This Word document is provided solely for information purposes; please note some differences between this and the final version of the online application form may occur. All applicants must create and complete their submission through the [online system](https://irishresearch.smartsimple.ie) by the relevant deadline**.** Please see the **2024 Call Document** and **the applicant’s** **Guide to the Online System** on the Irish Research Council’s [website](https://research.ie/funding/goipd/?f=postdoctoral) for further information prior to submitting your application online. We recommend that applicants review the “General Application Feedback” available on the aforementioned website (under the “Frequently asked questions” tab). All sections must be completed in full.

|  |
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| **Eligibility Quiz** |

The information you input in this quiz will determine your eligibility to apply for the 2024 Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme. If you do **not** meet the eligibility criteria, you will be deemed **ineligible to apply** and the system **will prevent you from accessing the application form.**

|  |
| --- |
| **Question 1:** Have you had two previous unsuccessful applications to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Question 2:** Will you have been awarded your doctoral degree within the 5-year period before 31 May 2024? For the purposes of this condition, the date of graduation will be taken into account. |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| *If no:* Will you have been certfied as having fulfilled, within the 5-year period before 31 May 2024, all the requirements for the award of a doctoral degree, including the submission of the hardbound corrected thesis, but have not yet graduated? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No  | 🞏 |

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| **Question 3:** Have you authored or co-authored at least one published peer-reviewed research publication OR do you have demonstrable equivalent intellectual property output OR can you provide a copy of the table of contents and one chapter from your doctoral thesis? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Question 4:** Have you been employed as a postdoctoral researcher for more than five years as at 31 May 2024? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Question 5:** Are you a permanent member of staff in either an Irish or international higher education institution or research-performing organisation? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Question 6:** Do you currently hold, or have you previously held, any Irish Research Council postdoctoral fellowship? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Question 7:** Does your proposed research deal with any of the following prohibited areas?* Research activity aimed at human cloning for reproductive purposes
* Research activity intended to modify the genetics of human beings that could make such changes heritable (with the exception of research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads, which may be funded)
* Research activities to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer
 |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

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| **Mentor:** Has a mentor, based in an eligible Irish higher education institution or research performing organisation, agreed to act as mentor for the above project?**PLEASE NOTE:***All applications require a mentor who is willing to supervise the proposed research project. Applicants* ***MUST*** *contact their mentor and research office before completing an eligibility quiz or submitting an application form. Please do****NOT****add a mentor to your application without their prior approval.* ***The Irish Research Council is not in a position to assist applicants in finding a mentor for their application.*** |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

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| *If yes:* Please provide the name of your mentor: |
| **PLEASE NOTE:***Please note that your application will be deemed* ***INELIGIBLE*** *if the name of the mentor included in the eligibility quiz on the online system does not match that on the application form, or if you list more than one mentor*. ***Make sure to confirm with your mentor the name they are registered with in the online system.***  |

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| **APPLICATION FORM** |

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| --- |
| Please select the duration of Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship for which you are applying: |
| 1-year fellowship | 🞏 |
| 2-year fellowship | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| Application in Irish: |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No  | 🞏 |

*There is an option on the system at this point to upload an English translation should you wish to do so. This will accompany your research proposal. The system will only accept documents in PDF format.*

|  |
| --- |
| ORCID identifier*:* |

*ORCID ID provides a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes you from every other researcher. If you do not currently have an ORCID ID, please register for one at* [*www.orcid.org*](http://www.orcid.org) *and provide us with your unique 16-digit identifier.*

|  |
| --- |
| Are you a national of a European Union member state (including the Republic of Ireland) **OR** Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland or the United Kingdom? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| **No** | 🞏 |

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| **Mentor Details** |

*All applications require a nominated ‘mentor in Ireland’ who is willing to mentor you for the proposed research project. Once you have added and saved your ‘mentor in Ireland’ details to the online system, the mentor should receive an automatic confirmation email advising them that they have been nominated. At this point mentors can log in to the system and view the application details. Applications must be submitted before the mentor can create and submit their online mentor reference form.*

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| Name: |

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| --- |
| Position: |

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| --- |
| Irish research body: |

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| --- |
| Department: |

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| --- |
| Telephone no: |

|  |
| --- |
| Email address: |

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| **Academic Qualifications** |

