# 2026 Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

# 02/10/2025

FAQs will be published every Thursday until 16 October 2025 or as necessary.

New questions will be marked \*\*New\*\*

Updated questions will be marked \*\*Updated\*\*

Questions are grouped under the following headings:

1. Eligibility
2. Applying to the programme
3. Conditions of award

If you do not find the answer to your query in the call documentation, you should contact the research office in your proposed eligible research body which will provide information and clarification on the call. Research offices can send any queries they are unable to clarify to postdoc@researchireland.ie.

1. **ELIGIBILITY**

**Q: The call document states that all applicants must:**

* **have been awarded their doctoral degree within the five-year period before 31 May 2026. For the purposes of this condition, the date of graduation will be taken into account;**

**Are there any circumstances under which an applicant whose PhD was awarded more than five years ago may be eligible for this programme?**

**A:** All applicants must have been awarded their doctoral degree between 31 May 2021 and 31 May 2026 to be eligible. Unless an applicant graduated before 31 May 2021 but has taken an eligible career break. Only career breaks taken by the applicant as a statutory entitlement will be considered eligible. Verification of an eligible career break may be requested from the Research Office of the eligible research body by Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process. Should it become apparent to Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process that an applicant does not meet the conditions set out herein for adjustment of the period of eligibility or cannot provide verification of same, Research Ireland shall be entitled to deem an application ineligible and rescind any offer of a grant.

**Q: Could you please clarify, does an unsubmitted draft for the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship count as an unsuccessful application, assuming it is unsubmitted when the call ends?**

**A:** An unsubmitted draft application would not count as an unsuccessful application.

**Q: An applicant has applied twice for the GOIPD call, the first time they were not successful but the second time they were offered a conditional award but could not take it up due to personal circumstances. They are enquiring if they can apply this year. The eligibility criteria states that *"Applicants must not have had two previous unsuccessful applications to the relevant programme, including to strategic partner themes. This applies regardless of whether the applicant has changed their host institution or research topic since a previous submission*" they are now wondering if they are eligible to apply as they were successful in the second attempt.**

**A:** As the applicant has only had one unsuccessful attempt, they are still eligible to apply assuming they meet all other eligibility criteria. A declined offer does not count as an unsuccessful attempt.

**Q: Are retired academics eligible to act as Mentor in the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship scheme?**

**A:** Once the Mentor is supported by the eligible research body and the research office, Research Ireland would have no objection.

**Q: A potential applicant wants to apply for the one-year fellowship aimed at the publication of their PhD thesis. However, they are currently funded by the Enterprise Partner Scheme for their PhD programme. According to the call document, applications will be deemed ineligible if *“the research project as proposed in the application form has previously been funded either in full, or in part, by Research Ireland or any other funding agency”*. Can you please confirm if this rule applies in this circumstance, and the applicant is not in fact eligible to apply for the postdoctoral call?**

**A:** If the purpose of the application is to prepare a doctoral dissertation for publication through a variety of high quality published academic outputs, e.g., monographs, peer-reviewed articles, edited volumes; etc. following on from their PhD, then this would be considered eligible.

**Q: Where someone has taken maternity leave, can you please clarify as to which specific supporting documents will be required as proof of same? Is a letter from the applicant’s institution of employment at the time acceptable, or does Research Ireland require medical documentation such as a doctor’s note, or a birth certificate?**

**A:** Research Ireland will require verification from the Research Office at the eligible research body. Verification of an eligible career break may be requested from the Research Office of the eligible research body by Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process. Should it become apparent to Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process that an applicant does not meet the conditions set out herein for adjustment of the period of eligibility or cannot provide verification of same, Research Ireland shall be entitled to deem an application ineligible and rescind any offer of a grant. Please do not provide any personal health and/or medical documentation and/or information (including evidence of a medical diagnosis/diagnoses) in correspondence with Research Ireland.

