



Medical
Research
Council

NIHR | National Institute
for Health Research

CARP – How to Apply

To find out more about the scheme

- <https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/browse/clinical-academic-research-partnerships/clinical-academic-research-partnerships-round-3-announcement/>
- <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/clinical-academic-research-partnerships-round-3/25069>
- Email **CARP@mrc.ukri.org**

Clinical Academic Research Partnerships

- Pilot scheme – 2019
- Provided a flexible new route for **research-qualified NHS consultants*** who were not research active to participate in **collaborative high-quality research partnerships** with established leading biomedical researchers.

Funding Available

- Duration: 1 – 3 years
- Salary: 20-50% of the **applicant's basic salary** to support protected research time
- Consumables to undertake project



Aim

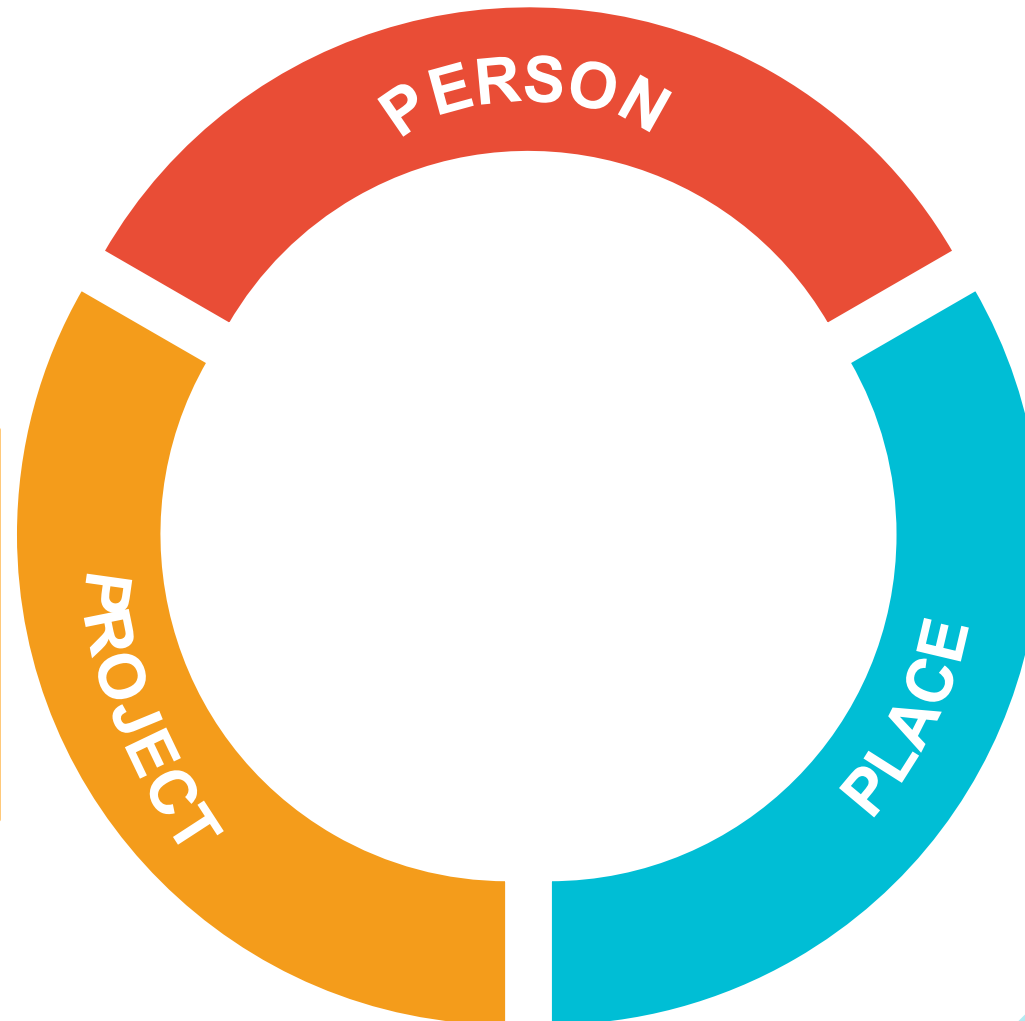
To enable research trained healthcare professionals to re-engage and develop their research interests through collaborative high-quality research partnerships with established leading biomedical and health researchers.

