



CPP Practice Fellows Programme 2026

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is a Practice Fellow?

CPP Practice Fellows are policy professionals who spend approximately 30 hours over a period of eight months working with the Centre for Public Policy at the University of Glasgow to gain insights into policy questions facing them in their roles. Fellows are professionals external to higher education in a policy-relevant role from the public, voluntary or private sector.

What is the time commitment and how does it work?

In total the Fellowship is around 30 hours of time over eight months, which includes a mix of academic engagements, meetings with CPP staff, and cohort-wide events. Practice Fellows will be appointed in June 2026 and will spend 1-2 hours with CPP staff during the summer to onboard and prepare for their academic engagements in Autumn 2026. There will be a Fellows kick-off event in-person in September 2026.

The bulk of the Fellowship consists of meetings with University of Glasgow researchers with expertise on Fellowship questions, brokered by CPP staff. These brokered engagements will occur between September – December 2026. Roughly 3-10 hours total will be spent in direct academic engagement.

Fellows will also spend time writing a blog output at the end of their Fellowship reflecting on their questions and engagements for the CPP website. The Fellows are also expected to attend at least two in-person meetings with the whole Cohort, including an End of Fellowship Showcase in Spring 2027.

Who can apply?

The Centre for Public Policy welcomes applicants with experience of working within the public policy field as researchers, policy makers and/or practitioners, external to higher education institutions. Fellows can be based at public, private or voluntary organisations.

To be eligible to be a fellow, an applicant must have five years minimum experience in a policy-related role. It does not have to be five years with the same organisation. This can include those working at all levels of government, the voluntary sector or the private sector. The Fellowship is particularly suitable to those at mid-career level.

Fellows will need to be based within the United Kingdom and Ireland, as there is an expectation of in person engagements with the Centre and researchers during the Fellowship.

We will not appoint fellows who are currently working within higher education institutions. We also require an organisational affiliation, and therefore we will not appoint self-employed consultants.



How to apply?

Please fill out our **Application Form** and a **2-page CV** and attach it to an email to the Centre for Public Policy at public-policy@glasgow.ac.uk

Application Deadline: Monday 1 June 2026 at 5:00 pm

*Please note that the application form requires the initials of your line manager for submission, so please discuss this with your manager in advance of applying.

There is an applicant online information session on Wednesday 13 May at 11:00 – 12:00 via Teams. [You can register for this meeting via Eventbrite here.](#)

What are the expected outputs?

The Fellows will work with CPP staff to produce at minimum one output on their policy questions and engagements for the CPP website upon the conclusion of their Fellowship in Spring 2027.

The Centre website has published blogs from four of the Practice Fellows in 2025-2026, which [you can access on our website.](#)

What are suitable questions to frame a Fellowship?

Questions posed in the Practice Fellows application will ideally cover an issue of relevance in your policy-related work where research evidence could be utilised. It is important that there is alignment with an ongoing theme or issue in your organisation's work alongside your own career development. Reviewers should be able to see how the insights gleaned from academic engagements will impact your day-to-day work.

The question(s) may be quite broad, focussing on understanding the broad state of the evidence regarding a particular policy issue. Or it may be quite narrow, perhaps focussed on a specific policy problem, programme or law. You may also consider methodological questions, such as, 'What is the best way to gather evidence or evaluate', for example, when considering a particular place, sector or community. Or, 'How can we improve analysis of policy issues, problems or practice'. Often researchers are at the forefront of methodological innovations, which may be valuable for your context.

Framing your policy questions

The team at the Centre for Public Policy will help you to refine your question upon appointment if you so choose. We welcome applications and policy questions from all policy areas, and academic meetings will be brokered with University of Glasgow staff from across the institution. It is advised that you consider the Centre's [expertise](#), [activities](#), and [outputs](#) when framing your questions. It may be useful to view the University of Glasgow's [Research Beacons](#) to understand the research strengths of the university. As we will be brokering academic engagements within the University of Glasgow, if the policy questions are those where the University does not currently research we will be unable to take the Fellow on. (This, however, is unlikely given the breadth and size of the institution.)



What does it cost to participate?

The University of Glasgow does not charge a fee to participate in the Practice Fellows programme. This is a professional development opportunity provided by the University of Glasgow, the Centre for Public Policy and supported by the ESRC Impact Acceleration Account.

Is there funding available to cover my expenses during the Fellowship?

While Fellows are not paid for their participation, up to £1400 per Fellow is available to cover Fellow expenses. Funding can cover travel costs associated with coming to the University of Glasgow for academic engagements, inclusion needs, and any consumables that might be required for additional engagements (e.g. workshops).

How many Practice Fellows will be recruited?

We anticipate that 6-8 Fellows will be appointed.

How are Practice Fellows selected?

Fellows are selected via review panel, which consists of CPP leadership and advisors.