*Degree results as entered in the application form and endorsed by the HEI must be the applicant’s overall results and verifiable as such on official transcripts. If official transcripts do not confirm the applicant’s overall result, institution and date of award exactly as detailed in the application, any conditional offer of a scholarship will be withdrawn. If requested, supporting, non-returnable material must be forwarded to the Council for inspection before the fellowship can commence. All transcripts must be appropriately stamped and signed to confirm that they are official documents of the institution.*

*If your degree results refer to a grading system other than the Irish honours system (first class honours, upper second class (2.1) honours etc.) or the 4.0 grade point average scale, please explain the grading system being referred to in the free text box provided.*

***Bachelor’s degree*** *(or degree equivalent to the honours bachelor’s degree level 8 on the Irish* [*National Framework of Qualifications*](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications)*, if applicable:*

|  |
| --- |
| Institution:  |

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| --- |
| Country:  |

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| --- |
| Graduation date:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Qualification type and name: |

|  |
| --- |
| Final grade or grade point average: |

|  |
| --- |
| Any additional information relating to this degree can be included here, e.g. dissertation title, area of study:**[300 words]** |

***Second bachelor’s degree*** *(or degree equivalent to the honours bachelor’s degree level 8 on the Irish* [*National Framework of Qualifications*](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications)*), if applicable:*

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| Institution:  |

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| --- |
| Country:  |

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| --- |
| Graduation date:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

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| Qualification type and name: |

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| Final grade or grade point average: |

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| --- |
| Any additional information relating to this degree can be included here, e.g. dissertation title, area of study:**[300 words]** |

***Master’s degree*** *(or degree equivalent to the honours master’s degree level 9 on the Irish* [*National Framework of Qualifications*](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications)*), if applicable:*

|  |
| --- |
| Type:  |
| Taught | 🞏 |
| Research | 🞏 |

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| Institution: |

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| Country: |

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| --- |
| Graduation date:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

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| --- |
| Qualification type and name: |

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| --- |
| Final grade or grade point average: |

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| --- |
| Any additional information relating to this degree can be included here, e.g. dissertation title, area of study:**[300 words]** |

***Second master’s degree*** *(or degree equivalent to the honours master’s degree level 9 on the Irish* [*National Framework of Qualifications*](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications)*), if applicable:*

|  |
| --- |
| Type:  |
| Taught | 🞏 |
| Research | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| Institution: |

|  |
| --- |
| Country: |

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| --- |
| Graduation date:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Qualification type and name: |

|  |
| --- |
| Final grade or grade point average: |

|  |
| --- |
| Any additional information relating to this degree can be included here, e.g. dissertation title, area of study:**[300 words]** |

***Doctoral degree*** *(or degree equivalent to the doctoral degree level 10 on the Irish* [*National Framework of Qualifications*](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications)*) if applicable:*

|  |
| --- |
| Qualification type and name:   |

|  |
| --- |
| Institution:  |

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| --- |
| Country:  |

|  |
| --- |
| Name of supervisor: |

|  |
| --- |
| Title of doctoral thesis: |

|  |
| --- |
| Abstract: **[300 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Start date:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Has your doctorate been awarded? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

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| --- |
| If yes: Please specify your PhD graduation date (Note: in order to be eligible this date must be after 31 May 2019 and no later than 31 May 2024):*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
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| If you answered ‘no’ above, and you have not yet already graduated, **YOU MUST** have formally submitted the **hardbound corrected version** of your thesis by 31 May 2024 and be awaiting graduation. Select ‘yes’ if you comply with ALL of the above eligibility requirements. (Note: it is important to provide accurate information at this point. Should your application be recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide evidence that the **final version** of your thesis was submitted no later than **31 May 2024**. Should it subsequently emerge that this criterion has not been fulfilled, the application will be withdrawn from the process).  |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

**Other education:**

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide any additional information relevant to your academic background, which should include the name, location and dates for each relevant course listed. For major awards please also provide equivalency of the degree to the [Irish National Framework of Qualifications](https://www.qqi.ie/what-we-do/the-qualifications-system/national-framework-of-qualifications):**[300 words]** |