To provide protected time and funding for healthcare professionals to increase their research skills and experience.

To enable the cross-seeding of perspectives, ideas and connections needed to underpin future translational biomedical and health research.



- Consultant-level* Doctors & Dentists & HEE/NIHR ICA Programme Eligible Professions
- PhD/MD, or equivalent
- Typically less than 1PA (0.5 day) a week of research time



- Across all areas of MRC and NIHR remit
- Tailored to the interests of and expertise of the applicant and research partner

- UK-wide
- The host research organization (the research partners RO) must be eligible to hold research council funding

Key Dates

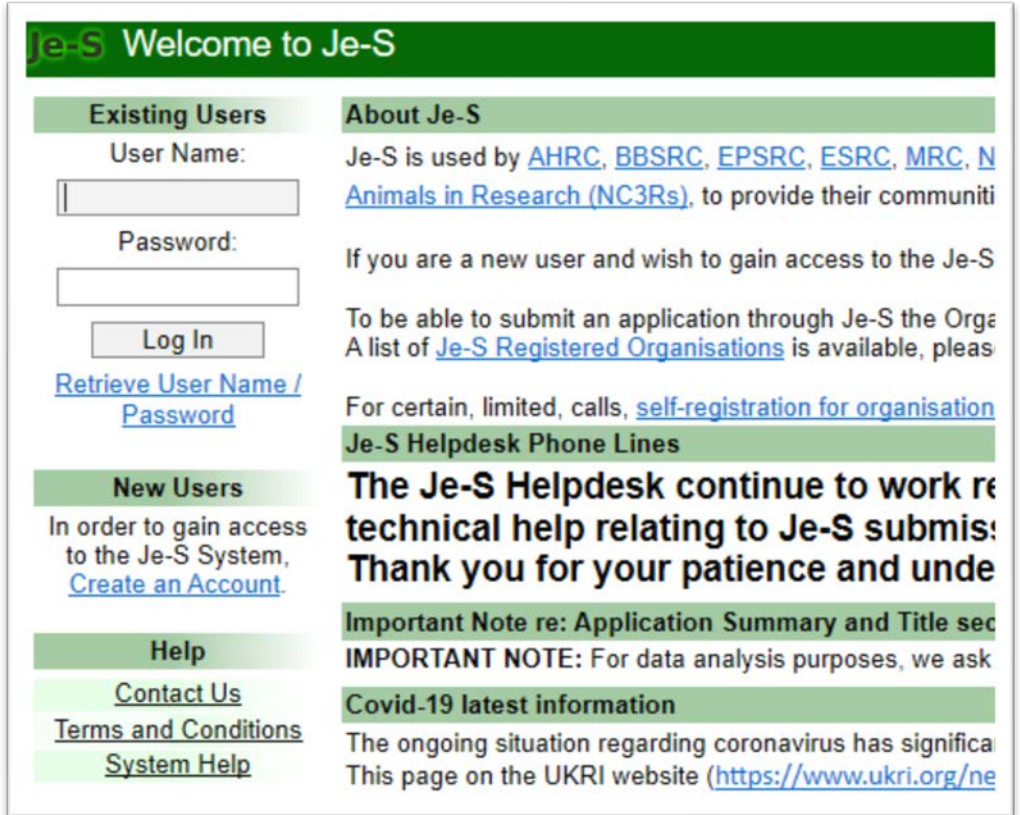
- Call now **OPEN**
- Deadline: **29 October 16:00 BST**
- Shortlisting: March 2021
- Outcome: May 2021

- Je-S
- Case for Support
- Justification of Resources
- Data Management Plan
- CV
- Letters of Support