**Q: Where someone has taken carer’s leave, can you please clarify as to which specific supporting documents Research Ireland will require as proof of same? Is a medical certificate for the person who required care sufficient? If not, what else will suffice?**

**A:** Research Ireland will require verification from the Research Office at the eligible research body. Verification of an eligible career break may be requested from the Research Office of the eligible research body by Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process. Should it become apparent to Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process that an applicant does not meet the conditions set out herein for adjustment of the period of eligibility or cannot provide verification of same, Research Ireland shall be entitled to deem an application ineligible and rescind any offer of a grant. Please do not provide any personal health and/or medical documentation and/or information (including evidence of a medical diagnosis/diagnoses) in correspondence with Research Ireland.

**Q: In the eligibility quiz, the question is asked: "*Will you have been awarded your doctoral degree within the 5-year period before 31 May 2026?*". Where an applicant graduated before 31st May 2021, but has taken sufficient career breaks to retain eligibility, how should they answer this question? It would be untrue to select “yes”.**

**A:** The applicant may answer “No” to this question and “yes” to the follow-up question “*If your PhD graduation date falls before the designated eligibility window (i.e. before 31st May 2021), do you have a properly documented eligible career break that started before the Call deadline and is at least equivalent to the adjustment being sought?* Under the *‘Relevant Work Experience’* tab in the application, the applicant can clarify which career breaks they have taken and indicate the duration.

**Q: A potential applicant had their PhD graduation in July 2021, which is within the eligibility bracket. However, the date on their graduation certificate is 21 May 2021; the date on which they defended their PhD (10 days outside the eligibility bracket). Can you please confirm if this person can still apply to the call, or does this disqualify them?**

**A:** If the applicant can provide evidence of their PhD graduation taking place within the eligibility bracket, then Research Ireland will accept this application assuming the applicant meets all other eligibility criteria as set out in the Call document.

**Q: A potential applicant successfully completed their degree in December 2019 but, due to COVID, it was not conferred until July 2021.  Are they eligible to apply for a Postdoctoral Fellowship?**

**A:** As per the Call document, all applicants must have been awarded their doctoral degree within the five-year period before 31 May 2026. For the purposes of this condition, the date of graduation will be taken into account. Applicants must not have been employed as a postdoctoral researcher for more than five years as at 31 May 2026.

**Q: Is it no longer a requirement that applicants must carry out their postdoctoral research at a different eligible research body and with a different mentor, than those with which they completed their PhD preparation?**

**A:** The applicant’s choice of mentor and eligible research body is entirely at their own discretion but must be appropriately justified as part of the application. While the research mobility requirement has been removed, assessors must be convinced that the mentor and eligible research body are the ideal situation for the placement of the applicant and project. Please consult the *General Application Feedback* document for further information.

**Q: Is it possible for Research Ireland to award funding to a project in the area of fossil fuel research that examines improving fuel injector efficiency in heavy engines/turbines and that could eventually lead to improved environmental sustainability?**

A: Yes, such an area of research can be funded. Please note that Research Ireland is not in a position to award funding for research activity under any of the following prohibited areas:

▪ human cloning for reproductive purposes;

▪ genetic modification of human beings that could make such changes heritable (with the exception of research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads, which may be funded); or

▪ creation of human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.

**Q: Can an applicant apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowship programme if they had two previous unsuccessful applications to the Postgraduate Scholarship program?**

**A:** Yes, an applicant is eligible to apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowship even if they had been previously unsuccessful to the Postgraduate Scholarships.

**Q: A potential applicant has created two previous applications in the on-line system – one unsuccessful and one ineligible.  As the ineligible application did not reach the review stage, could you confirm that this applicant can apply again this year?**

**A:** As per the Call Document, applicants must not have had two previous unsuccessful applications to the relevant programme. An ineligible application does not count as an unsuccessful attempt. As the applicant has only had one unsuccessful attempt, they are still eligible to apply.