**Research achievements:**

|  |
| --- |
| Please describe your research achievements since beginning your career as a researcher (including PhD and post-PhD, if applicable). Please bear in mind this could be read by non-specialists, as well as peers, and should be written in order to communicate with them effectively:**[500 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Research award 1Title:Amount:Source: Award type (i.e. prize, research grant, travel grant, etc.):Duration: |

|  |
| --- |
| Research award 2Title:Amount:Source: Award type (i.e. prize, research grant, travel grant, etc.):Duration: |

|  |
| --- |
| Research award 3:Title:Amount:Source: Award type (i.e. prize, research grant, travel grant, etc.):Duration: |

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| --- |
| **Proposed Research** |

*This should be written by the applicant after consulting with the proposed mentor(s) and host organisation(s).*

|  |
| --- |
| Project title: |

|  |
| --- |
| Higher education institution: |

|  |
| --- |
| Department: |

*Please refer to the* [*research categorisation document*](http://research.ie/assets/uploads/2017/07/Research-Categorisation.pdf) *available on the Irish Research Council website for the list of primary areas, disciplines and other research areas.*

|  |
| --- |
| Primary area: |

|  |
| --- |
| Discipline: |

|  |
| --- |
| Other research area(s): |

|  |
| --- |
| Second categorisation – if interdisciplinary: |

*(If your proposed research is interdisciplinary, please list second categorisation here, e.g. primary area, then discipline, then other research area if applicable*).

|  |
| --- |
| Keywords describing proposed research:  |

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide a lay abstract for your proposed research. This will be used to inform a non-specialist audience:**[300 words]** |

|  |
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| Please provide details of your proposed research, to include aims, objectives and central research questions:**[750 words]** |

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| Please describe the research design and methodologies that will be used as part of your research project. These should be described in sufficient detail so as to demonstrate your understanding of the research topic:**[750 words]** |

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| Please provide a schedule to include (a) milestones and deliverables for completion of the proposed fellowship, (b) risks that might endanger achieving these deliverables and (c) the contingency plans to be put in place in order to mitigate these risks:**[500 words]** |

|  |
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| Please describe how the proposal relates to existing research in this area. Suggest how the project will make a new contribution to knowledge. Do not provide bibliographical lists or footnotes here. A few relevant references should be cited, however. Please provide DOI-IDs if applicable:**[750 words]** |

|  |
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| Please describe any specialist knowledge, data, access to specialist equipment/facilities and similar that are required for successful completion of the proposed fellowship including, but not limited to, language competencies, technical skills or use of specialist software. If the relevant knowledge, data or access to specialist equipment/facilities is not already in place, details should be provided as to how it will be acquired: **[500 words]** |

*If you have supplementary information, e.g. GANTT chart, diagrams or a bibliography, which accompany your research proposal, please upload them here in PDF format. Supplementary material should only include essential information required for the interpretation and understanding of the proposed research.****Applications will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered for funding if they include additional information about the research proposal or applicant****. Please do not disclose your gender in uploaded PDFs, e.g. use initials instead of first names if you have a publication listed in the bibliography.*

|  |
| --- |
| Please outline your plans for the dissemination and knowledge exchange of your research including, but not limited to, publications, conference papers, poster presentations, reports and outreach activities:**[500 words]** |

|  |
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| Please outline how the proposed research is a significant development from the research conducted as part of your doctoral thesis:**[500 words]** |

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| Please provide details of any proposed research trips of more than four weeks’ duration which you believe will be necessary for the successful completion of your fellowship:**[300 words]** |

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| Please outline your reasons for choosing your proposed higher education institution. Describe the relevant research infrastructure, facilities and resources that will be available to you at this institution:**[400 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Please outline your reasons for choosing your proposed mentor. Include information about the proposed mentor’s relevant research achievements, their involvement in research and training programmes, and their experience mentoring early-career researchers to date: **[400 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Have you previously submitted all or part of this proposal to an Irish Research Council scheme and been unsuccessful? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| If ‘yes’, please clearly describe the modifications to your research proposal since it was previously submitted:**[400 words]** |

*Please note that unsuccessful applicants may only re-apply to the scheme on one subsequent occasion.*

|  |
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| **Career Training and Development Plan** |