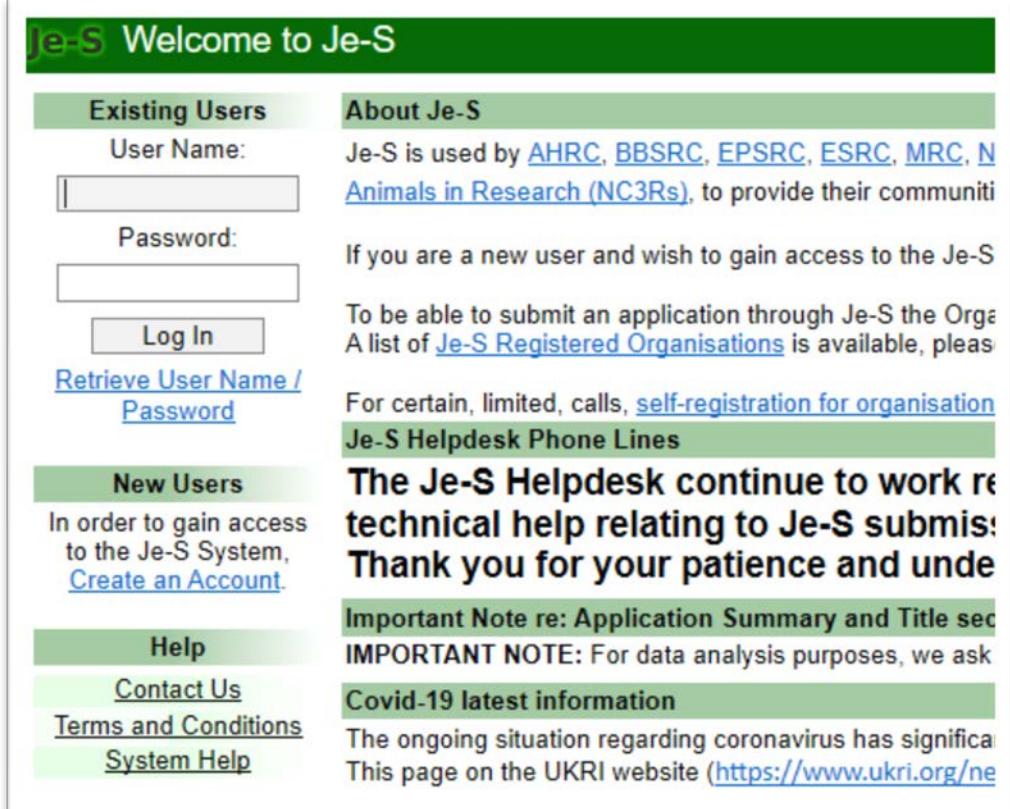
Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S)

- You must create a Je-S account to apply
- The application must be via the research partners' (Co-I's) research organisation
- If you experience difficulties using Je-S or have questions regarding its use, the helpdesk can be contacted:
 - Email: JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org
 - Phone: **+44 (0) 1793 44 4164**

A screenshot of the Je-S Welcome page. The page has a green header with the text 'Je-S Welcome to Je-S'. Below the header, there are several sections. On the left, under 'Existing Users', there are input fields for 'User Name:' and 'Password:', a 'Log In' button, and a link 'Retrieve User Name / Password'. Below that, under 'New Users', there is text 'In order to gain access to the Je-S System, Create an Account.' and a link 'Create an Account.'. Under 'Help', there are links 'Contact Us', 'Terms and Conditions', and 'System Help'. On the right, under 'About Je-S', there is text 'Je-S is used by AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, N Animals in Research (NC3Rs), to provide their communiti' and 'If you are a new user and wish to gain access to the Je-S To be able to submit an application through Je-S the Orga A list of Je-S Registered Organisations is available, pleas'. Below that, under 'Je-S Helpdesk Phone Lines', there is text 'The Je-S Helpdesk continue to work re technical help relating to Je-S submiss: Thank you for your patience and unde'. Under 'Important Note re: Application Summary and Title sec', there is text 'IMPORTANT NOTE: For data analysis purposes, we ask'. Under 'Covid-19 latest information', there is text 'The ongoing situation regarding coronavirus has significa This page on the UKRI website (https://www.ukri.org/ne'.

