

SENTENCING ACADEMY

Sentencing Academy Fellowship Scheme

14 September 2020

The Sentencing Academy is delighted to announce the introduction of its Fellowship Scheme which is aimed at those intending to pursue a career in the field of criminal justice. Through its eligibility criteria, it is designed to encourage people from disadvantaged and/or under-represented backgrounds who may wish to pursue a career in research, policy, practice, the third sector or a criminal justice profession. Sentencing Academy Fellows will be supervised and supported to complete a 5,000 word piece of research on any aspect of sentencing in England and Wales. At the current time we envisage that the supervision will all be completed remotely but that may change if circumstances allow.

Who is eligible to apply for the Fellowship Scheme?

Applicants must be in either the **final year of an undergraduate degree course** or **studying for a taught postgraduate qualification** (either an academic course or working towards a professional practice qualification) and have a demonstrable commitment to working in the field of criminal justice.

Applicants must have attended a state secondary school **and** satisfy one of the following criteria:

- Eligible for free school meals at some stage during secondary school; **or**
- First generation of immediate family to go to university; **or**
- Have been a looked after child at some stage during childhood.

What does the Fellowship Scheme entail?

Sentencing Academy Fellows will produce a 5,000 word piece of original research on a topic related to sentencing in England and Wales. At the start of the project, the Directors of the Sentencing Academy will work with Fellows to refine the research proposal. The research will be supervised by an expert in the field and the completed project will be published on the Sentencing Academy's website. Fellows will be expected to present their research at a seminar event in September 2021.

Sentencing Academy Fellows will be awarded a bursary of £1,500 (half is payable at the start of the project and the other half is payable upon successful completion of the scheme).

How long does the Fellowship Scheme last?

Research supervision will begin on 1 December 2020 and the 5,000 word research project must be submitted by 16 August 2021.

What is the selection criteria?

Candidates will be selected on merit based on their application and research proposal. This process will also include consideration of the extent to which candidates are likely to derive a benefit from the Fellowship Scheme and the importance of increasing representation of people from under-represented groups. Applicants who do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be considered for the scheme.

What is the application process?

Applicants are requested to submit a CV, a one page cover letter (to include a brief overview of future career aspirations and confirmation of meeting the eligibility criteria) and a research proposal of no more than 500 words. The research proposal must be for an original piece of research on sentencing in England and Wales. The research can be on any aspect of sentencing but it must be a project that can feasibly be completed, alongside your existing studies, during the timeframe of the Fellowship Scheme. Only proposals focused on sentencing in England and Wales will be considered – although there can be a comparative element to other jurisdictions. You may wish to discuss your proposed area of research with a tutor before submitting your application.

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to provide one university reference to support their application and successful candidates will be selected on the strength of their application, proposal and university reference.

How many Sentencing Academy Fellowships are available?

There are two Fellowships available for the 2020-21 academic year.

When is the deadline for applications?

Applications (including a CV, a cover letter and a research proposal) must be received by **5pm on Friday 16 October 2020**. Please send your application, by email, to: **info@sentencingacademy.org.uk**.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about the Fellowship Scheme, please contact us by email at: info@sentencingacademy.org.uk. As identifying a suitable area of research forms part of the selection process, we regret that we will not be able to comment on the suitability of any proposed research in advance of an application.