

### What is the Senior Fellowship Pathway?

The award of Senior Fellowship has been outlined by Advance HE as, 'Senior Fellowship is awarded to professionals who demonstrate they meet the criteria of Descriptor 3 (D3) of the [Professional Standards Framework](#) (PSF) 2023 for teaching and supporting learning in higher education.'

### Who is the Pathway for?

'It is suitable for individuals whose comprehensive understanding and effective practice provides a basis from which they lead or influence the learning and teaching practices of others (peers, colleagues, mentees, etc.) who teach and/or support high-quality learning.' Senior Fellowship is awarded by [AdvanceHE](#).

It is suitable for those who have a number of years of experience of teaching in Higher Education and/or supporting learning and can talk in-depth about how they have influenced colleagues and their teaching practice or their support for student learning. It is not only academic staff who are eligible: anyone who has a role in supporting student learning is able to apply, e.g. learning technologists or other professional services whose role includes influencing colleagues. The Pathway supports colleagues on all Heriot-Watt campuses.

### What are the benefits of participating in the Pathway?

Applying for Senior Fellowship of the HEA is an opportunity to take time out to reflect on your practice and the impact of your work. It is also a chance to identify your hopes and priorities for the next stage of your career in learning and teaching.

### What is the Pathway for?

The Senior Fellowship Pathway is designed to give you space, guidance and peer support to create your application, which consists of i) a context statement that lets you introduce yourself (300 words in total); ii) a reflection on your roles, responsibilities and professional experience that is also supported by two case studies (6000 words in total).

#### At a glance

The Senior Fellowship Pathway supports experienced staff to gain advanced professional recognition for their positive impact and leadership on colleagues who support learning.

### What does participation in the Pathway involve?

The Pathway runs for 7 months, from October 2023 to April 2024 (taking into consideration local holidays etc.) and is designed to take you all the way from your first look at the SFHEA application form, to submitting your completed application.

- You will be required to sign a learning agreement before starting the programme.
- There will be fortnightly live sessions, held on Teams, where you will receive advice and guidance, and work with peers on aspects of your application.
- There will be a welcome and launch session on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September**, 8-9am UK /11am-12pm Dubai /3-4pm Malaysia.
- Regular fortnightly sessions will then begin in October (week 1 and week 3).
- You will be provided with a mentor who has successfully gained their Senior Fellowship, to provide support throughout the Pathway.
- You will be provided with feedback as you draft your application.
- Heriot-Watt will pay for your application to Advance HE

The intention is for participants to submit their applications to [AdvanceHE](#) at the end of the 7-month Pathway. The total time commitment will depend on the individual, but a rough guide would be 40-60 hours (including attendance at Pathway sessions).

**Notes:**

1. Places on the SFHEA Pathway will be limited to ensure that staff get appropriate support and mentorship.
2. Funding for direct application to Advance HE will be limited to those on the Pathway.
3. Funding will be provided for the first application (which includes one resubmission). Further resubmissions will not be funded.

To sign up for the Senior Fellowship Pathway contact the Learning and Teaching Academy ([LTAcademy@hw.ac.uk](mailto:LTAcademy@hw.ac.uk)) to find out more. You can find more detailed information about Senior Fellowship on the [Advance HE website](#).