Je-S Proposal Form

- Who, what, when, where
- Objectives of proposed research
- Summary (general audience)
- Technical Summary
- **Summary of Resources (£££)**
- Project Partners
- Technical & Ethical Considerations



The screenshot shows the 'Je-S Welcome to Je-S' page. It features a green header bar with the text 'Je-S Welcome to Je-S'. Below the header, there are several sections: 'Existing Users' with a login form (User Name, Password, Log In button) and a link to 'Retrieve User Name / Password'; 'New Users' with a link to 'Create an Account'; 'Help' with links to 'Contact Us', 'Terms and Conditions', and 'System Help'; 'About Je-S' with text about the system's use by various research councils and a link to 'self-registration for organisation'; 'Je-S Helpdesk Phone Lines' with a message about technical help; 'Important Note re: Application Summary and Title section' with a note about data analysis; and 'Covid-19 latest information' with a link to the UKRI website.

Je-S Welcome to Je-S

Existing Users
User Name:
Password:

[Retrieve User Name / Password](#)

New Users
In order to gain access to the Je-S System, [Create an Account](#).

Help
[Contact Us](#)
[Terms and Conditions](#)
[System Help](#)

About Je-S
Je-S is used by [AHRC](#), [BBSRC](#), [EPSRC](#), [ESRC](#), [MRC](#), [N](#)
[Animals in Research \(NC3Rs\)](#), to provide their communiti
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Funding Available

- At least £6 million is available, from which it is anticipated 20-25 awards will be made.
- All applications should be costed based on the full economic costs (FEC) necessary to deliver the research.
- MRC/NIHR will fund **80 per cent** of the FEC and the Research Organisations agree to find the remaining balance.



Costings

- The CARP award can be used for:
 - 20-50% of the applicant's basic salary to support protected research time
 - Costs to undertake the project (e.g. consumables and facility usage costs)
 - Estates and Indirect costs
- The CARP award cannot be used for:
 - Salaries of research staff other than the applicant (E.g. postdocs, research fellows, research assistants, research nurses, technicians, statisticians, technologists, methodologists etc)

<https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/resources/>

Example questions

- “What is the upper limit for costings?”

There is no limit to the total support an application can request, but applicants should be mindful of the budget available and anticipated number of awards.

- “Can I cost for a technician/nurse/computer scientist?”

You cannot cost additional salaries under the CARP scheme.

- “Can I cost equipment?”

Equipment can be costed. We would not envisage applications requiring larger pieces equipment (> £10k) as we would expect you to have access to existing equipment either provided by your research partner or through shared facilities at the host RO.

- “Can I cost the applicant salary at 100% because it’s NHS? / Can I cost my salary as an exception on the Je-S form (at 100% FEC)?”

This research grant scheme is administered on the basis of FEC. We would not expect CARP applications to be costing any items as exceptions.

- “Can I cost overseas?”

Applications tackling global health issues and those based in LMIC countries are welcome. Applicants should be mindful of how this will be delivered in relation to collaboration with overseas partners and/or arrangement of backfill.

- “Who needs to complete a SoECAT?”

Those whose proposed study is intended for the NIHR CRN portfolio, (may include studies that will take place in a social care or public health setting) and/or the research requires HRA and HCRW Approval in England and/or Wales, and/or studies requiring NHS/HSC Management Permission in Northern Ireland and/or Scotland and/or the research will use NHS resources. **A SoECAT must be completed even if you don't think your clinical research will involve excess treatment costs (ETCs).**

Case for Support

- Section 1: Background to the research area
- Section 2: Project Plan
- Section 3: Added value of the partnership and future directions
- 1 Page Annex: Reproducibility and statistical design (optional)

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/support/research-design-service.htm>



https://youtu.be/_uWeny3NTvc

Example questions

- “Does the page limit include references?”

Yes. The four page limit must include your references. The one page “Reproducibility and statistical design annex” is the only additional page that will be accepted. 4 page + 1 page annex = 5 pages in total.

