

MARSHALL SHERFIELD FELLOWSHIPS 2027

RULES FOR CANDIDATES

The Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission will be offering one post-doctoral Marshall Sherfield Fellowship in 2027. The first such Fellowships were awarded in 1998 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Marshall Plan.

The Fellowships, which are funded by the Marshall Sherfield Fellowship Foundation, and administered by the Marshall Commission, enable American scientists or engineers to undertake post-doctoral research for a period of one or two academic years at a British university or research institute.

The Fellowships are named after Sir Roger Makins FRS, later Lord Sherfield (1904-1996), British Ambassador to the United States from 1953 to 1956 and the architect of the Marshall Scholarships programme. He went on to be the Chairman of the Marshall Commission, and of the UK Atomic Energy Authority, and from 1970-1992 was Chancellor of the University of Reading.

The aim of the Marshall Sherfield Fellowships is to introduce American scientists and engineers to the cutting edge of UK science and engineering. It is intended that this in turn will build longer-term contacts and international links between the United Kingdom and the United States in key scientific areas. The wider objectives are similar to those of the Marshall Scholarships programme:

- To enable intellectually distinguished young Americans, their country's future leaders, to study in the UK.
- To help fellows gain an understanding and appreciation of contemporary Britain.
- To contribute to the advancement of knowledge in science and technology at Britain's centres of academic excellence.
- To motivate fellows to act as ambassadors from the USA to the UK and vice versa throughout their lives thus strengthening British American understanding.
- To promote the personal and academic fulfilment of each fellow.

The conditions of award, application and selection procedures are set out below.

GENERAL

1. One Marshall Sherfield Fellowship will be awarded in 2027. It will be tenable at any British university or research institute and cover from 12 to 24 months of post-doctoral research in any area of science and engineering.

AWARDS

2. The total value of a Marshall Sherfield Fellowship will vary a little according to the circumstances of each Fellow. The emoluments comprise:

- a laboratory fee or research support grant fixed according to subject (paid direct to host institution);
- approved airfare to the United Kingdom and return on expiry of the Fellowship (see para. 23 below);

- a personal maintenance allowance to cover residence and cost of living expenses
- a grant of up to £1,500 across the tenure of a two year award for approved travel in connection with research programme, conferences or other professional development opportunities;

3. Fellows' emoluments are not subject to UK Income Tax but may be considered taxable income by the US Internal Revenue Service. Award holders and their spouses may be liable for the payment at least in part of any Council Tax levied by the local authority where they live.

ELIGIBILITY

4. To qualify, candidates should:

- be citizens of the United States of America normally resident in the USA;
- hold a doctorate in a Science, Engineering, Technology or Mathematics (STEM) subject by the time they take up their Fellowship in October 2027.

5. These awards are not available for study for a higher degree.

APPLICATIONS

6. Each candidate must submit an application on the forms found here:

7. Applications must be submitted to the Marshall Commission at prog.admin@marshallscholarship.org no later than 2 November 2026. These will be considered by a UK-based selection committee (appointed by and reporting to the Marshall Commission).

8. Candidates invited for interview must provide evidence of citizenship (e.g. passport or birth certificate).

SELECTION

9. In appointing Fellows, the selectors will look for distinction of intellect and character as evidenced both by their scholastic attainments and by their other activities and achievements. Candidates, who will be expected to pursue high level research during their Fellowship, should demonstrate an outward-looking disposition, good communications skills and the potential to promote British-American understanding. Preference will be given to candidates who combine high academic ability with the capacity to play an active part in the life of the United Kingdom university or research institute to which they go, and to those who display a potential to make a significant contribution to their own society. Selectors will also look for strong motivation and seriousness of purpose, including the presentation of a specific and realistic research programme.

10. Applications will be received by the Marshall Commission in London (see para. 7 above) and forwarded to a specially appointed committee of scientific experts in the UK for short-listing. Short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview in December 2026. The final selection will be made by the Marshall Sherfield Selection Committee. The results will be communicated no later than the end of December 2026.

11. Expenses. If interviews are held in person, candidates may be reimbursed their travel expenses to Washington DC. Such expenses may not exceed the cost of domestic round-trip air fare (at the most economical rate available) and unavoidable overnight accommodation.

12. Overseas applicants. Applications will be accepted from US citizens who may be residing outside the United States. Applicants should note in their application if they are located overseas. If interviews are in person, overseas applicants can be offered a virtual interview. International airfare will not be reimbursed.

TENURE

13. Marshall Sherfield Fellowships are tenable from one or two academic years from October 2027 (ie, the beginning of the academic year in the United Kingdom. There may be orientation events in the US and the UK that the fellow will be invited to attend. It is hoped that those selected for a Fellowship will spend not less than nine months in the United Kingdom. Most fellowships will run from 1st October – 30th September.

14. As a Marshall Sherfield Fellowship is intended to give the holder an opportunity to see as much as possible of the United Kingdom, meet its people and observe its institutions, Fellows will be expected to reside in the United Kingdom during tenure and the Marshall Commission must be informed in advance of any proposed absence. Research programmes involving lengthy periods away from the university/research institute or outside the United Kingdom will not usually be accepted. Return visits to the United States are subject to approval by the Marshall Commission and at the expense of the fellow. There will be a reduced living allowance for any time spent outside of the UK in excess of 30 days in one academic year.

