

SFI Fellowship Programme 2023

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Scientific Programme Manager

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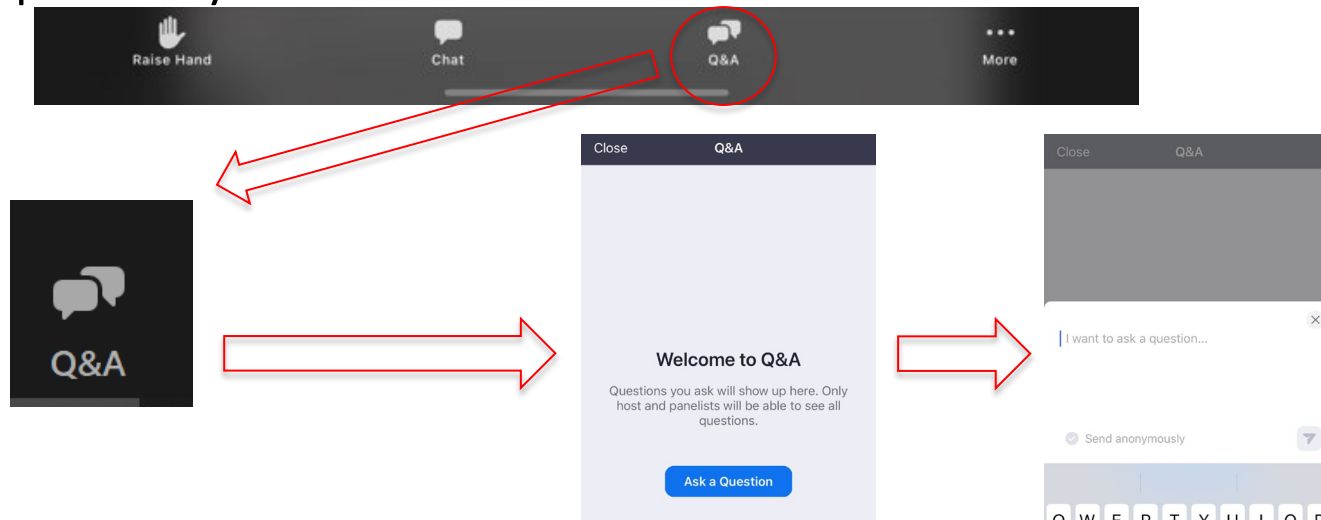


fellowship@sfi.ie

18 April 2023

Webinar information

- Short, one-way PowerPoint presentation with voiceover
- Presented by Dr Anne-Louise Holloway, Scientific Programme Manager, Enterprise Partnerships
- Joined by Dr Debapriya Chaudhuri, SFI Fellow
- We will walk you through the presentation and answer questions at the end
- You may submit questions by typing them in the Q&A box on the bottom of the Zoom screen-please try to be concise



- The webinar (including closed captioned recording) will be available on the SFI Fellowship programme page at:

<https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-fellowship-programme/>

*The SFI Fellowship Programme provides **career development** and **experiential learning** opportunities for postdoctoral researchers through a **placement within SFI**, aligning with SFI's Shaping Our Future strategy objective of developing "the world's most sought-after skilled workforce" and to "support life-long learning and knowledge exchange out of academia into industry and public service."*

Science Foundation Ireland

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is the national foundation for investment in research in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), which assists in the development and competitiveness of industry, enterprise and employment in Ireland.

It also promotes and supports STEM education and engagement to improve awareness and understanding of the value of STEM to society and to support the STEM careers pipeline.