**Q: Is a permanent member of staff at a higher education institution/research-performing organisation, who is a non-academic/non-research staff member, e.g. a coordinator for administrative matters, eligible to apply?**

**A:** As per the Call document, *Applicants must not be a permanent member of staff in either an Irish or international Research Body.*

**Q: A potential applicant who graduated with their doctorate in November 2021 is employed at an eligible research body with a contract of indefinite duration as a postdoctoral researcher, they are not permanent, are they still eligible to apply?**

A: As per the Call document, *Applicants must not be a permanent member of staff in either an Irish or international research body.* If an applicant is not a permanent member of staff at a research body, they are eligible to apply for the Postdoctoral Fellowship, as long as they have been awarded their doctoral degree within the allowable period of eligibility, as outlined in the Call Document and meet all other eligibility criteria as set out in the Call document.

**Q: Section 5.2 states that candidates must have either been awarded their doctoral degree in the period 01 June 2021 to 31 May 2026 or have completed all steps necessary for the award of their PhD by 31 May 2026. How does this translate into the international context. For example, in some countries, finalising a PhD entails first depositing a thesis (which may be done online) which is then followed by a viva defence. Which step(s) do you believe must be finalised before 31 May 2026: the deposit or the viva?**

A: As per the Call document,

*If the applicant has not already been awarded their PhD, they must have completed all steps necessary for the award of their PhD by 31 May 2026.*

If all steps necessary for the award of the PhD have been completed by 31 May 2026 and the applicant is only awaiting graduation i.e., the submission of the thesis, Viva and resubmission of the hardbound corrected thesis (if required) have been completed by 31 May 2026, then an applicant is eligible to apply assuming they meet all other eligibility criteria.

**Q: There is a point in the eligibility criteria that states that “All applicants must be affiliated with an eligible research body”. Does this mean that an applicant needs to be affiliated to the intended eligible research body, at the time of application? Or does it mean that an applicant may be associated with any institution (including international institutions) at the time of application?**

**A:** As per the Call document:

*Applicants from any country may hold a Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship*.

*All applications require an academic mentor willing to guide the proposed research project.*

An applicant may be based at any institution at the time of application. However, applications must be supported by a mentor willing to guide the proposed research project at the eligible research body and all applications must be endorsed by the Research Office at the eligible research body. A list of eligible research bodies can be found under IRC Eligible Bodies [here](https://www.researchireland.ie/about/policies/eligible-research-bodies/).

**Q: An applicant is entitled to EU citizenship and has applied for it. They are expected to receive their EU citizenship between February and July 2026.  Is it acceptable for the applicant to answer ‘yes’ to the question ‘national of EU member state’?**

**A:** Solely nationals of an EU member state should select *“yes”* to the query *“Are you a national of a European Union member state (including the Republic of Ireland) OR Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, or the United Kingdom?”* Should the application progress to the second stage of assessment (remote evaluation to an outer international assessment board), and the applicant be granted EU citizenship before the call outcome in April 2026, they must notify Research Ireland by contacting postdoc@researchireland.ie

**Q: An applicant has dual nationality, one non-EU and one EU. Is it appropriate for the applicant to register in the online system with their non-EU nationality, and then answer yes to the question *“Are you a national of a European Union member state (including the Republic of Ireland) OR Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, or the United Kingdom?”***

**A:** The answer to the query *“Are you a national of a European Union member state (including the Republic of Ireland) OR Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, or the United Kingdom?”* must match the nationality registered on the system.

1. **APPLYING TO THE PROGRAMME**

\*\*Updated\*\*

**Q: Can an applicant include a monograph and edited collection both under contract in the publications and research outputs section of the application?**

**A:** Yes, an applicant can include a monograph and edited collection both under contract in this section. This is based on the assumption that such publications will be *in press.* Publications *submitted* and *in preparation* strictly cannot be included in the publications and research outputs sections.

Publications that cannot be included in ‘Other Publications and Research Outputs’ may be included in ‘Research Achievements’ textbox under the Academic Qualifications section.

**Q: Can an applicant apply for both a one-year and a two-year fellowship with two different projects?**

**A:** As per the 2026 GOIPD call document: *6. Ineligible Applications*:

*… applications will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered for funding if:*

* *an applicant submits more than one application to a given call*

As such, if an applicant submits an application for both the one-year and two-year fellowship awards, both applications will be deemed ineligible.