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| The Irish Research Council places great importance on the education and skills development of early-stage researchers. Successful researchers demonstrate strategic thinking, not only in research project design but also in career planning and professional development. On that basis, every applicant is required to upload a Career Training and Development Plan as part of their application.The Career Training and Development Plan document should be uploaded to the online system as a PDF file [maximum two pages] and should outline the following:* What are your career goals and how would this fellowship help you to achieve them?;
* Provide a description of plans for the acquisition of new knowledge and skills, e.g. gaining research skills and techniques, communication skills, research management, networking, and other transferable skills during the period of this fellowship. Where appropriate include a reference to the description of specialist knowledge section above;
* Please outline your reasons for choosing this fellowship and how you feel this fellowship programme will contribute to these goals;
* How would this fellowship enable you to gain skills relevant to employment outside the traditional academic sector?;
* Detail how the fellowship will enable you to acquire competencies that improve the prospects of reaching and/or reinforcing a position of professional maturity, diversity and independence.

The[**Vitae website and Researcher Development Framework**](https://www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers-professional-development)are excellent career development resources that you may find useful when preparing your Career Training and Development Plan. |

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| **Relevant Work Experience** |

*Please provide details of your relevant work experience in reverse chronological order, starting with your most recent post. Include details such as any postdoctoral research, research assistant posts, relevant teaching posts and/or enterprise employment.* ***DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR EDUCATION DETAILS IN THIS SECTION*** *These should be detailed only in the section relating to academic qualifications. If you do not have relevant work experience, you can leave this section empty.*

**Current position**

|  |
| --- |
| Place of employment: |

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| --- |
| Date employed from:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Date employed to:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Department/organisational unit: |

|  |
| --- |
| Research mentor (if applicable):  |

|  |
| --- |
| Brief description of work experience, duties and responsibilities: **[300 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Research project title and abstract (if applicable): **[300 words]** |

 **Previous position**

|  |
| --- |
| Place of employment: |

|  |
| --- |
| Date employed from:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

|  |
| --- |
| Date employed to:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

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| --- |
| Department/organisational unit: |

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| --- |
| Research mentor (if applicable):  |

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| --- |
| Brief description of work experience, duties and responsibilities: **[300 words]** |

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| Research project title and abstract (if applicable): **[300 words]** |

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| **Other Relevant Work Experience** |

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| --- |
| Job title: |

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| Company: |

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| --- |
| Address: |

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| --- |
| Dates employed:*dd/mm/yyyy* |

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| Please include details of any other relevant work experience (including voluntary work, organising conferences, etc.) to date. This should include employer names, job titles, nature of duties and responsibilities, as well as duration of employment:**[300 words]** |

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| Please explain why such work is relevant to your research proposal: **[300 words]** |

**Career break(s)**

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| As per the Call Document, applicants must have been awarded their doctoral degree or have been certified as having fulfilled all the requirements for the award of a doctoral degree within the 5-year period before 31 May 2024. Extension to this 5-year period can be considered on provision of documented evidence of an eligible career break as outlined in the call document.Do you require an extension to this 5-year period on grounds of a career break? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

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| --- |
| If ‘yes’, please indicate which of the following types of career break apply to you: |
| Maternity leave | 🞏 |
| Paternity leave | 🞏 |
| Adoptive leave | 🞏 |
| Parental leave | 🞏 |
| Prolonged sick leave | 🞏 |
| Carer’s leave | 🞏 |

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| Please indicate the reason(s) for requesting this extension, the number of months sought, and the date(s) when the career break(s) took place:**[300 words]** |

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| **Publications and Other Research Outputs** |

***Please provide details of your top five peer-reviewed publications*** *(including peer-reviewed journals, articles, books/book chapters, etc.). Specify your contribution to the publication. Please explain why each publication is significant.**Publications****in press****can be included in this section but submitted or in preparation publications strictly cannot. If you have no peer-reviewed publications, please leave this section blank and continue down to the****Other Publications and Research Outputs****section of this page.*

**Peer-reviewed publications**

|  |
| --- |
| Publication date: yyyyTitle:Author role:Journal name, year, volume and page numbers:Please explain why this publication is significant, focusing particularly on research content. Please specify your contribution to this publication:**[300 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide details of up to 15 publications or research outputs, e.g. publications to date; research awards achieved; creation of data sets, databases and software; conference papers presented; patents granted; excavations; public broadcasts; stage performances; creative writing (such as novels, poetry); creative productions; exhibitions etc. Publications in press can be included in this section. Publications submitted and in preparation strictly cannot be included in this section. If such publications are included, they will not be considered as part of your research track record. Information supplied here will be considered as part of your research track record in recognition of the value and impact of all types of research outputs. If you have no publications or other research outputs, please leave this section blank. |

|  |
| --- |
| Type:Publication date:Title:More details:Role:Please explain why this publication is significant, focusing particularly on research content. Please specify your contribution to this publication:**[300 words]** |

|  |
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| **Samples of written work** If you have no significant peer-reviewed publications, please upload samples of your written work as follows: * Doctoral thesis table of contents
* One chapter from your doctoral thesis
 |

