



Example searches on ResearchProfessional.com for Early Career Researchers

Creating searches on ResearchProfessional.com doesn't have to be complicated!

Below we show example searches specifically aimed at finding funding for early career researchers. You might also find our [Funding for Early Career Researchers](#) web page useful.

For a wide variety of sample searches, do also have a look at our [General example funding searches](#), as well as our example searches for [Travel funding](#) and for [Visiting Researchers](#).

Please note: this document should be read in conjunction with our [Quick Start Guide](#), which gives a basic overview of the system and provides information on setting up e-mail alerts, saving, sharing and printing funding opportunities.

All these documents can be found at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/researchsupport/findfunding/

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1. Finding Early Career Funding: A Step-by-Step Guide

In the following example, you will search for funding for early career researchers in the Social Sciences. To do this, you first need to select 'Award type' as your search criteria.

Step 1: Start with the Award Type


We suggest you to select 'Award type' > is any of > and add all of the following award types, including 'Mid-Career fellowships', which often will return relevant results.

The screenshot shows a search interface titled 'Early-career example'. The search criteria are set to 'Award type' with the operator 'Is any of'. A dropdown menu is open, showing the following options: Predoctoral fellowships, Mid-Career fellowships, Young investigator awards, Predoctoral training fellowships, and Postdoctoral training fellowships. Below the dropdown is a 'Select' button. There is also an 'Include closed calls' checkbox and a 'Search' button. The interface shows 'Group by: Closing date' and 'Sort by: Opportunity name'. At the bottom, it indicates '706 items' and '50 100 200 results per page'. A 'Flag' button is also visible. Below the search interface is a 'Selected Items' list with the following items checked: Predoctoral fellowships, Mid-Career fellowships, Young investigator awards, Predoctoral training fellowships, and Postdoctoral training fellowships. There are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons at the bottom right of the list.

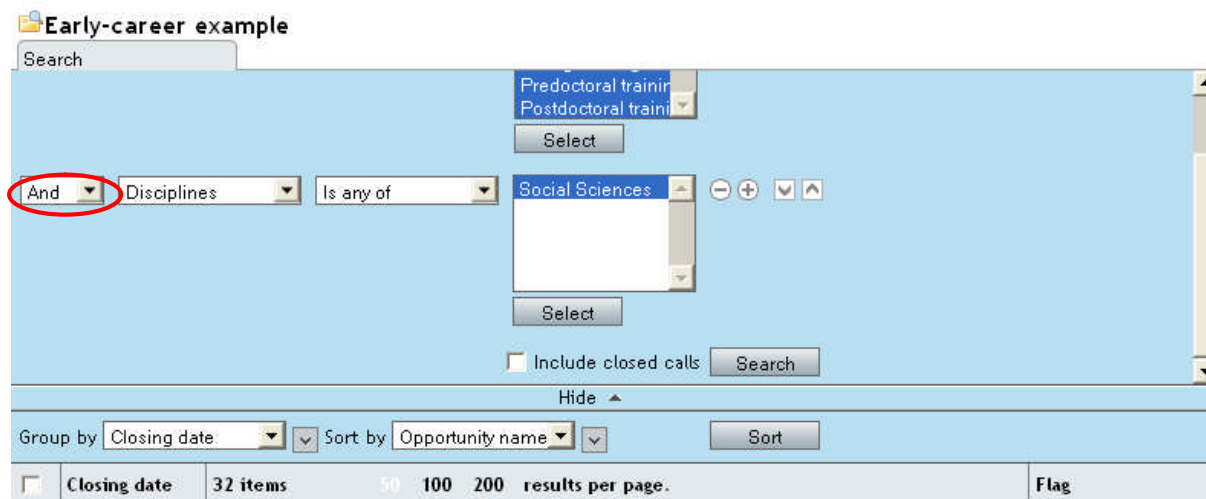
Explanation of Award Types used in this example

- *Predoctoral/Postdoctoral training fellowships*: training fellowships refer to fellowships that provide applicants with the opportunity to acquire research skills, rather than actually carry out a piece of research.
- *Mid-Career fellowships*: this term is used when a sponsor offers a fellowship to applicants who have received a doctorate within a time frame stipulated by the sponsor. (This often is relevant even for early career researchers!)
- *Young investigator awards*: this term is used when a sponsor stipulates a maximum age limit for applicants or uses the word 'young' in the programme announcement.
- *Predoctoral fellowships*: this term is used when a sponsor offers a fellowship to postgraduate, pre-doctoral applicants.

Step 2: Narrow the search results down by using the Disciplines criteria

You can then add a Discipline (in the example below, 'Social Sciences') by clicking on the plus symbol  and using the operator 'And'.

In this example, we chose the 'is any of' operator, which will return funding opportunities that have been indexed **exactly** at the level of 'Social Sciences' (a top-level term on the Rodman Index)'.



The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Early-career example". It features a search bar at the top. Below the search bar, there are several dropdown menus and buttons. A dropdown menu for "Disciplines" is open, showing "Social Sciences" selected. To the left of this dropdown, a dropdown menu for "Is any of" is open, showing "And" selected. The "And" dropdown is circled in red. Below the "Disciplines" dropdown, there is a "Select" button. Below the "Is any of" dropdown, there is a "Select" button. Below these dropdowns, there is a checkbox for "Include closed calls" and a "Search" button. At the bottom of the interface, there are options for "Group by" (Closing date) and "Sort by" (Opportunity name), and a "Sort" button. The bottom of the page shows a table with columns for "Closing date", "32 items", "50 100 200 results per page.", and "Flag".