**Q: This is in relation to the following: *“Please describe your research achievements since beginning your career as a researcher (including PhD and post-PhD, if applicable). Please bear in mind this could be read by non-specialists, as well as peers, and should be written in order to communicate with them effectively.”* Some applicants have given a bullet point list of journal articles, impact factors, etc. but, because this could be read by non-specialists, are you looking for a more DORA style narrative here?**

**A:** Research Ireland does not have a recommended style to answer this section of the application. For more insight into what the assessors look for in applications please see the *General-Application-Feedback* document under the FAQs section of the [website](https://www.researchireland.ie/funding/government-ireland-postdoctoral/).

**Q: Does a mentor have to have a contract that spans the entire postdoctoral award if the applicant is successful in their application?**

**A:** As per the Call document:

*All applications require an academic mentor willing to guide the proposed research project.*

The mentor must be affiliated to the eligible research body for the period of the award (research project).

**Q: Can a research fellow, employed at the eligible research body, act as the mentor?**

**A:** No, postdoctoral fellows must be mentored by suitably qualified and experienced members of academic staff at the eligible research body.

**Q: I wish to confirm, that it is not possible to have a secondary mentor named in a specific section of a postdoctoral application form (although it is possible to write them in for training for specific tasks and career development)?**

**A:** This is correct. It is not possible to have a secondary mentor in a postdoctoral application although it is possible to acknowledge them for training for specific tasks and career development.

**Q: Can a researcher act as the primary supervisor for an application to the Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship and also as mentor for an application to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship programmes? Are the programmes counted as the same call/programme.**

**A:** Yes, a researcher may act as primary supervisor for an application to the Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship and also as mentor for an application to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship programmes.

**Q: *Academic mentors may not support more than one applicant to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme.* Is this in any given year? Or does it mean at one time, as in a mentor must solely supervise one postdoctoral fellow and wait until they are finished before supporting another?**

**A:** As per the footnote on page 4:

*This condition relates only to applications to the current (2026) open Call and not to any existing fellows the Mentor may be supporting under previous Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Calls.*

Mentors who are currently supervising Fellows, may support one applicant to the 2026 Call.

**Q: Reference forms are no longer required, but is it possible to upload letters of recommendation as part of the application?**

**A:** No, there is no possibility of uploading reference materials for an application. Letters of recommendation must not be included in any other section of the application. Please note that as per the Call Document, section 6, an application that includes additional materials other than those requested will be deemed ineligible.

**Q: The wording in the application seems to suggest that a GANTT chart is mandatory, but any other supplementary information is optional. Could you clarify whether the GANTT chart is in fact mandatory?**

**A:** GANTT charts are not compulsory, and applicants can submit their application without including one. Please note that we recommend applicants to review the “General Application Feedback” document before applying.

**Q: Can I put a book review essay (review of an academic book) published in an academic journal in the peer-reviewed publications section?**

**A:** Unless the book review essay has been peer-reviewed by the academic journal, it should be listed in the ‘Other Publications and Research Output’ section of the application.

**Q: I want to apply for a GOIPD fellowship, but I don’t think I have any new skills to learn. Will my score be penalised?**

**A:** As per the Call Document, appendix 2, the ‘Capacity to acquire new knowledge’ is included as an evaluation criterion under the ‘Training and Career Development’ section of the proposal. As per the General Application Feedback document, assessors indicate that *‘The best plans are those that show an understanding of the applicant’s skills gaps and how they will be filled’* and that *‘For applications at any stage, it is useful to identify formal training (courses, workshops, placements etc)’*. Also, as per the General Application Feedback document, assessors also recommend that applicants should *‘Consider whether the training opportunities are being used to extend the applicant’s abilities for social engagement and for developing influential research impacts’* and *‘Consider wider skill sets beyond the practical aspects of research work, including management, administrative, leadership, and teaching skills’.* The General Application Feedback document state that assessors consider that *‘The best career development plans linked the skills the applicant already had to those they would gain because of the fellowship. These plans showed how the award of the fellowship would transform current skills into those the applicant had identified as being required to pursue their chosen career. It is important that the skills, career progression, etc., are linked specifically to the opportunities because of the fellowship and not just because of a generic postdoctoral position’.*