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| **Personal Statement** |

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| Please outline your reasons for choosing this fellowship and your suitability for the fellowship. Explain why the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship is the appropriate next step at the current stage of your career. Please highlight any additional information which has not been included elsewhere in this application, e.g.:* Why have you proposed this research/publication plan?
* Why are you particularly suited to this fellowship programme?
* Which of your attributes, experience and achievements to date demonstrate your capability to successfully implement the fellowship?

**[500 words]** |

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| **Ethical Statement** |

*All Irish Research Council funded projects must be carried out in compliance with fundamental ethical principles. Research in any discipline can raise ethical issues. When conducting research, it is essential to carry out a detailed ethical evaluation and considering the research ethics at the early conceptual stage of any proposal greatly enhances the research project. If necessary, seek advice from the appropriate office in your organisation to ensure that you complete this section correctly.*

|  |
| --- |
| Does your research proposal require approval by the relevant institutional Ethics Committee? |
| Yes | 🞏 |
| No | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| Does your research proposal involve any of the following ethical issues of special relevance? |
| Informed consent | 🞏 |
| Human embryonic stem cells | 🞏 |
| Privacy and data protection | 🞏 |
| Use of human biological samples and data | 🞏 |
| Research on animals | 🞏 |
| Research in developing countries | 🞏 |
| Dual use (possible military/terrorist application) | 🞏 |
| None of the above | 🞏 |

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| --- |
| Please provide a statement detailing the careful consideration you have given to the ethical implications of the proposed research (where ethical issues may arise) and how you plan address these over the course of your fellowship:**[Max 500 words]** |

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| --- |
| **Sex/Gender Dimension** |

*Please read carefully the section on ‘Biological Sex/Gender Dimension’ in the Call Document for help in completing this section.*

|  |
| --- |
| Does your research involve any of the following? |
| Humans as the research focus  | 🞏 |
| Animals as the research focus   | 🞏 |
| Human samples and/or data  | 🞏 |
| Humans involved as consumers, users, patients or in trials   | 🞏 |
| Research on animals, animal samples and/or data   | 🞏 |
| Research outputs with implications for both men and women  | 🞏 |
| Research outputs with implications for end users or consumers  | 🞏 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| Please provide a statement detailing whether there is a potential sex and/or gender dimension to be considered in carrying out your research. If your research involves any of the above, please indicate how potential sex and/or gender issues will be handled.  If you have answered ‘no’ to the questions above, please explain why there is no potential biological sex and/or gender dimension to be considered in your proposed research. In particular, you are asked to reference the points mentioned in the ‘checklist for sex/gender in research content’ in the Call Document:**[Max 500 words]** |

 |

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| **Data Management Plan** |

**Data management**

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| --- |
| Please provide a data management plan which addresses the following:* How will data be exploited and/or shared/made accessible for verification and reuse?
* How will data be curated and preserved?
* If applicable, how do you plan to make data FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable)?
* If data cannot be made available, why?

**[Max 300 words]** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Applicant declaration** |

|  |
| --- |
| I hereby declare that I have read and accept the applicant requirements as set out in the Call document and Terms and Conditions on the Irish Research Council [website](https://research.ie/funding/goipd/?f=postdoctoral): |
| I agree | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| I confirm that the information supplied in this application is correct and recognise that should it become apparent that any of the information provided is inaccurate or unverifiable with appropriate documentation, it will result in the application automatically being deemed ineligible: |
| I agree | 🞏 |

|  |
| --- |
| I hereby declare that this application is entirely my own work and understand that it will be subject to plagiarism checks. Please note that random sampling for evidence of plagiarism will be carried out during the assessment process. Applicants who have been found to plagiarise will be prohibited from applying for Irish Research Council funding in the future. Suspected instances of plagiarism will be brought to the attention of the higher education institution: |
| I agree | 🞏 |