



## **Open Call: Funded Collaborative PhD opportunity FAQs**

### **What is the annual salary for the researcher?**

This opportunity is fully funded. This means you'll receive:

- A minimum stipend of £19,237 per year for your living costs, which is paid to you in monthly instalments. The stipend is non-taxable and does not need to be paid back.
- You will also receive an additional £600 per year to support costs associated with engagement with Wysing Arts Centre (e.g. travel costs).
- Tuition fees will be paid directly to your research organisation (University of Leicester).
- As a UKRI-funded doctoral student, you may be able to access additional funding to cover the cost of other related training and development opportunities.

### **I require adjustments/have access needs. How will these be supported?**

If you have a disability, you may be entitled to a Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) on top of your studentship. University of Leicester have a Disability Centre which can work with you to assess your needs. They can help put the right support in place, including a DSA application as needed. DSA helps to cover the cost of any additional support that a person studying for a doctorate might need because of a disability, mental health, or specific learning need.

The allowance covers:

- Non-medical personal assistance.
- Specialist equipment.
- Extra travel costs.
- General expenses.

### **How long is the post/how long will it take to complete the PhD?**

This post can be undertaken full-time or part-time. Full-time is a maximum of 4 years of study and for part-time, a maximum of 8 years of study.

### **Can I continue to work alongside my PhD?**

Yes. Whether you decide to pursue full-time or part-time study you can continue to work. Full-Time students can work for up to 6 hours per week with no limit for part-time students.

### **How will I be required to divide my time across Wysing and Leicester?**

This is flexible and can be responsive to the candidate's needs. It will be usual for you to have one supervision meeting per month with the lead academic supervisor (Dr Rosemary Shirley) in person at University of Leicester. We will encourage the candidate to visit Wysing on average once a month, with free accommodation being offered to support this.

### **Is this post suitable for artists?**

While this PhD could be undertaken by someone with an active artistic practice, the project is conceived as predominantly theoretical (as opposed to practice based) with the opportunity to contribute to Wysing's programme through research related events (for example). This could be well suited to someone with a background in art history/theory, museum/gallery studies, curating, or visual cultures.

### **Do you need to be from the UK to access this opportunity?**

This opportunity is open to both UK and International candidates. The successful candidate (whether national or international) will be eligible for the full award, both the stipend to support living costs, and fees.

### **Can I get support with a visa application, if required?**

Unfortunately, this opportunity does not include additional funding to support Visa costs.

### **I don't have a degree, will this matter?**

It is possible to apply without a Masters degree, where an applicant has other experience or equivalent knowledge that would support them in undertaking a PhD. However, candidates are expected to be able to evidence some degree level study (e.g. a Bachelors degree.)

### **What do I need to prepare for my application?**

Please note that you need to make two applications: one to the University of Leicester for a place on their PhD programme and one to the Midlands 4 Cities for funding. All application information is available at <https://www.midlands4cities.ac.uk/apply>

For an informal conversation about the opportunity please contact Dr Rosemary Shirley, School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester, via email: [rosemary.shirley@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:rosemary.shirley@leicester.ac.uk)

### **When is the deadline?**

The final deadline for the Midlands 4 Cities funding is 13 January 2025 (noon), however please be aware that in order to submit your application you will need to have already made your application to the University of Leicester and been issued an applicant number, so make sure to do this in advance of the deadline.