- “Do I need to continue down a clinical academic pathway after my award?”

There are no requirements to continue down a ‘traditional’ clinical academic research career following a CARP award. In the longer term the hope is it will catalyse the applicant to be more able to engage in research - possibly via negotiating a higher number of research PAs in their job plan after the award or through continuing links with the research group in which they work

Justification for Resources

- The role of the JoR is to aid reviewers when assessing proposals so that they can make an informed judgement on whether the resources requested are appropriate for the research posed.
- The JoR is a mandatory attachment to the proposal and should be no more than **two sides of A4**. It should take into account the nature and complexity of the research proposal. It should not simply be a list of the resources required (already defined in the Je-S form). **All items requested in the Je-S form must be justified in the JoR.**
- The JoR is a free text document. We recommend that you match the costs to the proposal headings below (where appropriate) so that you do not miss any costings from the Je-S form or any justifications for the items requested.



Data Management Plan

- A data management plan (DMP) is a key tool for Principal Investigators (PI) to show the funder how the PI will meet, or already meets, their responsibilities to the funder for research data quality, sharing and security
- Template on MRC website

<https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/2-the-application/#2.2.7>

CV

- Lead applicant (PIs) must use the template provided
- 'Narrative CV'
 - Generation of knowledge.
 - Development of others.
 - Contributions to research community.
 - Contributions to broader society.
 - Additional information.
- Publications – Maximum 1 side of A4 (relevant)



Contributions to the generation and flow of new ideas, hypotheses, tools or knowledge.

“I have produced publications X, Y, and Z. This body of work discusses the prevalence of alcohol, amphetamine, and opioid abuse in older adults and how networking approaches can be used to mitigate the effects of these disorders.”

Contributions to research teams and the development of others.

“I am committed to mentoring new scholars in my field, evidenced by multiple mentoring awards and having successfully mentored several post-doctoral fellows, who have now gone on to be successful independent researchers.”

Contributions to research community.

“I provide oversight of the daily operations, planning and advising of the programs of care within my specialty areas. I work closely with the multidisciplinary teams within my areas of service and support the agenda for inpatient services regarding clinical research nursing.”

Contributions to broader society.

“I provide clinical advice to national and international groups and sit on Xs expert committee. As part of this role I have been invited to participate on televised interviews to discuss Xs policy and guidelines.”

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>

<https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/projects/research-culture/tools-for-support/resume-for-researchers/>

Letters of Support

- Research partner
 - They will be Co-I on the grant
 - If you have more than one Co-I, please attach a letter of support from each
- Head of Department (RO)
 - Must demonstrate appropriate support
 - Applicants should hold a contract of employment or an honorary contract with the host RO
- Employer
 - Your current employer (NHS, PHE, local authority, private healthcare provider, etc.)
 - Confirm the proposed backfill arrangements
 - The letter should be written by someone with authority to make these commitments.

Example questions

- “My research partner is in between grants but has a permanent position, are they suitable?”

With regard to research partner, the panel are really looking to ensure that the applicant is adequately supported during their project. They will want to see that research time will be protected and the research partner can provide a suitably stable environment for the applicant to conduct their research. The research partner will be able to provide evidence for this in their CV and their letter of support.

- “Can I have an industrial partner?”

If you have an industrial partner you can submit a MICA application to the CARP scheme. Applications including industry collaborators should follow the MRC Industrial collaboration award (MICA) guidance.

