



Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute

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Fellowship Program 2022

Guidance



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1. Overview

The Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (RGHI) is pleased to announce the launch of the Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute Fellowship Program 2022. Founded in 2020, RGHI aims to support high-quality scientific research addressing the links between hygiene and health. Please see Section 2 for details on the priority areas identified by RGHI leadership. This scheme will be run annually.

The Reckitt Fellowship Program is designed to support early career researchers in the field of hygiene and health in the transition to becoming independent researchers. It is open to researchers with up to 5 years of experience post-PhD (exclusive of career breaks). Fellows must be employed by a university or academic research institute for the duration of the fellowship and must be employed or have secured an offer of employment prior to the submission of the application.

Applications are particularly encouraged from nationals of low and middle-income countries whose fellowship will be based at institutions in a low or middle-income country. Further information about classification is available here: <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/daclist.htm>

Applicants are not eligible to apply if:

- They hold or have held an equivalent fellowship.
- They have a core funded post for the duration of the award.

RGHI Fellowships will provide:

- Up to 3 years full time salary support
- Up to \$150,000 for research costs
- Up to \$15,000 for travel expenses
- Up to \$15,000 for training and capacity building

Please see Section 4.1 for more details on eligibility and Section 6.9 for more details on allowable costs.

2. Introduction

RGHI was founded in 2020 to generate practical, high-quality scientific research and behavioral insights that will lead to the adoption of global sustainable hygienic practices and achieve enduring behavior change. RGHI aims to:



- Expand the body of research around and advance the understanding of the links between hygiene and health
- Enhance the understanding of best-in-class hygiene science to encourage new hygiene standards
- Promote behavior change to improve global hygiene and health
- Inform the global public health agenda

RGHI is funded by a grant from Reckitt plc which provides support for a Fellowship Program. The fellowships are issued via an open competitive process to a global group of promising individual researchers.

The goal of this Program is to stimulate new scientific discovery and translation of research findings into tangible advances in hygiene practices around the world. It encompasses basic research, clinical investigation, epidemiology, behavioral science, sociology, health economics and engineering.

The RGHI Fellowships are designed to support researchers transitioning to the next level in their careers and provide:

- Protected time to focus on his/her own research, shielded from other professional commitments.
- Funding for a challenging research project and an ambitious program of training which offers accelerated personal and career development.

The Host Institution at which the Fellow will be based for the period of the Fellowship must provide a clear commitment to supporting, developing and mentoring the Fellow for the duration of the Award.

3. RGHI Areas of Interest

The following topics have been identified by RGHI leadership and the RGHI Expert Panel as priority areas for further investigation. RGHI has adopted the WHO definition of hygiene: "Hygiene refers to conditions and practices that help to maintain health and prevent the spread of diseases." RGHI has an inclusive definition of hygiene, including hand hygiene, food hygiene, personal hygiene, domestic hygiene, and hygiene in institutions. The specific focus areas are intentionally broad, and applicants should propose a specific focus in line with their own expertise and interests.

- The link between hygiene and health /disease outcomes
- Setting-specific hygiene-related interventions and their impact.
- Determinants of hygiene behaviors and effective behavior-change approaches in high-burden countries.
- Intersection between hygiene, disease burden, and gender.



4. General Guidance

4.1. Applicant Eligibility

The RGHI Fellowships program is an open call for researchers who have successfully completed a doctoral degree by the time the fellowship commences, who are currently or will be based at a university or research institute, and who would like to conduct research on hygiene and health. The Fellowships are designed to support the transition from post-doctoral research to independent investigators and will provide funding for a challenging research project and an ambitious program of training to support Fellows' career development.

Applications are particularly encouraged from nationals of low and middle-income countries whose fellowship will be based at institutions in a low or middle-income country.

