



UKRI Impact Acceleration Accounts (IAA)

Application Guidance – AHRC/BBSRC/EPSRC/STFC Specific Section

Institutional level leads can apply for IAA funding if your organisation is eligible for UKRI funding generally and meets the additional eligibility parameters as stated on the Funding Finder. Please see guidance on [institutional eligibility](#)

Where open competition applies, each research organisation will need to demonstrate a significant research base in the Research Councils' remit areas in order to be competitive.

Please complete a separate council application section for each Council IAA that you wish to apply for, using the overall page limits stated below, in addition to the institutional section's 3 pages:

- AHRC – up to 8 pages
- BBSRC – up to 5 pages
- EPSRC – up to 8 pages
- MRC – up to 8 pages (excluding data submission)
- STFC – up to 3 pages

The level of detail provided should also be commensurate to the size of awards.

If applying to AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC and/or STFC, please use page 2 of the application template and the guidance that follows below.

If applying to MRC, either individually or alongside other councils, please use page 3 of the application template and refer to the MRC specific guidance document.

AHRC/BBSRC/EPSRC/STFC Specific Guidance

Discipline/Department lead and/or operational contact

- Provide details of the academic/strategic lead of the Council-specific IAA and, if applicable, an operational contact who looks after the day-to-day management of the award.
 - It is expected that each IAA will be led by one or more senior members of the institution who has oversight or responsibility of the relevant discipline, e.g. Dean, Head of College/Department or equivalent. For EPSRC, it is expected that the lead should be at Pro-VC level.
 - Your discipline lead can be the same as the institutional IAA lead, for example, in the case of an application to a single Research Council.

Research portfolio

- Provide an overview of the research context and specifics in relation to accelerating impact relevant to the Research Council's remit.
- Describe how the IAA builds upon the identified base of high-quality research in the specific Research Council remit.
- Describe the areas of untapped potential at the host institution, for example:
 - where translational opportunities are under-exploited;
 - where focused investment will add most value to existing mechanisms.

Aims and objectives

- Provide a description of your aims and objectives for the Research Council IAA, including leverage and partnerships (local, regional national, international), and how these align to the UKRI strategic aims for IAAs, and to any Council-specific strategic priorities:
 - To strengthen engagement with users in order to accelerate the translation of research outputs into impacts.
 - To support, develop and foster strategic partnerships for knowledge exchange and impact, including across disciplines and sectors.
 - To build and maintain an environment and culture which enables effective and ambitious knowledge exchange and impact, including development of skills, capacity, and capability within research organisations.
 - To provide early-stage support for progressing research outputs towards the next stages in the impact pipeline, for example proof of concept projects, commercialisation, market validation, or activities targeting policy, business and the third sectors.
 - To drive continuous improvement in impact by supporting innovation, enabling “fast failure”, and capturing learning through appropriate mechanisms
 - To empower institutions with flexible and adaptive approaches to knowledge exchange and impact, including the ability to respond quickly to emerging opportunities.



Note: for AHRC applications, applicants are also expected to highlight where opportunities exist for enabling and/or enhancing links between Arts & Humanities and other disciplines.

Management, governance and reporting

- Describe the governance structures and processes for managing and internally awarding the IAA funding, including alignments with other IAAs or internal/external funding.
- Describe the membership or expectations of membership of any decision-making panel or governance committee, including key roles and responsibilities where appropriate.

Approach and activities

- Describe the planned approach and activities that will be undertaken through the IAA to deliver the aims and objectives, and include an indicative allocation of funds against each.

Note: for AHRC applications, applicants should specifically outline how approaches will be tailored to take into account the characteristics of the Arts & Humanities community and the non-academic stakeholders with whom they interact. Applicants should demonstrate how novel and innovative approaches will be designed and tested over the course of the IAA.

Outputs, outcomes and measures of success

- Describe the likely outputs, outcomes and impacts of the IAA, and what it is envisaged that success will look like.
 - Include detail of the qualitative and quantitative indicators that will be used to monitor the progress and success of planned activities against the objectives.
 - Where appropriate any targets or trajectories should be defined.

Note: for AHRC applications: applicants should include detail of how the success of novel and innovative or untested approaches will be measured, and how any lessons learned will be implemented to further refine them to enable continuous improvement.

Financial information

- State total amount of funding being applied for, within the parameters set by each council. Please refer to call specification information on the Funding Finder for size of award by council or your invite letter from EPSRC detailing the size of your allocation.
- Provide an indicative funding breakdown against the planned activities described in the approach and activities section.
 - Outline planned resources required to deliver the key activities and objectives previously described.
 - Councils recognise that this needs to be flexible in order to accommodate opportunities that arise during the duration of the IAA.
 - Refer to the Permitted Activities and Costs document for full details council by council of activities and costs supported.