Postdoctoral Fellowship schemes
School of Archaeology Guidance for candidates 2019/20

The School of Archaeology welcomes interest from candidates both within and outside Oxford. If you are interested in making an application, the first step is to seek a mentor/supervisor who is an academic member of the School. Before submitting an Expression of Interest, please also check (contacting research@arch.ox.ac.uk) that the School is the most appropriate department through which to apply, especially if your field of research also intersects with other disciplines (e.g. Classics, Anthropology, etc.). It is strongly recommended that you contact the School in good time (**8–10 weeks before funder deadline)** if you wish to make an application to a particular scheme.

You must have the agreement of both the mentor and the School in order to make an application.

Step 1. Expression of Interest
Regardless of any scheme-specific requirements, in order for the School to consider whether the application is one that they will support, all prospective applicants must initially provide the following information **no later than 6 weeks before the funder deadline** (unless otherwise specified on the School website for particular calls)**:**

1. a CV
2. a summary of the intended project (2 A4 pages maximum)
3. details of the funding scheme (or a link to the online details)
4. a brief statement of support from the mentor, indicating the relevance of the research to the broader interests of the School and their support of the proposal and applicant
5. A list of what is required from the host institution BOTH at application stage (e.g. letters of support and their deadlines) AND within the project (e.g. scientific analyses/facilities/space/supervision)

Please note: To demonstrate that the project is feasible you must provide sufficient detail on the essential and desirable resources required for your proposed research project. This should be discussed with your potential supervisor and should include information on collaborations, fieldwork, samples, and the analytical equipment required. It is normal for aspects of the project to change once you have started but your proposal should highlight the main research question, methods, data and sources that are key to the project.

All applications will be assessed on academic merit, the viability of the proposed research project, the extent to which the work fits with existing interests of the research cluster, and the extent to which the research fits within the interests of the School. The School will also consider its research priorities and resource or space implications when reaching a decision. Please note that it may not be possible to support all applications.

Step 2. Completing the application
The School's Finance Officer, Stephen Hick, will assist in completing the financial information for your application, and candidates should contact him about this as soon as possible, before you begin preparing the budget.

If your project involves undertaking scientific analyses through any of the School's or University's facilities, you will also need to contact the relevant staff prior to submitting the application, to check costings and to confirm that the necessary time and resources will be available to undertake the analyses within the project's timeframe:
DNA analysis: Prof. Greger Larson
Geochemical analysis: Dr Victoria Smith
Isotope analysis: Dr Amy Styring
Materials analysis of ceramics, metals, etc.: Prof. Mark Pollard and Dr Chris Doherty
OSL dating: Prof. Christopher Ramsey and Dr Jean-Luc Schwenninger

Radiocarbon dating: Prof. Tom Higham (for obtaining dating only) or Prof. Christopher Ramsey (for work with calibration, the databases or directly on the AMS)

All external funding applications require the support and approval of both the School and the University's Research Services Office (RSO). Therefore, internal deadlines for **completion** of the funding body's application forms for review and final approval by the School are usually **at least two weeks earlier than the funder deadline**.

We strongly recommend that you engage your mentor in the application process. You should also visit the relevant section of the funding body's website and regularly check it for any changes to the scheme or the funding rules.

Should you have any queries, please contact research@arch.ox.ac.uk.