

THE COCHRANE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP: Call for 2023 applications

Chester Beatty, Dublin, Ireland

Application deadline Friday 23 December 2022

Applications should be emailed to islamic@cbl.ie

Applications are now invited for the Cochrane Research Fellowship 2023 at the Chester Beatty, Dublin, Ireland. This is a three-month, funded postdoctoral research position that must be undertaken within the calendar year 2023. The three months may be non-consecutive, if preferred. There is an expectation that at least one month will be onsite at the Chester Beatty. The Fellow will receive €4,167 per month to cover travel, accommodation and living expenses during the Fellowship (€12,500 total, before tax and statutory deductions).

Funded by the Cochrane Family, the Cochrane Research Fellowship programme will be offered annually for a four-year period (2023–2026).

The purpose of the Fellowship is to support academic research on Arabic manuscripts in the Chester Beatty Islamic collections and to share that research with the academic community and museum audiences.

To apply for the 2023 Fellowship, please submit an [application form](#) and CV to islamic@cbl.ie by Friday 23 December 2022.

Overview

Introduction to the Chester Beatty's Arabic Collections

The Chester Beatty in Dublin (Ireland) is a national museum formed from the private art collection of the Irish-American mining magnate Alfred Chester Beatty (1875-1968). The museum is dedicated substantially to the written word and the arts of the book in Asia, North Africa and Europe, and the collections number just over 25,000 objects. There is a programme of digitisation and these images can be found on the museum's [Collections Online](#) website.

There are approximately 3,000 Arabic manuscripts (including copies of the Qur'an) at the Chester Beatty, written on papyrus, parchment and paper. Most were catalogued in A.J. Arberry's *Handlist of the Arabic Manuscripts* (eight volumes, 1955-1966), and [The Koran Illuminated \(1967\)](#), both of which are available for download from the museum's [website](#). The Chester Beatty's Arabic collections offer an exceptional resource for scholarship, with potential to research the histories of art, ideas, faith, science, literature, libraries, intellectual networks, empire, and collecting.

Purpose of the Cochrane Research Fellowship

The primary purpose of the Fellowship is to support original research that will be published in a peer-reviewed journal, book chapter, or larger project. This research can investigate any aspect of cultural history that can be drawn from the Chester Beatty's Arabic manuscripts.

How to apply for the Cochrane Research Fellowship

- Applicants are welcome to contact the Curator of Islamic Collections (islamic@cbl.ie) in advance of submission, to discuss their research plans.
- Complete [the Fellowship application form](#), proposing a research project. This should include the relevant Chester Beatty manuscripts (identified by museum number), and contact information for two referees.
- Submit the application form and a CV to islamic@cbl.ie by Friday 23 December 2022.

Application requirements

- The proposed project must outline clear objectives and methodology.
- Applicants must possess a Ph.D. at the time of application.
- Applicants must demonstrate a publication record and/or engagement in ongoing research projects.
- Proficiency in classical Arabic is essential.

What will the museum expect from the 2023 Cochrane Research Fellow?

- That the Fellowship is taken at a mutually agreed time during the calendar year 2023
- To report to the Curator of Islamic Collections
- To provide their own IT equipment (laptop)
- To practice safe handling of the collections
- To enrich the museum's catalogue information for the Fellow's chosen manuscripts
- To contribute to the museum's public programming. This will include one formal public lecture to communicate the central ideas of the research project.
- To be responsible for all requirements for residing and working in Ireland including visa documentation

What will the museum agree to provide?

- Access to the collections
- Training in the safe handling of museum objects
- Onsite working space in the museum's Reading Room
- Conservation and digitisation of the agreed research material
- Prompt monthly payment of the award
- If required, Letter of Support for visa application

FUNDING

The Fellowship is a three-month award that must be undertaken within the calendar year.

The Fellow will receive €4,167 per month to cover travel, accommodation and living expenses during the Fellowship (€12,500 total, before tax and statutory deductions).

The three months may be non-consecutive, if preferred. There is an expectation that at least one month will be onsite at the Chester Beatty in Dublin.

If a Fellow becomes unavailable at any time during the period of research the Chester Beatty will request an appropriate reimbursement of the award.

ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

All applications will be assessed by the Director/Head of Collections in consultation with the Curator of Islamic Collections and an external academic. The successful applicant will be contacted by Friday 20 January 2023.

***The Chester Beatty is an equal opportunities employer.
We welcome applications from people with disabilities and can make arrangements to
accommodate candidates with disabilities at interviews.***

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force on the 25th May 2018, replacing the existing data protection framework under the EU Data Protection Directive. When you submit an application for a recruitment competition with Chester Beatty, we record your name and contact details. Information submitted with a job application is used in processing your application. Where the services of a third party are used in processing your application, it may be required to provide them with information, however all necessary precautions will be taken to ensure the security of your data. To make a request to access your personal data please submit your request by email to: dataprotection@cbl.ie ensuring that you describe the records you seek in the greatest possible detail to enable us to identify the relevant record(s). The Chester Beatty Privacy Policy can be found on the website at [The Chester Beatty Library – Privacy Policy | Chester Beatty](#)

Please note: All data received relating to the application will be held in line with the museum's record retention and data protection policies.