SFI Strategy – *Shaping Our Future*

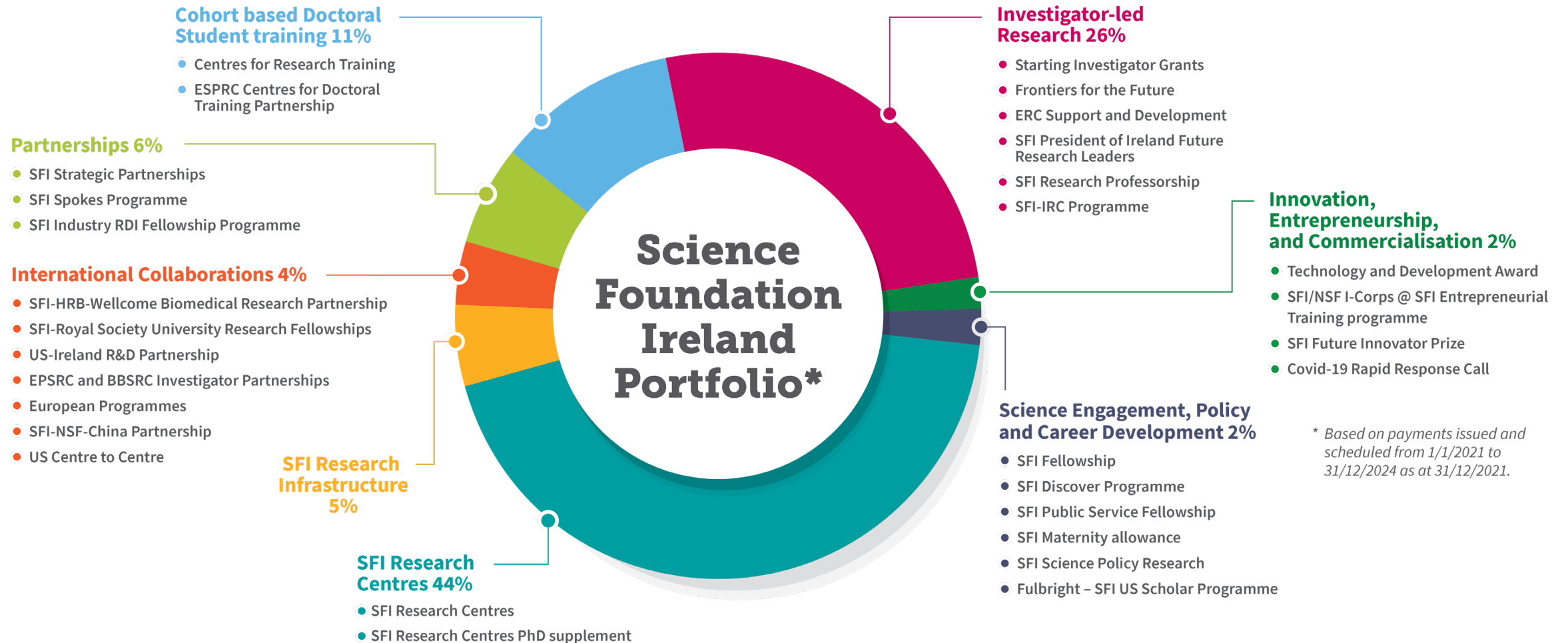
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Vision: Ireland will be a global innovation leader in scientific and engineering research for the advancement of Ireland's economy and society.

Mission: Science Foundation Ireland funds excellent and impactful research and talent, and shapes the future of Ireland through anticipating what's next and widening engagement and collaboration.

Science Foundation Ireland 2021 Portfolio Analysis



SFI Fellowship Objectives

- Provide applicants interested in pursuing a **career in research administration** with experience of the duties and activities involved in such organisations.
- Provide applicants considering a **transition from academia** to the private sector and/or the public sector, with relevant experiences and skills.
- Provide applicants interested in pursuing a career in academic research with a holistic overview and **understanding of a funding agency**.
- Provide applicants with an interest in public engagement an opportunity to gain experience in **education and public engagement** within a funding agency.
- Provide applicants with relevant experience and skills in **research policy** and **strategic development** and implementation.
- Enhance **knowledge transfer** between SFI and its partner organisations

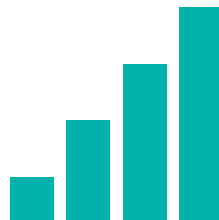
Programme Structure

- Up to a period of 24 months on a full-time, continuous basis
- Two one-year placements across SFI Directorates
- Fellows will also be assigned to an SFI Supervisor who will provide support and guidance to the Fellow for the duration of the Fellowship Programme.
- A personal development plan will be agreed with the SFI Supervisor and will be reviewed periodically during the placement.
- Training will be provided both on commencement and throughout the duration of the Fellowship
- Successful Fellows will be recognised **as an employee of their current Research Body** for the duration of the Fellowship grant.
- All terms and conditions associated with the Fellow's Contract of Employment with their Research Body will apply.
- Placement agreement signed by the Research Body and Science Foundation Ireland prior to commencement of the placement.

