



Office for Product  
Safety & Standards

## **OPSS Research Fellowship Scheme**

### **Questions & answers from the webinar**

A recording of the webinar is available on the OPSS careers page: [The OPSS Research Fellowship Scheme - OPSS](#)

#### **Are skilled worker visa holders eligible to apply for the Research Fellowship Scheme?**

Yes, as long as you have the right to work in the UK, you are eligible to apply. For further information, please email: [OPSS.recruitment@businessandtrade.gov.uk](mailto:OPSS.recruitment@businessandtrade.gov.uk)

#### **Are Global Talent visa holders eligible to apply for the Research Fellowship Scheme?**

For any questions regarding specific visas, please email [OPSS.recruitment@businessandtrade.gov.uk](mailto:OPSS.recruitment@businessandtrade.gov.uk)

#### **Where are the testing laboratories based?**

The laboratories are in Teddington, Southwest London. Please note, there is car parking on site, or it takes around 40 minutes on a train from London City Centre to get there.

#### **Does the scheme cover university overhead costs if academics join?**

No, we will not pay overheads to universities. However, we will match the Fellows salary to Civil Service pay scales. We will also pay the employers national insurance contributions and pension contributions.

#### **Is there a preference for the CV format?**

Your CV will need to be inputted into the application on Civil Service jobs. When you apply there will be a box to drop your CV into, and this will format it for you.

#### **How is the hybrid working (2/3 days) impacted by full vs part time secondment, is the expectation still to spend 40 - 60% of time in the office?**

Yes, office days are calculated pro-rata and will reduce according to the hours that you do.

**How would you define success at the conclusion of this fellowship and how would you communicate that value to your senior leadership and external stakeholders?**

Success on the Fellowship will be demonstrated by the conclusion of the project and the value you have brought to government – including through your technical skills and experience. You will have addressed the research questions in a way that makes a difference to the products consumers use every day. You will have added value to OPSS, such as by collaborating with colleagues and delivering training to teams. You will also receive learning and development opportunities to develop your skills.

In terms of outputs, when possible, the research will be published on gov.uk. For example, see: [Product safety research - GOV.UK](#). The research you have conducted will influence how government works and the lives of citizens.

**When are you expecting the roles to start?**

We expect all roles to start in September 2025, however, there is flexibility regarding the start date. Please note, the projects are also available on a part time basis, which may support with honouring existing teaching commitments.

**How many fellowships are open for this year, and are there any preferred research/technical backgrounds you are looking for?**

We are offering five Fellowships. The preferred research and technical backgrounds depend on the projects you are applying for. Please see the Civil Service job descriptions, which are linked on our careers page: [The OPSS Research Fellowship Scheme - OPSS](#)

Please note, if you feel you meet the criteria and have the relevant experience, you can apply for multiple roles.