and signed and dated by both the mentor and the researcher at risk. If it is not possible for the researcher at risk to sign the statement, an email from the researcher at risk to the UK host institution confirming agreement with the statement should be attached to the application. For information on what to include in the statement, please refer to the BA application guidance notes.
3. **CARA risk assessment letter**
Note that CARA requires at least **a week** in which to provide a risk assessment statement.

Requests for risk assessment must be from the UK host institution, not the researcher at risk. Requests should be sent directly to CARA through info@cara.ngo and **must** include the following documents/information:

- a) a copy of the ID pages of the researcher at risk's passport;
- b) an up-to-date CV which includes the current position and location of the researcher at risk;
- c) a short note on the researcher at risk's particular circumstances (this should be specific to the named researcher at risk rather than a general statement about the situation in the Ukraine).

4. Institutional Supporting Statement

The statement needs to explain the support the institution will provide to the researcher at risk; provide an explanation of the accommodation that will be provided to the researcher and their dependants (if applicable); and cover other institutional commitment to CARA aims. The statement must be on letter-headed paper and must be signed by Prof Patrick Grant (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research).

The attached template letter might be helpful. It will need to be customised as appropriate for Departments/Faculties/Divisions. Please refer to the BA scheme guidance for more detail on what to cover in the letter of support.

Signature of letters of support is being coordinated through Divisions who will forward letters to Patrick Grant in batches for signature. Please ensure that your letter is with your divisional contact by the following dates:

Letter with Division	Researcher at Risk scheme deadline
Wednesday 25 May	Wednesday 1 June
Wednesday 22 June	Wednesday 29 June
Wednesday 13 July	Wednesday 20 July

Divisional contacts

GLAM	Harriet Warburton	harriet.warburton@glam.ox.ac.uk
Humanities	Ingrid Locatelli	ingrid.locatelli@humanities.ox.ac.uk
MPLS	Research office	research@mpls.ox.ac.uk
MSD	Research office	research@medsci.ox.ac.uk
SSD	Sarah Mallet	sarah.mallet@socsci.ox.ac.uk

College accommodation available to researchers at risk

Oxford Colleges and Halls are supporting the Researchers at Risk initiative. For information please contact Katie Price, Research Services (katie.price@admin.ox.ac.uk)

Visa Requirement

The researcher at risk's visa route must be identified in the application.

The BA scheme guidance assumes that for most researchers at risk the appropriate visa route will be the [Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme \(Homes for Ukraine\)](#). Other routes may be applicable depending on personal circumstances. For advice, please contact [James Baker](#), Head of the University Staff Immigration Team.

Where the Homes for Ukraine route is used, the UK host institution must name an individual who will act as the sponsor for the researcher's visa and ensure that the requirements of the Government's scheme are met - **including identification of at least six months' appropriate accommodation**. The named sponsor for the visa does not have to be the host applicant or the academic mentor for the application (though it could be). Someone in the College providing the accommodation could act as sponsor for the visa. Guidance on who can be a sponsor is [here](#).

Submission of the Application

When the application is complete – including all attachments – it must be submitted on Flexi-Grant by the applicant. The submission system requires institutional submission by Research Services in line with normal Flexi-Grant workflow. The Research Services Grants team will not review the application before submitting it. Please ensure that the [Research Services Grants Team](#) are aware that your proposal is under preparation.

Outcome

The named Oxford applicant will receive an email notification of the outcome of the application approximately one month after the call submission date.

Awards are conditional upon visa approval and no funds will be released until all conditions of the award are met.

Start dates will be agreed between the researcher at risk, the host Department/College and the British Academy.

Authors of this guidance and points of contact for queries

Katie Price: katie.price@admin.ox.ac.uk

Ingrid Locatelli: ingrid.locatelli@humanities.ox.ac.uk

British Academy contact for scheme enquiries: researchersatrisk@thebritishacademy.ac.uk

British Academy scheme FAQ: [Researchers at Risk Fellowships: frequently asked questions | The British Academy](#)

The British Academy guidance on the Researchers at Risk programme is under continuous review and subject to amendment. This Oxford guidance note will be updated if required by amendments to the funder guidance or information otherwise obtained on the operation of the scheme. Please therefore check for changes to this guidance as processes are refined and we receive further information

Suggested template letter of institutional support
Departments/Divisions will want to customise this as appropriate

Date

To whom it may concern

Institutional Letter of Support – Dr [full name]

I write confirming Oxford University's strong support for Dr [Full Name]'s Fellowship application, and to confirm that Oxford will provide an excellent base for [name of the researcher at risk]'s proposed project. [Department/Faculty] is ideally placed to host Dr [researcher at risk], given our expertise in [details of area of expertise, how it fits into Department/Faculty].

[Researcher at risk]'s project fits well with [Mentor]'s current research activities on [research interests of mentor]. The Department/Faculty and wider University also boast a number of research centres and academics whose work is a natural fit with that of Dr [Name]. These include [name relevant centres/networks, academics in applicant's field]. [Include here how the mentor will encourage assimilation of the researcher at risk into the academic life at Oxford]

If successful Dr [Researcher at risk] will be affiliated with the [Department/Faculty] and given the status of an academic visitor, which would provide her/him with IT account, access to all available electronic databases; an Oxford University email address; access to the Bodleian Libraries, including the Sackler Library; use of the facilities in the [Department/Faculty] including library access, computer terminals and printing facilities. Dr [Researcher at risk] will also have access to the University's Staff Immigration Team, who will assist with the visa application.

A college association will also be sought for Dr [Name] so that they can take full advantage of the intellectual opportunities offered by the collegiate atmosphere here at Oxford. Dr [Researcher at risk] will also have the opportunity to attend seminars and lectures and to meet colleagues and students [list few examples that will be of relevance to applicant's interests].

The University offers an array of opportunities, which allow academics to further their research in creative ways. For example, [list any Divisional or wider opportunities – eg the Humanities Division hosts The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), which promotes interdisciplinary approaches and public engagement, and Dr [Researcher at risk] will be able to apply to the John Fell Fund, funded by Oxford University Press, for additional support for her/his research activities.]

Further training in research, lecturing and tutorial skills will be available to Dr [Name] through the [Centre for Teaching and Learning](#), as well as access to advanced research-related training in computer-based skills through IT Services. Career advice, professional development opportunities and support with practicalities of living in Oxford/the UK are offered to all new researchers and visitors through the [University Welcome Service](#), [People and Organisational Development team](#), the [Research Staff Hub](#) and the [Oxford Research Staff Society \(OxRSS\)](#).

The host Department/Faculty has offered Dr [Researcher at risk] [and their accompanying dependants – add number of dependants and any personal circumstances] a furnished flat in Oxford including all amenities, free of charge for [number of months from...date]. [Include

here any pastoral support the mentor, or Department or College might give to the researcher at risk and their family (where appropriate).

The University of Oxford and affiliated Colleges have a long history of supporting researchers at risk from persecution, repression and conflict. We have an established partnership with CARA, and thanks to generous funding and in-kind support from across the collegiate University we currently host several academics from conflict zones. Oxford intends to support a number of Ukrainian researchers, whose presence will enrich our community.

The award held at Oxford would ensure excellent opportunity for Dr [Researcher at risk] to continue their research and advance their career development opportunities. The Department/Faculty would be delighted to host and benefit from the presence of Dr [Researcher at risk] whose research fits in well with the [Department/Faculty].

The University supports this application in the strongest possible terms, we hope very much to be able to welcome Dr [Researcher at risk] to the University.

Yours sincerely,