Catapult Researchers in Residence (RiR) Programme
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Is extensive knowledge exchange (KE) experience and an excellent understanding of the UK funding landscape also a prerequisite for these RiR roles?

In terms of KE experience, it’s not really required for this role. We’re looking for academic expertise on the opportunities described. The academic would work alongside our technical teams to deliver their residency aims. Research funding landscape understanding is not the focus of the RiR scheme either. We are looking for academics who want to use the Satellite Applications Catapult to help define exciting new areas of technology and exploit their research into businesses.

2. What is the minimum requirement of stay?

There is no official minimum requirement of stay, but this must be discussed with your host Catapult.

3. Small visits are appropriate according to the eligibility criteria, but what classifies as a small visit and how many of these are allowed per year?

The purpose of the residency is to spend time in the host Catapult, so this must be discussed with the host Catapult. For example, this might be one day per week or one week every month.

4. Does it have to be a new project that me and Catapult start together, or an idea of mine?

The project should address one of the opportunities that are published online. The purpose of the RiR programme is to take academic expertise and to bring it closer to exploitation by using the Catapult network.

5. Are there overheads for the University?

Please see Applicant Guidance-Financial Plan, and Application Form-Financial Plan.

6. Is there travel allowance available for conferences for me or my students?
The value of each voucher towards supporting a RiR is up to £50k (100% FEC), which may be flexibly spread between one and four years. Funding will be awarded directly to the RiR’s host university (or other eligible research organisation) and not the Catapult.

The award can only be used to cover the salary costs for the visit of each RiR, travel and subsistence costs, and any consumables used at the Catapult.

Any other costs (e.g. equipment/service costs, technician time, etc.) will be covered by the host Catapult within reasonable limits and pre-agreed with the host Catapult.

7. **Is there a possibility to bring my PhD students with me?**

   No, there is no possibility to bring PhD students.

8. **My NERC KE Fellow application was not successful as the review panel felt I did not have enough knowledge exchange outside of academia. Should I then anticipate the same outcome for this application?**

   This is not a KE fellowship, rather more specifically research focussed, so your original bid is a better fit to this scheme.

9. **Should the budget include accommodation costs or is there accommodation on site?**

   The budget should include your accommodation costs.

10. **Can the applicant choose where to be based?**

    With this joint position we would like you to choose a preferred location (location is given for each advertised opportunity on the website), but have the ability to work between our organisations (so travel between them for meetings or spend the occasional day or so in the other location).

11. **Are there any restrictions on the amount of time spent in residence for the series of short secondments?**

    There is no time limit for the secondments, rather a financial limit of £50k which should dictate how much time you will be able to spend.

12. **The Guidance notes:** 'The budget should also include an allowance for attendance at relevant Catapult events that you are invited to attend during the duration of the
scheme.’ Are you able to advise on the typical location and length of these events and their frequency per year?

We have two major networking events for Knowledge Exchange a year. They tend to be hosted by one of our partner organisations, so could be anywhere in the UK. They typically last for two days. In addition to this, I would envisage that the RiR might participate in one cross Catapult/EPSRC networking event (London) and then perhaps two more space sector event per annum.