**LSE ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowships – Top 11 Queries Check List!**

1. Applicants must have completed their PhD at one of the 73 research organisations that are part of an [ESRC DTP](http://www.esrc.ac.uk/skills-and-careers/studentships/doctoral-training-partnerships/) [ESRC Call Specification pg3].
2. Fellows must be located on an accredited DTP pathway [ESRC Call Specification pg1] The LSE has 19 ESRC accredited departments and 27 accredited pathways. Eligible programmes and pathways are listed in the first document on our [PhD Academy ESRC DTP Homepage](https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/phd-academy/esrc-doctoral-training-partnership/postdoctoral-fellowships) here. If the research proposal covers two pathways, the applicant will need to decide which pathway they fall best into.
3. Applicants are not required to have previously held an ESRC-funded studentship in order to be eligible to apply [ESRC Call Specification pg3].
4. Applicants must have been awarded a PhD or have passed their viva voce with minor corrections by 23 March 2023. All applicants must have been awarded their PhD by the fellowship start date of 1 October 2023 [ESRC Call Specification pg3].
5. The grants are restricted to those with **no more than 12 months** of ‘active postdoctoral experience’. The period of active postdoctoral experience is defined as that accomplished between the viva voce being passed and the closing date of the competition, 23 March 2023. In the majority of cases ‘active postdoctoral experience’ will relate to periods within academia. However research-related posts in non-academic organisations should also be taken into account by applicants when considering eligibility. In calculating ‘active’ experience we will make allowance for career breaks’ and work breaks and disruptions due to COVID-19 can also be included. [ESRC FAQ’s document pg4].
6. The call is not open to applicants who are established, permanent members of staff in an academic position with a research component [ESRC Call Specification pg3].
7. Applicants who have been employed on a fixed-term contract are eligible to apply, provided they have not more than 12 months of active postdoctoral experience since the viva voce pass date and before the closing date for the competition of 23 March 2023 [ESRC FAQ pg4]. If you have undertaken a teaching contract, you would be eligible to apply provided there was no research component as part of the contract.
8. The grants provide funding for up to one year full-time or up to two years part-time. You can only apply for a fellowship on a part-time basis if that reflects your usual working hours. You cannot apply for a part-time fellowship if your contract is for full-time employment. These fellowships are intended as full working-time opportunities and cannot be held alongside any other employment. The exception to this is applicants whose PhD was necessarily undertaken on a part-time basis alongside permanent part-time employment [ESRC FAQ pg4].
9. The role is open to all candidates regardless of visa status, and sponsorship provided for the successful candidate should this be required.
10. The ESRC requires all fellows to have a mentor based at the research organisation where the fellowship is held. The mentor should be a social scientist and a senior colleague within the host institution and have experience and a strong interest in the applicant’s field of research. They should not normally be the applicant’s PhD supervisor. Please note that a secondary mentor is permitted, particularly in interdisciplinary areas and who could be the PhD supervisor. LSE requires that applicants identify and make contact with a suitable mentor prior to submitting their application [ESRC Call Specification pg4]. Please note that statements for the named Mentor, Referee and Head of Department must be provided by separate individuals.
11. The LSE Library provides information and guidance for researchers on Research Data Management (RDM), including information on what is a Data Management Plan and how to write one. They have a webpage <https://www.lse.ac.uk/library/research-support/research-data-management> and contact email [datalibrary@lse.ac.uk](mailto:datalibrary@lse.ac.uk) .