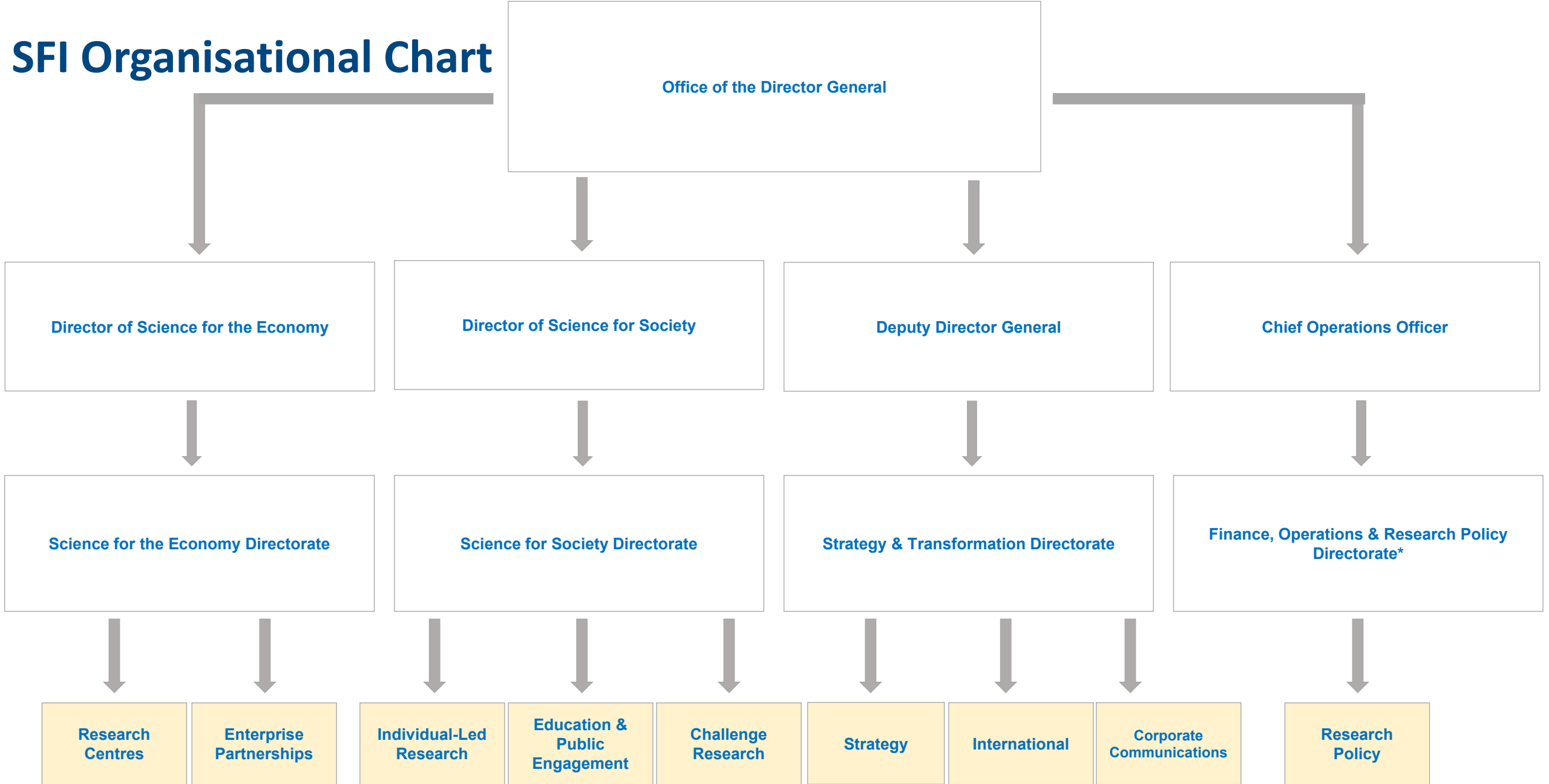


Development of competencies

- Project management
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Stakeholder management
- Initiative and innovation
- Flexibility and resilience
- Communication and influencing
- Collaboration



SFI Organisational Chart



*Divisions within this Directorate not covered in the Fellowship Programme include – IT and Finance & Grants