<https://mrc.ukri.org/innovation/mrc-industry-collaboration-agreement-mica/>



Things to check before you apply

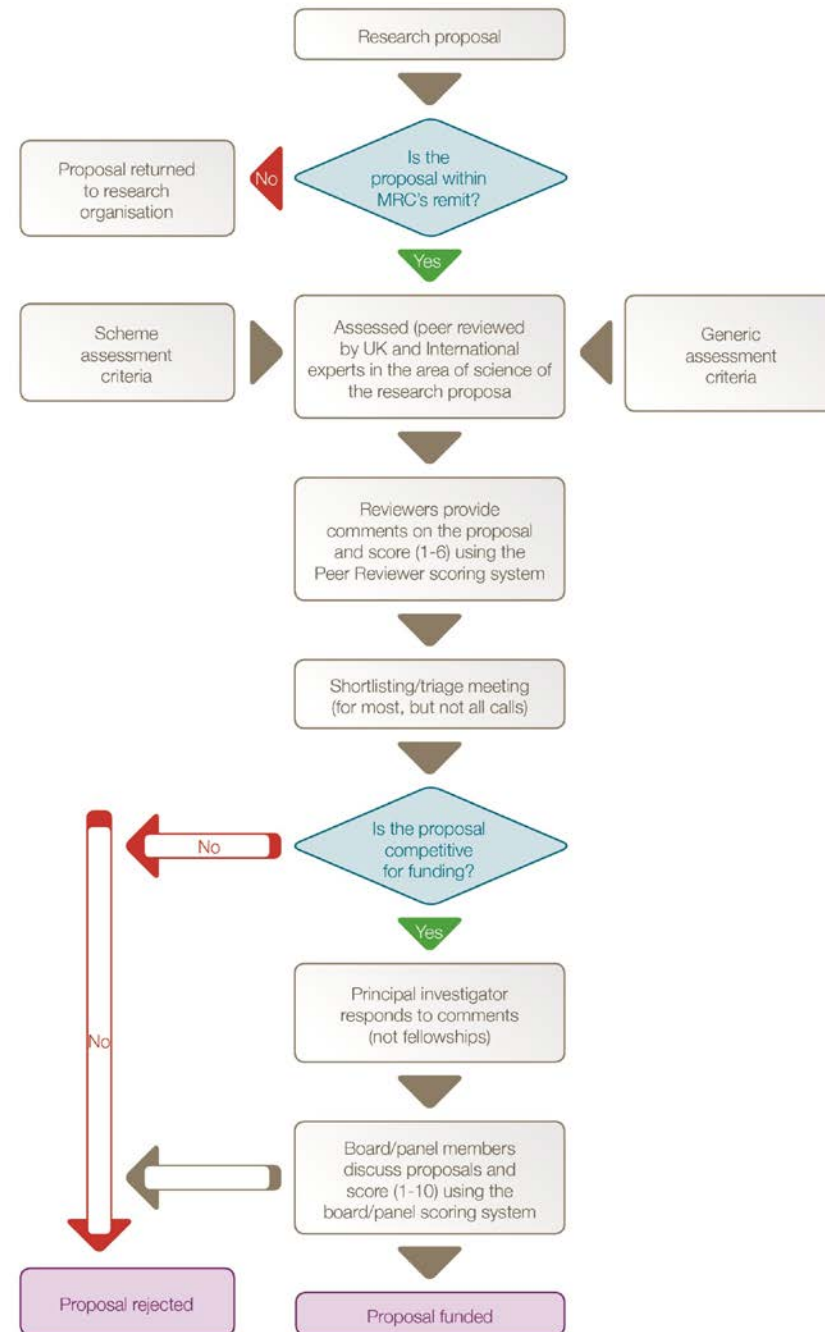
- Funder's remit and interests
- Are you suitable?
- The information and documents needed
- Costings – check with your **Research Office**
- Page limits, font sizes etc.
- Deadlines

Start early! Everything takes longer than you think!