**Q: Regarding the evidence required to demonstrate a career break that is mentioned in the Call document, in what section of the application should this be produced/uploaded?**

**A:** Eligible career breaks may be indicated in the ‘**Relevant Work Experience**’ section of the application. At the end of this section, there is a heading ‘*Breaks in Research Career Path*’ with the question ‘*Do you require an extension to this 5-year period on grounds of a career break?*’ If the applicant has an eligible, documented career break (please see section 5.2 of the Call document), they may answer ‘Y*es*’ to this question, another section of the form will appear where the appropriate eligible career break may be selected, and the relevant dates of the break recorded.

Applicants are asked not to upload supporting documentation in relation to eligible career breaks. Research Ireland will require verification from the Research Office at the eligible research body. Verification of an eligible career break may be requested from the Research Office of the eligible research body by Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process. Should it become apparent to Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process that an applicant does not meet the conditions set out herein for adjustment of the period of eligibility or cannot provide verification of same, Research Ireland shall be entitled to deem an application ineligible and rescind any offer of a grant.

**Q: The Call document states that ‘*Applicants must not have been employed as a postdoctoral researcher for more than five years as at 31 May 2026.’ AND ‘Applicants whose PhD graduation date falls before the designated eligibility window for this Call may be deemed eligible for the Call if they have a properly documented eligible career break, provided the eligible career break started before the call deadline and is at least equivalent to the adjustment being sought*.’ The applicant began employment as a postdoctoral researcher 5 years prior to 31 May 2026 but, during this time, had an eligible documented career break of 8.5 months such that the time employed as a postdoctoral researcher will be less than 5 years at 31 May 2026. Is the applicant eligible?**

**A:** An applicant’s period of eligibility may be adjusted as a result of any properly documented eligible career break, provided the grounds for the extension started before the call deadline. Eligible career breaks include maternity leave, paternity leave, adoptive leave, parental leave, parent’s leave, extended sick leave and carer’s leave. Only career breaks taken by the applicant as a statutory entitlement will be considered eligible. Career breaks explained by working outside of academia or by being unemployed for a period of time will not be considered as valid reasons to extend the eligibility window. Research Ireland will require verification from the Research Office at the eligible research body. Verification of an eligible career break may be requested from the Research Office of the eligible research body by Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process. Should it become apparent to Research Ireland at any stage of the application, assessment or award process that an applicant does not meet the conditions set out herein for adjustment of the period of eligibility or cannot provide verification of same, Research Ireland shall be entitled to deem an application ineligible and rescind any offer of a grant offered.

**Q: A potential applicant is associated with this university as a visitor with the title ‘Adjunct Assistant Professor’.  They do not have a contract with the university nor a salary.  Can you confirm that they are eligible to apply for a fellowship?**

**A:** An applicant is eligible to apply for a Postdoctoral fellowship as long as they are not a permanent member of staff in either an Irish or international research body, and as long as they have been awarded their doctoral degree within the allowable period of eligibility, as outlined in the Call Document (please see section 5.2) and meet all other eligibility criteria as set out in the Call document.

**Q: The applicant’s PhD thesis title and abstract are requested in the form. If an applicant is in the final year of their PhD and aims to submit the hardbound copy of their thesis before 31 May 2026 (as part of their application for the postdoctoral fellowship), would it be a problem if their PhD title or abstract changes after their viva/corrections and ends up being different in the hardbound thesis?**

**A:** No, if the title or abstract is edited as a result of corrections imposed at the Viva this would not render the application ineligible. Applicants should notify Research Ireland of such edits at the outcome stage of the process (April 2026).

**Q: Is it acceptable to explicitly write the name of the mentor (and a potential second mentor) on the form when indicating career and development plans? Or, should the applicant refer to their mentor simply as 'the mentor' in the form for anonymity purposes?**

**A:** Yes, applicants may include the name of the mentor and a second mentor on the form when indicating career and development plans.

**Q: Is it necessary to upload a peer-reviewed publication to the application?**

**A:** No, this it is not necessary as details of the publication should be included in the *Publications and Research Outputs* section of the form.

