

ICF

Ten.8 Research & Curatorial Fellowship FAQs (2024)

Who is eligible to apply for this fellowship?

This fellowship is a professional development opportunity for a UK-based Black or Brown researcher or curator. We are welcoming applications from researchers/curators across the UK who can work remotely during the development of the project outputs but can travel to attend events, installation, development and site meetings when required. This travel will be covered by the project.

How much does the fellowship pay?

The fellowship will last 1.5 year, and the annual fee is £20,000, which is approximately £1,667.00 per calendar month.

We have secured £20,000 towards the first year of the fellowship fee and are actively fundraising for the remaining 6 months. While we didn't secure the full amount needed in our first funding application, we are confident we can secure the remaining fee balance in the months to come. We are open to discussing this should you have any questions or concerns.

What is the time commitment?

The fellowship is part-time and flexible but equivalent to 2 days per week across 1.5 years (please note the point above regarding the fee). With support from ICF, you are responsible for managing your time in and around key project programming/output delivery dates for an event at Photographers Gallery in January/February 2025 and in Walsall for the installation of the exhibition - the main output of the fellowship - between March-April 2026. You will be expected to attend occasional research and site visits in person during the fellowship and should be able to work evenings and weekends in person occasionally when programming for this project is taking place.

Will I be able to keep my job, take on independent/freelance projects or do an internship simultaneously?

This fellowship is part-time and is in no way intended to prevent you from carrying out other independent/freelance and/or part-time work while fulfilling the tasks and responsibilities of this fellowship. Please also note that this fellowship is 2 days per week, with some evening and weekend work required. While applications from individuals in full-time positions are welcome, please note that we don't expect this fellowship to take place alongside full-time work, given the nature of the overall project. A lot of work, including development and team meetings, site visits, and production and installation, will take place between Monday and Friday.

Before sending your application, please carefully read the full Fellowship open call to self-assess if and how this fellowship can sit alongside other existing or future work/projects.

What is my relationship with ICF during the fellowship?

The selected fellow will become a part of the ICF team, specifically within the Programmes team. The fellow will attend regular staff and programme-specific team meetings remotely, participate in relevant training and professional development opportunities, report on relevant areas of work and disseminate information as required. You will have opportunities to engage with other ongoing programmes that the ICF will produce throughout the year and access networking opportunities organised by ICF, partners and/or our extended networks.

As an ICF team member, you will be expected to be inclusive and anti-racist and operate by the ICF's access and diversity, safeguarding, employment, health and safety, equal opportunities and other practices, policies and procedures.

What should I include in my application for the fellowship?

Your application for the fellowship must include all of the below information and documents in an email to info@internationalcuratorsforum.org

- Curriculum Vitae (no more than 2 sides of A4)
- Cover letter or supporting statement (no more than 2 sides of A4) answering the following questions:
 - Why is this fellowship and exhibition of interest to you?
 - Why would this fellowship be helpful to you at this stage in your practice?
 - Why are you interested in Ten.8 and photography?
 - Why do you want to work with ICF and the project partners?
- Examples of at least 3 projects you've curated or produced on in the last 5 years (no more than 6 sides of A4)
- The contact details for 2 references (either on your CV or in the body of your application email)

What should I write in my cover letter or supporting statement?

Use your cover letter or supporting statement to tell us why you're interested in this opportunity and why now. We want you to address 4 key questions, and while each one has no word limit, your cover letter or supporting statement should be no more than 2 sides of A4. Please answer the following:

- Why is this fellowship and exhibition of interest to you?
- Why would this fellowship be helpful to you at this stage in your practice?
- Why are you interested in Ten.8 and photography?
- Why do you want to work with ICF and the project partners?

What do you mean by 'recent experience (within the last 5 years) curating and producing exhibitions/public programmes in the arts or other relevant fields'?

We want to see a clear track record of curating and producing creative or research projects (paid or unpaid) within the last 5 years. This could be within the arts and cultural sector, creative industries or experience from other sectors you feel are relevant. Be sure to clearly demonstrate this in your CV and your example projects document, including any information that will help us assess your experience.

How can I share 'Examples of at least 3 projects you've curated or produced on in the last 5 years'?

When sharing examples of your curated and produced projects, we want to clearly see and understand your selected projects' ideas/concepts and delivery. This could be shown through sharing relevant imagery, text, videos, and/or links. While we've suggested no more than 6 sides of A4 as guidance, we're open to receiving other formats if there is another more accessible or user-friendly format you want to share with us, so long as we have the feasible access to receive it. If you're unsure about this and have questions, please feel free to email us info@internationalcuratorsforum.org. We aim to answer your question(s) within 2-3 working days.

If you share links to websites, audio, or video hosting sites, please indicate the specific works you'd like us to view and any required passwords.

Do I need an undergraduate or post-graduate arts/social sciences degree to apply?

No. While we are open to receiving applications from individuals with degrees in the arts/social sciences, you don't need this to apply. We're looking for applicants with a broad range of experiences who can demonstrate a genuine interest in contemporary art, a track record of curating and producing creative or research projects within the last 5 years, an eagerness to work on a project of this scale, and the passion and drive necessary to work independently as well as collaboratively. If you have other experience we've not mentioned but you feel is relevant, we want to hear from you. Please share it with us and demonstrate why it's relevant in your application.

I have a disability. Can you make adjustments to assist me in the application and interview process?

Yes. We welcome and encourage applicants facing barriers to applying and hope that we can accommodate as wide a range of applicants as possible. Please email info@internationalcuratorsforum.org to discuss what reasonable adjustments we can make at least 2-3 working days before the deadline.

Please note we can offer an interview to any applicant with a disability who meets the required criteria listed in the person specification. If you wish to disclose a disability to us, please do so in your cover letter or in the email you send us to submit your application.

Anyone invited to an interview will also be invited to share any access needs in advance so these can be addressed. We can provide a budget to support individual access requirements.

I am not eligible for the fellowship programme or I can't commit to the fellowship timeline. Can you offer any help?

We understand that some of our current opportunities might not be right for everyone and would like to help wherever possible. As a small team, we're currently focused on delivering our existing planned programmes, but relevant future opportunities may arise. So we can keep you informed, please follow us on Instagram and sign up for our newsletter at www.internationalcuratorsforum.org/contact/

How do I know my application was successfully submitted?

You will receive an email from the ICF team confirming your application has been received within 24 hours of submission.

Will I get feedback on my applications? / Will you provide feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

Unfortunately, we are unable to write back to all applicants at the shortlisting stage or give specific feedback on why you have not been shortlisted. If you do not hear from us by 31 July 2024, please assume you have not been shortlisted in this instance.

When will I be notified if I am shortlisted?

The shortlisting process will take place during the week commencing 1 July 2024.

I have questions about the fellowship. Who can I speak to about it?

We are working to make our opportunities and the application process as user-friendly as possible. Please see our FAQs for common questions. If you have any questions beyond that, feel free to contact info@internationalcuratorsforum.org. We are a small team, with half working part-time, and we aim to answer your question(s) within 2-3 working days.

Where does the funding come from?

ICF's Ten.8 Research & Curatorial Fellowship has been made possible with funding from Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Foyle Foundation. As a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), ICF receives its core funding from Arts Council England (ACE).

Does ICF have an Ethical Fundraising Policy?

Yes, you can request this from us directly via email.