- The Fellowship is open to those with up to five years full time equivalent postdoctoral experience, excluding any career breaks. In situations where the application is for a first postdoctoral position, RGHI will consider applicants who have not yet completed their doctoral qualification, subject to successful completion prior to the commencement of the Fellowship.
- Applicants can be based at a university or research institute anywhere in the world.
- Applicant must hold a current contract of employment or offer of employment from their proposed host at the time of application.

Applicants are not eligible to apply if:

- They hold or have held an equivalent fellowship.
- They have a core funded post for the duration of the award.

4.2. Host organization

Eligible host institutions are universities or academic research institutes anywhere in the world.

The host organization must provide a statement of their commitment to supporting, developing and mentoring the Fellow for the duration of the award. All applications must be accompanied by letters of support from the Head of Department or equivalent.

All fellowship applicants must identify a primary supervisor at the host institution who agrees to provide on-going career development support and research guidance to the Fellow during the Fellowship period. The primary supervisor must also provide a letter of support.

Applicants should also identify up to 2 mentors for which additional letters of support should be submitted, at least one of the mentors should be external to the host institution. For applicants proposing work outside of their country of residence, one mentor should be based at an institution in



the country where the work will occur. Mentors must agree to provide career development and to the applicant throughout the Fellowship period.

4.3. Terms and conditions

The award will be issued to the host institution which will be responsible for financial reporting and managing the funds. The host institution must agree to a due diligence process. Full Terms and Conditions are available at <https://rghi.app.box.com/v/RGHI-Public-Policies>.

All Fellowships must be complete by January 1, 2026.

4.4. Contracting

RGHI will enter into a contract with the host institution to provide the Fellows' funding. Contracting will comply with [RGHI terms and conditions](#).

5. Timelines, Processes and Deadline

Timeline for 2022 Fellowship round:

- Late December 2021: Information opens on website
- Early February 2022: Online application form opens to applications
- February 2021: Information webinar
- March 2021: Grant writing session (sign up required)
- **June 6, 2022: Deadline for applications**
- Early September 2022: Interviews
- September 2022: Awards issued
- January 2023: Latest start date of fellowships

6. Application process and guidance

6.1. Application process

All applicants are required to submit their application within the grant management system. Applicants **must register with the grant management system and complete the application form by May 1, 2022** in order to submit the full application. Applicants are encouraged to register and create an account as soon as possible so as to not cause any delays in accessing the application materials.

6.2. General guidance

All uploaded documents should be in Calibri font size 11 with 2 cm margins.



Applications should be submitted in the RGHI grant management system by May 1, 2022.

6.3. Lay summary

Applicants should provide a summary of the research proposed, including key goals and outcomes for a general audience. Please note that summaries of funded projects may be made public on the RGHI website, therefore applicants are asked not to include any confidential information.

6.4. CV and personal information

Applicants must use the CV template available [here](#) and upload it to the relevant section within the grant management system. CVs must not exceed 3 pages and must be completed in Calibri font size 11 with 2 cm margins. Items should be listed in reverse chronological order with the most recent first. Further guidance is available within the CV template document.

6.5. Personal statement

Personal statements are limited to 3500 characters (including spaces).

The personal statement should clearly articulate the applicant's motivation for applying for the fellowship, the applicants long-term research and career plans, and how the fellowship will help the applicant progress in their career. The personal statement should also include justification about the choice of host institution.

6.6. Training plan

Training plans are limited to 3500 characters (including spaces).

The training plan should detail the training and development applicants will undertake as part of the RGHI Fellowship and should be tailored to the applicant's needs and research proposal. Applicants should clearly state how the proposed training program contributes to the overall research and fellowship's aims. This should cover both the training required to undertake the proposed research or gain expertise in an area but also training to support development into a research leader. Examples are: formal courses, training in specialist skills and methodologies, placements, leadership skills, conference attendance and overseas research visits. Indicative timeline for training should also be included.

6.7. Case for support

Applicants are required to submit a detailed case for support for the proposed research. This must be attached within the grant management section.



The Case for Support is limited to **6 pages** and must be completed in Calibri 11 point with 2cm margins.

