

## Quick Reference

Please note that you must read the full Call document for guidance before submitting your proposal

### Physical Sciences Theme Early Career Workshops

Call type: Expression of Interest

Closing date: 16:00 on Thursday 24 October 2019

**How to apply:** Expressions of Interest to be submitted via an embedded form on the call page. Those applications which are successful at the EPSRC internal panel assessment will be invited to attend the workshop.

**Assessment Process:** All Expressions of Interest will be assessed by an internal EPSRC panel against assessment criteria.

#### Key Dates:

Activity	Date
Expression of Interest opens	27 September 2019
Deadline for submission of an Expression of Interest	24 October 2019 at 16:00
Successful Applicant notified	Week beginning 28 October 2019
Dates of Workshops	20 November 2019, Newcastle 30 January 2020, Bristol

#### Contacts:

For general enquiries please contact:

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Physical Sciences ([PhysicalSciences@epsrc.ukri.org](mailto:PhysicalSciences@epsrc.ukri.org))



Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

## Physical Sciences Theme Early Career Workshops

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**Closing date: 16:00 on Thursday 24 October**

**Related themes: Physical Sciences**

### Contents of this call document

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### Summary

EPSRC is holding two single-day workshops for Early Career Researchers who work in the area of Physical Sciences.

These workshops will provide an update to EPSRC and Physical Sciences Theme strategies and will communicate recent and upcoming policy changes. The workshops will be attended by a number of EPSRC staff, and also by experienced academics, current or previous Early Career Fellowship holders from across the Physical Sciences portfolio, UKRI Future Leadership Fellows and New Investigator Awardees, all of whom will provide guidance and mentoring throughout the workshop. The workshops will also provide opportunities for networking with other Early Career Researchers.

We anticipate this event will be of greatest interest to Physical Sciences researchers who are eligible to hold an EPSRC grant and hold few or no grants as a Principal Investigator. We do not wish to be prescriptive based on years of post-doctoral experience and welcome applications from prospective participants with a different pattern of academic experience, early career researchers based in industry and postdoctoral research assistants who are hoping to take lectureship positions in the near future.

## Background

The Physical Sciences theme aims to deliver internationally competitive physical sciences research and training that reflects the needs of science, industry and government. One approach to deliver this is through the creation of opportunities for leaders across all career stages by actively engaging with early career researchers within the physical sciences. In order to address this, these Early Career Workshops aim to:

- Develop Early Career researcher's understanding of EPSRC, including strategic priorities and funding mechanisms.
- Inform Early Career researchers of the range of scheme available to them, and to clarify the differences between these.
- Develop relationships between EPSRC's Physical Sciences theme and Early Career researchers who will become future advocates for EPSRC.

For more information about Physical Sciences strategies, see our website: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/themes/physicalsciences/>

For more information about EPSRC's portfolio and strategies, see our website: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/research/ourportfolio/>

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The long term strength of the UK research base depends on harnessing all the available talent. EPSRC expects that equality and diversity is embedded at all levels and in all aspects of research practice and funding policy. We are committed to supporting the research community, offering a range of flexible options which allow applicants to design a package that fits their research goals, career and personal circumstances. This includes career breaks, support for people with caring responsibilities, flexible working and alternative working patterns. With this in mind, we welcome applications from academics who job share, have a part-time contract, or need flexible working arrangements.

Peer review is central to EPSRC funding decisions, we require expert advice and robust decision making processes for all EPSRC funding initiatives. We are committed to ensuring that fairness is fully reflected in all our funding processes by advancing policy which supports equality, diversity and inclusion. Please see our Equality and Diversity webpages <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/equalitydiversity/> for further information.

## Guidance on Journal-based metrics

As part of our commitment to support the recommendations and principles set out by the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA; <https://sfdora.org/read/>), UKRI reviewers and panel members are advised not to use journal-based metrics, such as journal impact factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an investigator's contributions, or to make funding decisions.

The content of a paper is more important than publication metrics, or the identity of the journal, in which it was published, especially for early-stage researchers. Reviewers and panel members are encouraged to consider the value and impact of all research outputs (including datasets, software, inventions, patents, preprints, other commercial activities, etc.) in addition to research publications. We advise our peer reviewers and panel members to consider a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as influence on policy and practice.

## Eligibility

Due to the Early Career focus of the workshops, attendees are expected to be Early Career researchers within the Physical Sciences remit of EPSRC.

## How to apply

Those wishing to attend the workshops should complete the Expression of Interest via the smart survey link on the call page, [which is found here](#).

Expressions of Interest will need to cover the following points:

- Provide a short biography including your career aspirations (150 words);
- Briefly list your primary areas of research (50 words);
- Why is this workshop of interest to you? What do you hope to contribute and obtain from attending the workshops? (150 words);
- How will you disseminate information and outputs from the event to colleagues at your institution? (100 words);
- Are there any topics you would particularly like to see covered at the workshop? (50 words).

## Assessment

### Assessment process

All Expressions of interest will be assessed by an internal panel of three EPSRC employees against the assessment criteria.

EPSRC expects approximately 50 delegates per workshop. In the event of this workshop being substantially oversubscribed as to be unmanageable, EPSRC reserve the right to modify the assessment process.

### Assessment criteria

The Expressions of Interest will be used to select participants based on meeting the eligibility criteria and:

- How the applicant career aspirations align to the aims of the workshops;
- How the proposed contribution aligns to the aims of the workshops;

- How the outputs of the workshop will be disseminated

In addition, EPSRC will also ensure a balanced representation of organisation, research area and career stage. Places are limited and in the event of over subscription from a single institution, the internal EPSRC panel will select an appropriate number to attend, with prioritisation based on the assessment criteria.

EPSRC's decision on attendance is final and feedback will not be given to unsuccessful applicants.

## Moving forward

Successful applicants will be notified in the week commencing 28 October 2019.

The submission of an Expression of Interest will be considered as a commitment to attend the workshop if selected. As stated above, the workshops will be held in Newcastle and Bristol – full details of the venue and agenda will be made available to the selected participants.

Submissions to this call will not count towards the Repeatedly Unsuccessful Applicants Policy. Further information about the policy can be found at: <https://epsrc.ukri.org/funding/howtoapply/basics/resubpol/rua/>

## Key dates

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\*EPSRC aims to adhere to the key dates as published, however there may be exceptions where the sift, prioritisation or interview meeting may have to change due to panel member availability.

## Contacts

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Physical Sciences (PhysicalSciences@epsrc.ukri.org)

## Change log

Name	Date	Version	Change
Marianne Rolph	09 September 2019	1	N/A
Marianne Rolph	09 October 2019	1.1	Clarification of the date for the Bristol workshop.