Divisions/Teams

- The **Research Centres** team is responsible for SFI's flagship programme which funds 16 world-leading SFI Research Centres.
 - The **Enterprise Partnerships** team drives engagement with stakeholders to facilitate opportunities for national and international funders, philanthropic organisations and enterprises to foster research and innovation in partnership with academic researchers.
 - The **Individual-led research (ILR)** team manages a number of key programmes; e.g. the Frontiers for the Future, many of which are focused on supporting excellent independent researchers.
 - **SFI Education and Public Engagement (EPE)** team manages initiatives that support a range of activity including funding projects nationwide, through the SFI Discover Funding Programme, that support STEM public engagement.
- The **SFI Challenge Research** team is responsible for the development and delivery of challenge-based funding opportunities for SFI.
 - The **Strategy** team supports the Director General in the development and implementation of SFI's strategy, Shaping Our Future and in overseeing and monitoring SFI's overall performance.
 - **SFI International** helps develop global research cooperation for Irish researchers to cooperate with the best from academia and industry across Europe and worldwide.
 - The **Corporate Communications** team has responsibility for the design, development, and delivery of SFI's marketing and communications strategy.
 - The **Research Policy** team manages the development and implementation of evidence-based policy which supports strong research governance across all SFI programmes.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must:
 - Hold a PhD or equivalent in a STEM discipline.
 - Be on a research contract in an eligible Irish Research Body at the time of application.
 - Be in a position to take a period of 24 months (continuous and full-time) away from their current research activities within the Research Body, starting in October 2023.
 - Have a right to work in Ireland with a work visa/ permit (if applicable) for the duration of the SFI Fellowship placement.
- Researchers/scientists who are employed under a Contract of Indefinite Duration are not permitted to apply.
- Previous successful applicants to the SFI Fellowship Programme are not eligible to apply.

Line Manager

- Applicants must have the support of a Line Manager within their research body (academic member of staff)
- Takes administrative responsibility for the Fellow if the applicant is successful, arranging salary, leave entitlements and other administrative duties for the Fellow within the Research Body while the Fellow is participating in the Fellowship Programme

Eligible Costs- Salary

- Salary Contributions
 - SFI Team Members Salary Scales (Level 2A Point 1 to Level 2B Point 4)
 - [https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/SFI-Team-member-scales_October-2022-plus-future-pay-increases-March-and-October-2023-\(1\).pdf](https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/SFI-Team-member-scales_October-2022-plus-future-pay-increases-March-and-October-2023-(1).pdf)
 - The current salary of the applicant must be indicated on the Application Form which is endorsed by the Research Body.
 - Applicants will be entitled to one increment increase for months 13-24 of the Fellowship Programme, subject to the maximum of point 6 for Level 2A and point 4 for Level 2B.
- Overheads are payable as a contribution to the Research Body
 - Should not be included in the requested budget to cover costs incurred directly as a result of the Fellowship award.

Application Procedure

- Not on SFI's grant management system SESAME
- To apply to the programme, the following documents should be completed and submitted as a single pdf to fellowship@sfi.ie by 1pm 16 May 2023
 1. Application Form (Appendix 2)
 - Research Integrity
 - Requested Salary
 - Details of Line Manager
 - Research Body Signature
 - Applicant signature
 2. CV (max. 2 pages)
 3. Personal Statement (max. 2 pages)
 4. Letter of Support (max. 2 pages)
 - **Line Manager:** confirming that they will take administrative responsibility for the Fellow if the applicant is successful