References: Standard referencing approaches should be used throughout the Case for Support. References should be listed at the end of the document (not as footnotes) and must not exceed one page, this is in addition to the 6-page limit.

The Case for Support **must** include the following sections with clearly marked headings within the case for support:

- Title of the proposed project
- Background and rationale
- Which RGHI Priority Area is addressed in the proposed research and how the proposed research contributes to the RGHI Priority Area
- Aims and Objectives
- Proposed methodology, including: proposed study design, data collection methodology, and analysis plan
- Anticipated timeline
- Anticipated outputs, including (but not limited to) anticipated manuscripts published in peer reviewed journals, additional proposals, and conference presentations
- Impact of the research beyond academia
- Consideration about equitable partnerships where applicable
- Ethical considerations

6.8. Dissemination / Public engagement

Dissemination and public engagement information should not exceed 3500 characters (including spaces).

This section should include an outline of plans to engage with non-academic stakeholders as well as plans for the dissemination of findings to all stakeholders.

6.9. Budget template

Applicants must use the budget template available [here](#) and upload it to the relevant section within the grant management system.

The Fellowship will provide:

- Full time salary for the Fellow and associated costs and benefits (as determined by the pay scales of the host institution) for the three-year duration of the Fellowship inclusive of any salary changes during the fellowship. RGHI will fund the total cost of applicant's salary for the entire period of the grant. Applicants can only receive one salary.
- Research expenses up to \$150,000.



- A training budget of \$15,000.
- A travel budget of \$15,000.
- A flat overhead rate of 25% of the total direct costs listed above

Please note – Fellowships must adhere to RGHI's [open access publication policy](#). All open access costs for publications will be paid by RGHI directly to the publisher so these should not be included in the budget.

Please note fellowships will not fund:

- Administrative support
- Supervisor, mentors or collaborators salary
- Equipment over \$5,000
- Non-research related activity costs
- Furniture such as office furniture, and laboratory furniture
- Utilities such as electricity, gas and water costs.

6.10. Justification of resources

A detailed justification of resources must be provided with all applications. The justification of resources must not exceed 7000 characters (including spaces). Each item listed in the budget should be explained and justified within this section. Value for money is an assessment criteria and budgets must be fully justified and commensurate with the fellowship objectives.

6.11. Letters of support

Letters of support must be added within the RGHI grant management system.

- Letter of support from Head of Department or equivalent at the anticipated host institution confirming support to host the Fellowship and administer the award if successful. This letter should also confirm that the applicant currently holds a contract of employment or offer of employment from the host institution (maximum 2 pages)
- Letter of support from proposed supervisors to confirm their support for the application and outline how the proposed work aligns to their expertise (maximum 2 pages)
- Up to two Letters of Support from additional mentors (one of which should be external to the host institution) that confirm their support for the application and their support for the candidate. For applicants proposing work outside of their country of residence, at least one mentor should be based at an institution in the country where the work will occur.

7. Review & Assessment

Each round of Fellowship will be assessed in a fair process coordinated with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



Fellowships are awarded on the basis of a rigorous peer-review process with reviews conducted by independent scholars skilled in the Fellowship topics. A Shortlisting Panel will review all applications, provide a recommendation to invite applicants to interview.

The shortlisting and interview panels will score applications based on the following shortlisting criteria:

- Applicant's track record to date
- Career development and progression
- High-quality research project aligned with RGHI priority areas
- Impact of the research project
- Value for money

Following the notification of an award, successful applicants will be required to liaise with the Fellowships Support Team at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to ensure the project work plan and timelines are acceptable prior to the contract being issued.

8. Terms and conditions of award

Terms and conditions are available at <https://rghi.app.box.com/v/RGHI-Public-Policies>. All applicants must be familiar with these Terms and Conditions at the point of application. You must ensure that the Grant Activities are carried out by you, the Grant holder and any Participants or Organizations in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

9. Contact

Please direct questions to fellowships@rghi.org.