Review Process

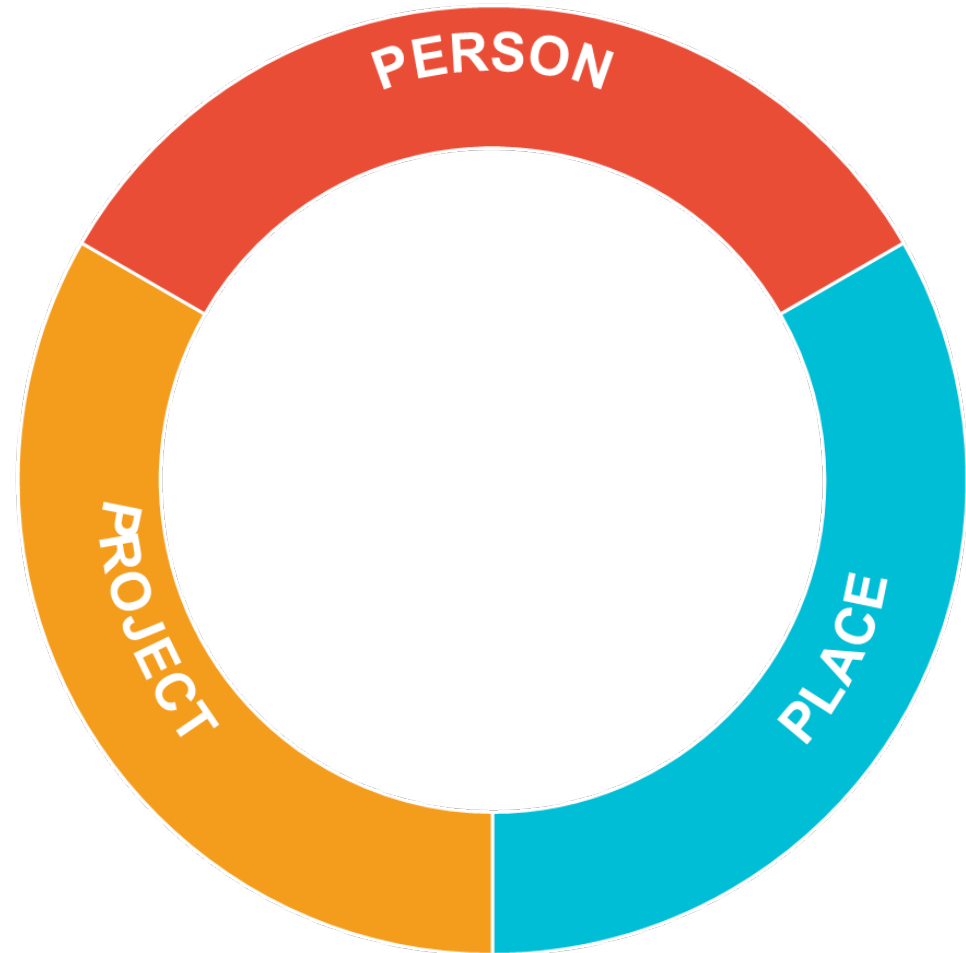


https://youtu.be/_DErve4a0IA



Assessment

- Evidence of research capabilities of the applicant
- Alignment of the project to the research strengths and interests of the applicant and research partner
- Project is a mutually beneficial collaboration
- Track record of the research partner - ability to offer a strong environment to host the applicant
- Strength of the institutional support provided (employer and host RO)
- Added-value – working in a new environment, new partners, places the applicant onto a research trajectory they were not currently on



What does good look like?

- A clear and well structured Case for Support
 - Brief summary of research to place project in context
 - Focus on the project plans with a clear rational for the proposed approaches
 - Described the added-value of the partnership
- Robust methodology and experimental design
- Feasible – the proposed research can be delivered within the proposed duration/budget
- Applicant demonstrated that they are seeking to extend their experience and research skill set
- Host group will support the delivery of the project and benefit from the applicants clinical perspective and ability to deliver a project aligned to their research programme.
- Employer support – personalised letter of support with feasible plans to safeguard the applicant's research time and guarantee a return to existing job plan

Tips

- Contact individuals early
- Ensure letters of support are personalised
- Make plans for backfill clear, please note we will ask to see a copy of the applicant's job plan as a condition of the award
- Talk to your host RO's research office as soon as possible
- Your research partner should be able to assist you in preparing the appropriate costings and in liaising with the research office
- The research office at the institution will need time to check your application and ensure all indirect costs and estate costs have been added.

Remember...

When you submit an application it goes to the RO's research office before it comes to us.

The research office must know you plan to submit an application so they have time to complete the submission process before the 16:00 BST deadline.