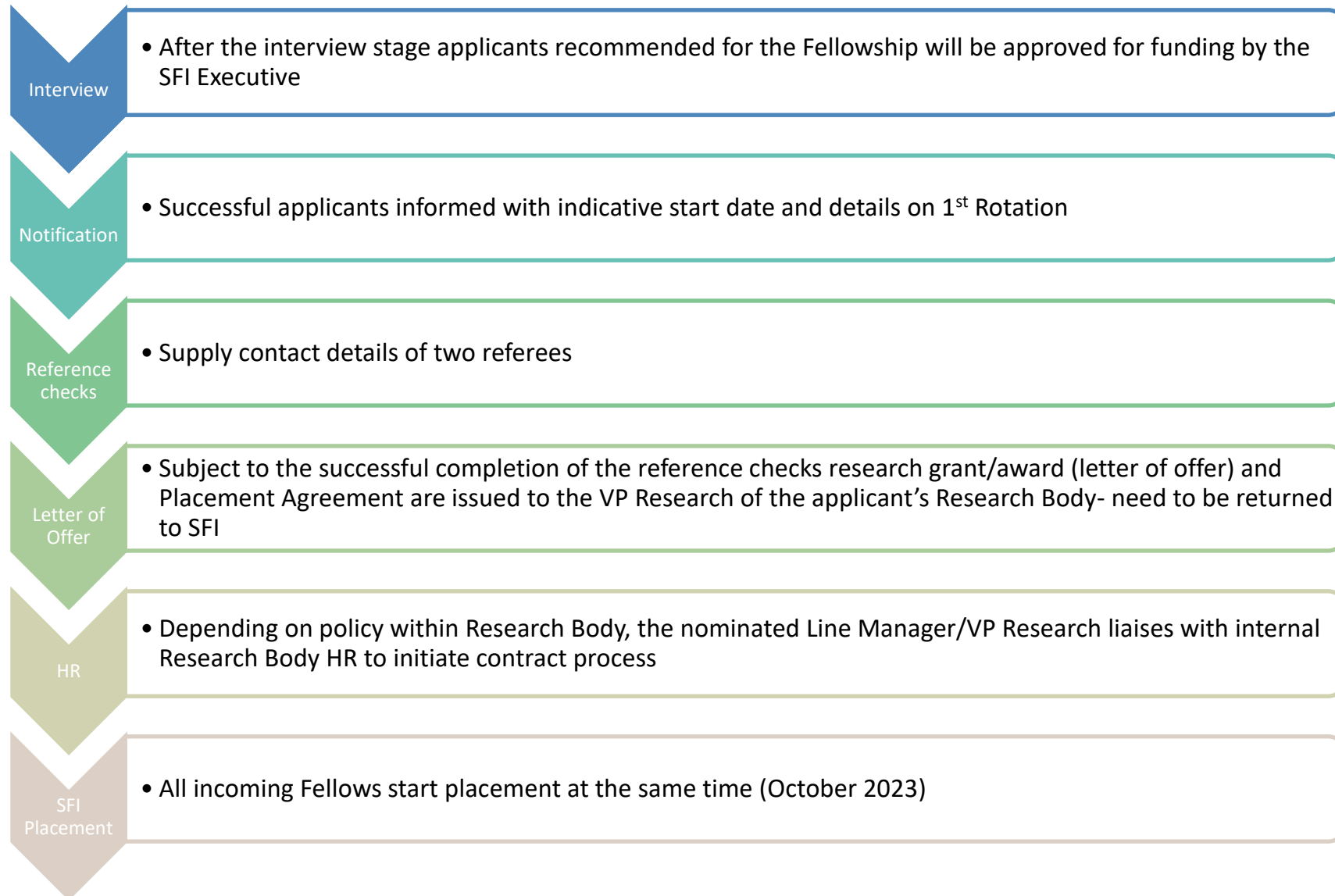
Selection Process

- **Review Criteria**

- Motivation of the applicant for participating in the Fellowship.
 - Suitability of the applicant for the Fellowship taking key competencies into consideration. These may include problem solving and communication skills, teamwork, innovation and creativity, and organisational skills.
- Following confirmation of eligibility, candidates will be shortlisted by SFI, and suitable applicants will be invited to attend an interview.
 - Candidates invited for interview will undergo a competency-based interview process
 - SFI expects that candidates who are invited for interview will have a high-level understanding of SFI's mission and purpose and will be able to articulate their motivation for the Fellowship
 - Typically a 30-40 minute interview via Zoom, indicative interview dates **in early June 2023***

** May be subject to change*

Successful applicants



Timeline

Launch: 3 April 2023

Deadline for Applications: 16 May 2023 @ 1pm

Proposed Start Date: early-October 2023



Queries please contact: fellowship@sfi.ie

Dr Debapriya Chaudhuri, SFI Fellow

Background Educational Background

- PhD Condensed Matter Physics, 2016
- 3 Postdoc experiences in topics related to digital transformation and sustainable future
- Experience in diverse working environments and funding agencies e.g. Germany, France and Ireland.

Rational Intrinsic Motivation for application

- Transition from academia to public sector
- Overall understanding of the protocols to manage funding calls
- Understanding the impact of research for societal and economic benefits of Ireland
- Gain diverse project management experience through collaborative works

Advice Tips for application

- Clear and concise CV with a solid motivation letter
- Prepare well for competency based questions
- Follow the website to understand the vision and strategy of SFI
- Strategy documents such as IMPACT 2030 and Shaping our Future

Experience gained within SFI

Directorates

Science for Society

- Individual-Led Research
- Education & Engagement

Science for Economy

- Research Centres
- Enterprise Partnerships

Obj.