Note:

- If you chose the 'Or' operator here you would get **all** results for Social Sciences (not only early career funding) and all for the award type criteria selected above (but for all subjects) – which would not be helpful!
- If you would like to get broader funding results you could choose the operator 'is exact or narrower' next to the 'Disciplines' criteria, which will return results indexed exactly at the level of 'Social Sciences' **and** all its levels below, e.g. 'Psychology' etc.
- To get the broadest possible results for this search, change the operator to 'is broader, exact or narrower'. This will return calls indexed at the level *above* 'Social Sciences' [in this case, Social Sciences is a level 1 key term, which means that you would only get calls indexed with the discipline term 'Any', which are non subject-specific]. You will also get all opportunities below 'Social Sciences'.

This very broad search would give you much less well-matched results, but could still be useful if you then narrowed it down by various criteria, such as 'Closing Date', etc.

Step 3 (optional): Add time-based criteria (e.g. Closing date before mm/yyyy) and move these up to the top of your search


You can also add a limit for the deadline (e.g. 'Closing date' > 'is before' > 31/10/2012). This will exclude any opportunities without deadlines, so you need to add another criterion with 'Closing date > no date' in this case.



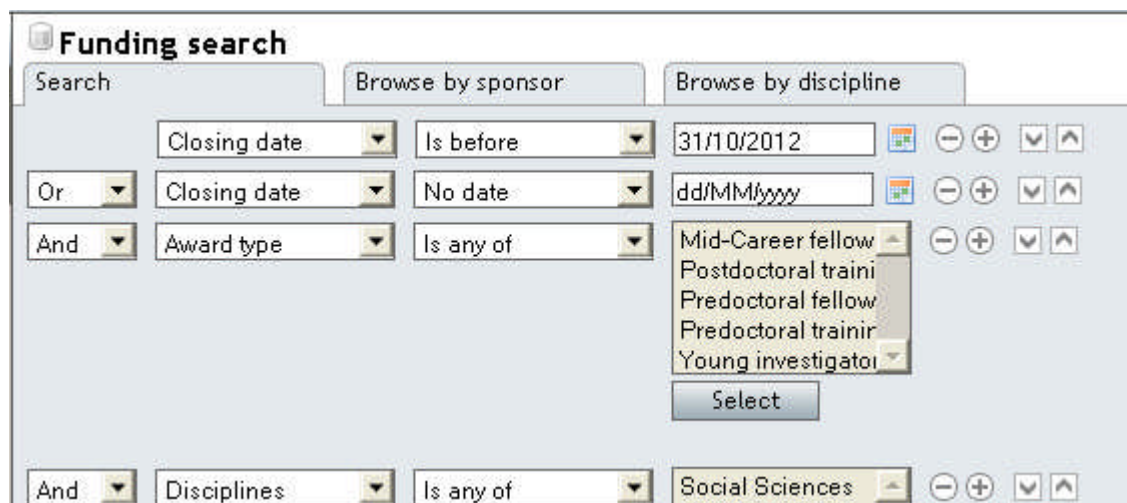
Alternatively, you could also search for 'Days until closing' > 'is less than' > e.g. '90'.



Important: We have to put all the 'Or' operators **before** the 'And' operators in this search. This is because 'Or' operators always search the **entire** database, and from those results we can then narrow down easily by adding the operator 'And' and 'Award type' and 'Discipline'.

You can move your new search criteria up to the top of your search by clicking on the upwards arrows .

Our **final search** looks like this:



Explanation: If we had inserted our 'Or' operators *after* Award and Discipline types, we would have received three separate results:

- **All** results within our discipline 'Social Sciences' that would be relevant to early career funding;

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- **All** funding opportunities with closing dates before 31 October 2012 or without deadlines (**not** 'Social Sciences'-related)!

This search would *not* have been useful.

Once your search is finalised, you can sort your search results, e.g. by sponsor name or closing deadline.

You can then save your search in your Funding panel so you can re-run (or amend it) at any time in the future. See our [Quick Start Guide](#) for more information on setting up e-mail alerts, saving, sharing and printing funding opportunities.

2. Do's and Don'ts

- **Do** set up at least a couple of different searches and compare their results before turning them into e-mail alerts, so you know you get well-matched results every time. If you get few results, consider broadening your search criteria.
- **Don't** rely on full text searches but use the 'Discipline' operator instead.
- **Don't** set up email alerts from searches with **time-based criteria** (e.g. closing date within 90 days) as you will get very few (if any) results in your weekly email alert.
- **Don't** exclude by Award type, i.e. don't use the operator 'And not' with any Award types. (Example: Award type = 'Mid-career fellowships' *And not* Award type = 'Travel' will exclude those awards listed with both mid-career fellowships and Travel.)

Disclaimer

ResearchProfessional.com and Research Services aim to give the correct information about these opportunities, however, please always check the sponsor's website as details can change, for example the deadline dates.