

Why a Wellcome Trust funded GW4-Clinical Academic Training (CAT) Fellowship?

Scientific advances require clinical academics in the research landscape

You may be a vet, medic or dentist reading this as a potential clinical academic of the future; you are competitive and want to offer your field advances in knowledge. You have choices, but may be constrained by your professional training pathway, or your young family. Perhaps you are looking to move to the South West of the UK into a region of beautiful coasts and countryside and lands of history and culture, with great road and rail links! Whatever your reasons, you will want the very best training, with international experts in science and medicine within a supportive environment. You will want the transition into your research fellowship from clinical practice to be smooth, without financial penalty and you will value mentorship from someone who understands your journey.



We have just appointed our third cohort of fellows to this prestigious Wellcome Trust funded GW4-CAT fellowship; they will soon start their journey to becoming a clinical academic of the future.

The next call for applications will be released in February 2019 for a PhD fellowship start in August 2020. The first step is to consider whether this is the right time for you to apply and when would be the best time for you to commence your PhD. Would you consider full-time or is it better for your child-care arrangements to be part-time. We understand that work-life balance changes over time and we would work with you to help you consider what is best for you. One example of timing is with Rachel who applied for a place, was successful, but then needed to postpone her start date due to having to retake some of her professional exams. Or there is Jay who had prepared a project outline, but then decided to change supervisors and project at the last minute. After an honest and frank discussion with the experienced directors, we supported these decisions as they were right for the applicant at that time.



Because you are used to planning your career, the Wellcome Trust funded GW4-CAT Programme adapts to feedback from our current Fellows. If you are thinking of applying in the next round, your CV needs to be competitive; perhaps you need extra time to complete your research primer, or to get that first author paper in press. Consider in your personal statement, why GW4? What do you know about the region, the universities of Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter, the expertise of the lead supervisors. What could you offer us?

Next step.... Look at our website (GW4-CAT.ac.uk), contact us with any queries that you may have, and we wish you well if you apply when our call for applications is live. *Published August 2018*