**Q: Do poster presentations at research conferences count as other research outputs? Would it be meaningful to provide details of the poster abstracts (not conference papers but posters only) on the form?**

**A:** Yes, these may be referenced in the research outputs section of the form. Details considered pertinent by the applicant may be outlined in the ‘*More Details*’ section of the form.

**Q: In the section on academic qualifications, there is space for 3 research awards, numbered 1, 2, and 3. Can more awards be added, or is this section limited to 3 awards only?**

**A:** In the *Academic Qualifications* section of the online application, there is also a free text box ‘*Research Achievements*’:

*\* Please describe your research achievements since beginning a career as a researcher (including PhD and post-PhD, if applicable). Please bear in mind this could be read by non-specialists, as well as peers, and should be written in order to communicate with them effectively:*

Details of research awards not listed in *Research Award 1, 2* and *3* may be included here.

**Q: An applicant has a paper that has been "accepted with minor revisions", however, the revisions have not been completed. Which section would be most appropriate to include this potential publication?**

A: Please note that publications *in press* can, but publications *submitted* and *in preparation* strictly cannot, be included in the section ‘*Other Publications and Research Outputs’*. In the *Academic Qualifications* section of the online application, there is also a free text box ‘*Research Achievements*’:

*\* Please describe your research achievements since beginning a career as a researcher (including PhD and post-PhD, if applicable). Please bear in mind this could be read by non-specialists, as well as peers, and should be written in order to communicate with them effectively:*

Publications that cannot be included in ‘*Other Publications and Research Outputs*’ may be included here.

**Q: Are there any formatting requirements for the Career Training and Development Plan (font size, typeface, page margin size)?**

**A:** As per the Indicative forms – Applicant: *‘’The Career Training and Development Plan document should be uploaded to the online system as a PDF file [maximum 2 pages]….’’*

There are no further formatting requirements for the Career Training and Development Plan.

**Q: The candidate has a primary degree that is a combined 5-year programme that culminates with the award of a Masters equivalent degree (without a separate award for bachelors level). Do they enter this degree as a bachelor’s degree or master’s degree or both?**

The ‘*Undergraduate Qualification’* section of the application is mandatory. The applicant can detail the combined degree in the free text boxes ‘Q*ualification type and name’* and ‘*Any additional information relating to this degree or your final grade can be included here’.* The applicant may also make reference to the combined qualification in the ‘*Postgraduate Qualifications – Masters degree’* section of the application, detailing the combined qualification to show recognition of postgraduate studies.

1. **GRANT CONDITIONS**

**Q**: **Can an applicant apply to the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral fellowship Programme and submit the same project to the Enterprise Partnership Scheme (Postdoctoral Fellowship)?**

**A:** Yes, an applicant can apply for both the Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme and the Enterprise Partnership Scheme (Postdoctoral Fellowship). If successful in both programmes, an applicant can only accept one of the fellowships.

**Q: Can a potential applicant use the €5k for research expenses to hire a research assistant on a casual basis to assist with screening of literature and management of focus groups, and to pay for some travel involved?**

**A:** No, the award is made to the individual applicant (grant holder) and the grant holder’s duty is to the successful completion of the research project for which they have been awarded Research Ireland funding. Grant holders are required to engage in full-time research in the eligible research body during the funding term to develop the stated research project and training and career development plan. It is not possible to ‘transfer’ funding to another recipient. Permitted costs include: materials and consumables; equipment; software and hardware critical for the proposed research; pay-as-you-go access to national research infrastructures; archival research costs; reasonable travel, subsistence, and conference costs; skills training directly related to the objective(s) of the award; publishing and write-up costs; and reasonable travel and refreshment costs for subjects and volunteers in studies.

**Q: Is there any impact or effect on the assessment of applications should a potential mentor be supporting for example four or multiple applicants?**

**A:** As per the Call document, a mentor at an eligible research body is **NOT** permitted to support more than one application under the programme. As such, Mentors should endorse only **one** submitted application. If the Research Office endorses multiple applications with the same Mentor, all applications will be deemed ineligible.