- Support, development & management
- Enhance research & innovation capability.

Task-1

- Review of proposals, panel reviews, applicant response etc

Task-2

- Award management, evaluating annual reports, review summaries & scribe notes.

Task-3

- Collaborate with other departments regarding impact (presently ongoing).

Experience with different stake-holders:

Research
Centres

Reviewers

Applicants

General
Public

Website

SFI Fellowship Programme Experiences

The SFI Fellowship Programme has proved very successful and, on conclusion, all fellows have secured excellent positions within international funding agencies, research offices, academia and industry. Click below to hear from some previous and current SFI Fellows about their experience with the Programme:



Dr Kate Killick
RESEARCH ANALYST AT GENUITY
SCIENCE, IRELAND



Dr Claire McDonald
PROGRAMME MANAGER AT CU
INNOVATIONS, UNIVERSITY OF
COLORADO



Dr Laura Mackey
PROJECT OFFICER, NATIONAL
OFFICE FOR RESEARCH ETHICS
COMMITTEES



Shane O'Reilly
ASSISTANT LECTURER IN
CHEMISTRY, IT SLIGO



Louise Rocks
SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME
MANAGER, SCIENCE FOUNDATION
IRELAND

Science Foundation Ireland **sfi** For what's next

SFI Fellowship Programme 2023

ELIGIBILITY

1. I am a postdoc or...
Yes. Post-doctoral funding is coming awards, it is expected that research program.
2. I hold a PhD equivalent...
No. Applicants must have a PhD or equivalent qualification. It is expected that the programme.
3. I have submitted...
Yes. If you have submitted a proposal, you are eligible to apply. Provides contract by an employer.
4. Are PhD students...
No. Applicants must be post-doctoral.
5. Are Research Fellows...
Yes. However, you must be a Research Fellow on the date of application.
6. What if my contract...
Applicants are required to provide a copy of their contract.
7. I am also applying...
Candidates who are applying for other programmes (i.e. not SFI) are not permitted to apply.
8. I currently hold a...
Applicants must be employed by a Research Body for the duration of the SFI Fellowship.

SFI Fellowship Application Form

Name of Applicant: _____

Do you have a right to work in Ireland, with no restrictions (if applicable), for the full duration of the Fellowship? (Y/N) _____

Should you be successful, are you to start the Fellowship during September 2023? _____

Please outline any actual or potential conflict of interest that may arise from your appointment to a Fellowship position within SFI.

Please answer the following statement by ticking 'Correct' or 'Incorrect'. If you have answered 'Incorrect', please provide the correct answer.

Correct ☐ Incorrect ☐

Current salary: € _____
Requested salary: € _____
Please indicate the point represented on the scale below.

Scale	1	2	3	4	5
Gross Salary	€	€	€	€	€
Employee PPS	€	€	€	€	€
20% pension charge	€	€	€	€	€
Total	€	€	€	€	€

Please note that the proposed start date is 1 September 2023.
Failure to complete this self-declaration is a breach of the SFI Terms and Conditions of Research Grants and may result in the Fellowship being terminated.

SCIENCE FOUNDATION IRELAND **sfi** Science Foundation Ireland For what's next

SFI Fellowship Programme 2023

Call for Submission of Proposals

KEY DATES

Event	Date
Call announcement	3 April 2023
Deadline for submission of applications	16 May 2023, 13:00 Dublin, Ireland local time
Proposed Start Date	2 October 2023

Terms of Reference

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of this document, it is provided for information purposes only and as a guide to expected developments. It is not intended, and should not be relied upon, as any form of warranty, representation, undertaking, contractual, or other commitment binding in law upon Science Foundation Ireland, the Government of Ireland, or any of their respective servants or agents. SFI Terms and Conditions of Research Grants shall govern the administration of SFI grants and awards to the exclusion of this and any other oral, written, or recorded statement.

All responses to this Call for Submission of Proposals will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the applicant except insofar as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the proposal or as may be required under law, including the Industrial Development (Science Foundation Ireland) Act, 2003, the Industrial Development (Science Foundation Ireland) (Amendment) Act 2013 and the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

Q&A Session

- We are now reviewing questions
- You may submit questions by typing them in the Zoom Q&A box- please be concise
- We will deal with as many of these as we can, verbally
- We will post a recording of this webinar on the SFI Fellowship webpage
- Questions can be submitted after the webinar to fellowship@sfi.ie