Your Questions

- Please don't worry if we don't get to your question. We will be saving the questions submitted and answering them all. The answers will be sent to you all after the webinar.
- Still have questions about the application process?
 - **Read the Call Text and Call Guidance thoroughly**
 - **Talk to your Research Partner**
 - **Talk to your Research Office**
 - Email: **CARP@mrc.ukri.org**
- **[NIHR Research Design Service](#)**

Clinical Career Funding

Post-
doctoral

MRC CRTF: funds to undertake a PhD or for post-doc applicants to reacquire research skills following a break from research.

NIHR DSE: 1 year of funding for post-doctoral NIHR Academy Members to gain skills and experience for the next phase of their research career.

Transition to
Independence

MRC CSF: supports clinically qualified professionals to lead their own research plans.

NIHR Advanced Fellowship: funds post-doctoral individuals from a range of health and social care professions who haven't yet been awarded a chair.

MRC NIRG: similar career stage to CSF. Support up to 50% of individuals' time.

NIHR Clinical Lectureships: a 50/50 clinical academic role. Time and support to develop the specific skill sets required to become an independent researcher.

UKRI FLF: similar career stage to CSF. Across the UKRI remit.

HEE/NIHR ICA Clinical/Senior Lectureships: a 50/50 clinical academic role. Time and support to develop the specific skill sets required to become an independent researcher.



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Fellows@mrc.ukri.org

Academy-awards@nihr.ac.uk

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New MRC Experimental Medicine Panel

New funding call is now open – deadline for outline applications is **16th September 2020**

Applications must involve an experimental intervention/challenge in humans, to perturb the human system to explore disease mechanism. Studies should be based around the generation, definition or refinement of mechanistic hypotheses.

- Researchers at eligible organisations can submit proposals for academically-led projects
- Awards are made every year and there are deadlines every six months.
- There will be an annual budget of £10million and we will support a range of award sizes and durations
- All disease areas and interventions are welcome
- Partnerships with industry and charities are encouraged but not essential
- Want to support early career investigators so have **flexibility on PI eligibility**

experimental.medicine@mrc.ukri.org

<https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/browse/experimental-medicine-funding-call/experimental-medicine-funding-call/>

New MRC Neuroimmunology Data Generation Award for ECRs

New funding call is now open – deadline for expressions of interest is **22th October 2020**

This call aims to provide funds to support pilot data generation, hypothesis-driven, mechanistic studies which examine the role played by inflammatory and immune processes in neurological conditions and mental illness.

- Applicants must be early career researchers (not previously had substantial grant income as a PI)
- Awards to support projects up to 24 months in duration with up to £200k of funding available (80% FEC)
- Applications must demonstrate this is a multidisciplinary team including at least one researcher with expertise in neuroscience/mental health and one researcher with expertise in immunology and justify the complementarity offered by the proposed collaboration.
- We encourage **high-risk projects aimed at generating data** to provide a strong evidence base and clear rationale for larger programmes of research.

neuroimmunology@mrc.ukri.org

<https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/browse/neuroimm-data/neuroimmunology-data-generation-award-for-early-career-researchers/>

New UKRI - Innovation Scholars: Data Science Training in Health & Bioscience

New funding call is now open – deadline for pre-registration is **30th September 2020**

Funding to deliver innovative training programmes to upskill health & bioscience researchers in data management and analysis.

- Host organisations must be eligible to hold research council funding
- Training programmes should provide flexible upskilling from different starting levels and career stages or enable researchers to develop skills in new or emerging areas of importance.
- Budget of £5million to support 5 – 10 awards for up to 24 months
- Priority areas: data stewardship, management & sharing, manipulation & analysis of complex large-scale data, data modelling skills & training in data exploration/ interpretation/ calibration/ validation, integration of different types of data, such as imaging and genomics, improving software, computing, infrastructure, architecture & data engineering knowledge contextualized for data-intensive biosciences, statistics or mathematics skills contextualized for data-intensive biosciences

DataScienceTraining@ukri.org

<https://www.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/innovation-scholars-data-science-training-in-health-bioscience/>



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Thank you



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