15. Fellows will be asked to submit to the Marshall Commission a report on their work at the end of each year of their Fellowship.

16. If a Fellow cannot take up an award during the year for which it is offered, the Fellowship will lapse.

PLACEMENT – HOST INSTITUTION

17. Although the Marshall Commission reserves the right to approve the final placement, the strongest candidates have already made independent approaches to universities/ research institutes in the United Kingdom, have received offers of places for a particular course of research, and can detail this support in their application–

18. Medicine and Dentistry: Medically qualified applicants whose research programme requires them to practise clinically, or to work in a laboratory department reporting on samples from patients, can be considered only if they are eligible for registration with the General Medical Council or the General Dental Council. Information about current conditions for registration can be obtained from:

The General Medical Council
Overseas Registration Division
Regent's Place, 350 Euston Road,
London NW1 3JN

Tel: +44 (0)161 923 6602
Email: gmc@gmc-uk.org
Website: www.gmc-uk.org

The General Dental Council
37 Wimpole Street
London W1G 8DQ

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7887 3800
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7224 3294
Website: www.gdc-uk.org

OTHER FELLOWSHIPS AND EARNED INCOME

19. Candidates are asked to state on their application form whether they have applied, or intend to apply, for any similar fellowships. Marshall Sherfield Fellowships may not normally be held concurrently with any

other award, and the Marshall Commission reserves the right to abate its Fellowships in instances where Fellows are beneficiaries of other significant awards, prizes or earned income. Fellows may not normally undertake any paid employment within universities/research institutions or elsewhere in the United Kingdom during the tenure of their Fellowship.

APPLICATION CENTRE

20. Completed applications and supporting documents must be emailed to prog.admin@marshallscholarship.org by **2 November 2026**.

21. The offices of the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission in London are located at: British Council, 1 Redman Place, London, E20 1JQ. URL: <http://www.marshallscholarship.org>

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

22. Full details of administrative arrangements will be given to Fellows with notification of their awards but candidates may like to be aware of the points covered below:

23. Fares for Marshall Sherfield Fellows will be paid from their place of residence in the United States to their university/research institute in the United Kingdom. The fares will cover economy class air travel in the United States, economy class transatlantic air fares and standard class train fares in the United Kingdom. Subject to satisfactory completion of studies in the United Kingdom, fares will be paid for return journeys on the same basis. Fellows are not debarred from travelling by other means or at other rates to take up their award, but no reimbursement can exceed the actual amount expended nor the equivalent of the cost of the passages described above. No other expenses of travel can be met, unless Fellows wish to join Marshall Scholars in Washington DC before departing to the UK as outlined below.

24. Assuming it fits with their schedules, it is hoped that the Fellows will travel to the United Kingdom from Washington DC, together with the main group of Marshall Scholars, in which case travel arrangements will be made by the Marshall Commission Secretariat. Information on travel arrangements will be provided. Fellows who decide to make independent travel arrangements must arrange to arrive in time for the beginning of their agreed term of tenure. The fellow should seek approval for flight costs ahead of purchase, and if approved, will be reimbursed for the cost of their fare upon arrival to the UK.

25. Insurance. The Marshall Commission has no responsibility for insurance against sickness, accident, or death, either for candidates in the United States or for selected Fellows travelling to or from or residing in the United Kingdom. Although eligible for medical treatment in the United Kingdom (see para. 26 below) Fellows are advised to maintain ongoing health insurance in the United States during their period of tenure. Fellows are also advised to make adequate arrangements for insurance of personal possessions when travelling to or from or residing in the United Kingdom.

26. Medical Treatment in the United Kingdom. The Marshall Commission will pay the Immigration Health Surcharge for the Fellow which will entitle them to free healthcare under the National Health Service (NHS) whilst in the UK.

27. Visas. In order to facilitate entry into the United Kingdom, fellows will be eligible to apply for the Global Talent Visa. The costs for visa and healthcare surcharges will be covered for the duration of the Fellowship (not more than 2 years). Should the fellow wish to apply for a longer visa, they will be responsible for the additional costs.

28. Payment of Stipends. The Marshall Commission will pay emoluments to Fellows in not less than four instalments spread over the academic year.

29. Fellows with dependants. Fellows who will be accompanied by a partner or dependants during their Fellowship should inform the Secretariat as early as possible and review the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) criteria on partners and children which they will be required to meet found on gov.uk here.

29. Costs covered for dependants. Any visa-related costs for dependants, including the Immigration Health Surcharge, will be at the expense of the Fellow. The Marshall Commission has discretion to pay the fares of the Fellow's dependants if agreed in advance and UKVI conditions are met.

30. Accommodation. Fellows should seek advice about accommodation from the Accommodation Officer at the university or institution where they will be based at the earliest opportunity prior to their arrival in the UK, particularly if they are to be accompanied by any dependants. Since university accommodation is in demand and is often reserved for students, Fellows must be prepared to live in lodgings. Fellows who think they may need childcare facilities are advised to ask their host institution as early as possible whether any are available.