

How to Apply

In 2024, for the very first time, we will be considering open applications to join our flagship programmes: The First Sea Lord's Fellow (1SL Fellow); and Richmond Fellowship (Richmond Fellows).

We are seeking applications from a broad range of backgrounds, both internal and external to the UK Armed Forces, with different Fellowship levels available to cater for variations in experience.

1SL Fellow 2024/26 (24 months)

1SL Fellows are drawn from persons with a minimum of 5yrs experience in the UK Armed Forces, Civil Service or related career field (including academia), **or** having gained or be working towards a PhD in a relevant discipline (where career experience is not possible).

Richmond Fellow 2024/25 (12 Months)

There are no minimum academic or seniority requirements to apply for the Richmond Fellowship, just a passion for advancing strategic thought in relation to maritime matters.

You can read more about these programmes and how to apply in the below.

Benefits of Fellowship

- Authorised use of the 1SL / Richmond Fellow title.
- Access to and platform for engagement with the Senior Naval Leadership.
- Professional Development and research opportunities, including away-days at prestigious UK universities and think tanks.
- Networking and engagement across the maritime community through the RN's convening power.
- Access to leading think and tanks academia, both nationally and internationally.
- Prioritised attendance at all RNSSC events and activities, including opportunities to present your research to senior leadership.
- Platform to contribute to and shape discourse on UK maritime strategic thought.
- Formal recognition on the RNSSC website.

Application Criteria:

- Aged 18yrs or over.
- A self-starter with a passion for advancing strategic thought across the full range of maritime activity.
- Applicants both internal and external to the UK Ministry of Defence are encouraged to apply.

1SL Fellows:

- A minimum of 5yrs experience in the UK Armed Forces, Civil Service or related career field (including industry, think-tanks and/or academia);
- **Or** a PhD (or working towards one) in a relevant maritime discipline;
- A relevant research proposal of not more than 300 words.

Successful applicants will be inducted for a 2-year tenure with the title '1SL Fellow'.

Richmond Fellows:

- There are no minimum academic or seniority requirements to apply for the Richmond Fellowship, just a willingness to commit to progressing the RNSSC's mission.

Successful applicants will be inducted on a 12-month basis, with the title 'Richmond Fellow'.

Your Commitment

As 1SL Fellow, to:

- support the RNSSC in its objectives, intellectual thinking, and development of its outputs;
- produce **two** circa 1,500-word articles per year, **or** a longer research paper of circa 5,000 words;
- contribute to and support at least one RNSSC Quarterly Research Theme per year;
- support and/or participate in at least one RNSSC in person event per year;
- attend and represent the RNSSC at partner and think tank events;
- host one of the RNSSC's monthly lunchtime lectures;
- promote and project the work of the RNSSC across your own network.

As a Richmond Fellow:

- support the RNSSC in its objectives, intellectual thinking, and development of its outputs;
- contribute to the quarterly RNSSC Research Themes;
- attend the First Sea Lord's Sea Power Conference (held annually in May);
- support and attend RNSSC events, in person or online, including away-days at prestigious UK universities;
- attend and represent the RNSSC at partner and think tank events;
- contribute to red-teaming and emergent RNSSC-led workstrands;
- promote and project the work of the RNSSC across your own network.

How to Apply

Complete the RNSSC Fellowship application before the closing date of 15 January 2024.

Email a copy of your professional CV to NavyStratPol-RNSSC@mod.gov.uk before 15 January 2024.

You will be notified of the outcome of your application no later than 1 March 2024.

A public announcement of successful applicants will be made shortly after 1 April 2024.

Apply via Microsoft Forms at the link below:

[RNSSC Applications for April 2024](#)