



MERTON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Non-stipendiary Career Development Fellowship in Medical Sciences 2025

1. GENERAL

Merton College proposes to make an election to a fixed-term, non-stipendiary Julia de Lacy Mann Fellowship in Medical Sciences from 1 October 2025 or as soon as possible thereafter. This Fellowship is available to an exceptional independent researcher (i.e., with a first independent position which started here or elsewhere no more than three years before 1st October 2025) who holds a significant external award for independent research in the Medical Sciences Division at the University of Oxford and is intended to provide the opportunity for them to benefit from association with Merton College and to engage with the Merton community.

The Fellow will not be an employee of the College and there is no stipend attached to this fellowship.

The Fellow will be elected for a period not exceeding five years and the fellowship will come to an end if the Fellow ceases to hold the award on the basis of which they were elected or if they are elected to a fellowship in another College, Society, or Hall of the University. The Fellow cannot be re-elected.

Applications are particularly welcome from women, candidates with a disability, and black and minority ethnic candidates, who are under-represented in academic posts at the University of Oxford. All applicants will be judged on merit, according to the selection criteria.

Merton College

There are thirty-nine self-governing and independent colleges at Oxford, giving both academic staff and students the benefits of belonging to a small, interdisciplinary academic community as well as to a large, internationally-renowned University. The collegiate system fosters a strong sense of community, bringing together leading academics and undergraduate and postgraduate students across a wide range of subjects, and from different cultures and countries.

Merton College was founded in 1264 by Walter de Merton, and is one of the oldest colleges in Oxford. It was the first fully self-governing college in the University of Oxford and was originally founded for twenty fellows, with undergraduates being formally admitted in the early 1380s. Over the centuries, many eminent scholars and cultural leaders have called Merton home including three Nobel Prize winners and an Abel Prize winner. Merton College has a strong commitment to excellence in research and teaching across a range of subjects in the Medical sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences and the Sciences. Information about Merton College can be found at <http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk>.

The College community currently comprises around 590 students (320 undergraduates and 270 postgraduates), some 70 Fellows, 40 other academic staff and over 100 members of support staff. On average the College has around 12 early career fellows at any one time. A number of Merton Fellows and graduates take part in the College's interdisciplinary discussion groups, currently organised in the following areas: the History of the Book, and Biomedical and Life Sciences. In addition, the College convenes a number of research talks throughout the year and fosters international collaboration through an active Visiting Researcher scheme including provision of accommodation for scholars.

The College strives to create a diverse, welcoming, inclusive and supportive community in which its members can thrive.

2. THE FELLOWSHIP

The successful candidate will be elected to a Julia de Lacy Mann Fellowship of the College. This category of Fellowship does not carry membership of the Governing Body.

The Fellow is expected to engage full-time in research and its dissemination in branches of the Medical Sciences. The successful candidate will be expected to:

- (a) propose, plan and manage a high-quality programme of original research;
- (b) publicise the outcomes of that research through publications and presentation of papers;
- (c) establish and develop appropriate research collaborations with other academics in Oxford and elsewhere;
- (d) submit an annual report to the Fellowship and Appointments Committee of the College on their research activities;
- (e) engage in the academic life and activities of the College. There are many College activities which go beyond the narrowly academic and it is hoped that the Fellow will participate fully in the life of the College. Fellows are strongly encouraged to participate in events which foster closer links between the Senior Common Room (SCR) and Middle Common Room (MCR).

Julia de Lacy Mann Fellows are entitled to free lunches and dinners at the Common Table when the kitchens are open ; they may claim research expenses of up to £2,000 p.a. (current rate) under the relevant College Bylaw; they are members of the Senior Common Room, for which a subscription is payable.

Other allowances and facilities may be offered at the discretion of the Governing Body.

The Fellow will be assigned an academic mentor who will discuss work in progress and support the individual in preparing for the next steps in their academic career.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

Candidates must:

- Hold a significant external award which provides funding for independent research and leadership of a research team (for example a Wellcome Career Development award, an R.C.U.K. Future Leaders Fellowship, a Royal Society University Research Fellowship, an MRC Career Development Award).
- Lead a vibrant independent research program in the Medical Sciences Division of the University of Oxford, with a first independent position which started here or elsewhere no more than three years before 1st October 2025.
- Have an appreciation of the value of joining the inter-disciplinary Merton community and a desire to engage with, and contribute to, College life.

Election to the Fellowship will be conditional on satisfactory provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

9. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

Those wishing to apply should complete the online application form at <http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/about-merton/vacancies> and e mail to vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk the following as a **single PDF document** in the named format '**Last Name, First Name, Application**' and in this exact order:

- The Non-stipendiary Fellowship in Medical Sciences Candidate Information Form 2025 (word document on our website);
- a covering letter;
- a CV;
- proof of the award on the basis of which they are eligible to apply for this Fellowship;
- an explanation of the research they will be undertaking during the tenure of their external award. Please note that this should be no more than 1,000 words including footnotes, but excluding any bibliography;
- A letter from your head of Department, confirming access to laboratory or office space required for your research.

Please put "**Non-Stipendiary Fellowship in Medical Sciences Application Last Name**" in the subject line of the e mail.

Hard copy applications are not necessary and late applications will not be accepted.

It is anticipated that interviews will be held on **Wednesday, 2nd July 2025**. Candidates are advised to hold these dates in their diaries.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 9.00am on Monday, 2nd June 2025.
Late applications will not be accepted.

References

When completing the application form, you will need to provide details of two referees. Applicants should ask their referees to write by the closing date to the HR Team at vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk. **Applicants are responsible for requesting references from their referees and for ensuring that references arrive by 9.00am** on the closing date of **Monday, 2nd June 2025**; they should therefore give referees enough time to write in their support. The College will not request references directly from the referees.

Applicants are also requested to inform their referees that, under the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018, the references they provide will be regarded as disclosable to the subject of the reference unless it is clear that the reference has been given in confidence. The College asks that a reference given in confidence should be marked “**strictly confidential**” on the letter of reference itself. Referees should also be asked to note that even where a reference is marked “strictly confidential” it could still be disclosed to the subject of the reference if that subject so requested and the College’s Data Protection Officer deemed it appropriate.

Applicants are encouraged to complete the Equal Opportunities Recruitment Monitoring form at the end of the Application form. The information collected on the Equal Opportunities Recruitment Monitoring form does not form part of the selection process and will **not** be circulated to the selection panel. It will be used solely to monitor the effectiveness of the College’s equality policy which is published at <http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/college-policies>.

Any enquiries related to these Further Particulars should be directed in the first instance to the HR Team at vacancies@merton.ox.ac.uk

10. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The policy and practice of Merton College require that all applicants are afforded equal opportunities. Election will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the requirements of the Fellowship. Subject to statutory provisions, no applicant will be treated less favourably than another because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

11. PRIVACY NOTICE

To view our Privacy notice please see here <https://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/privacy-notices-and-ropas>