



Medical  
Research  
Council

**NIHR** | National Institute  
for Health Research

# Clinical Academic Research Partnerships – Nov 2021

[CARP@mrc.ukri.org](mailto:CARP@mrc.ukri.org)

# Key Dates

- Call opens: **27 August**
- Deadline: **18 November 16:00 BST**
- Shortlisting: 28 April 2022
- Panel Meeting: 8-9 June 2022

# What's on offer?

Provides **research-qualified healthcare professionals** who are not research active to participate in **collaborative high-quality research partnerships** with established leading biomedical and health researchers.

**Protected time and funding** to increase research skills and experience.

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

## Funding Available

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



# Who can apply?

Research-qualified healthcare professionals working at consultant level or equivalent

A member of NHS staff, staff contracted to the NHS or working in the care or public health sectors. This includes, but is not limited to:

- doctors
- dentists
- nurses
- midwives
- allied health professions
- healthcare scientists
- pharmacists
- clinical psychologists
- registered public health practitioners
- others, in either primary, secondary or community care and public health

Hold a PhD/MD, or equivalent; for example, three years' consolidated research time where you have been the intellectual drive behind a project and achieved strong outputs from your research experience.

Working at a senior level, holding specialized knowledge and demonstratable capacity for professional independence and leadership.

Not undertaking any substantive research activity. Applicants will usually have limited or no research funding. We expect you will have less than one PA (four hours per week) of research time.

# Research partner(s)

- Your research partner(s) must have a proven track record of securing research funding and delivering high quality research.
- The research partner should hold funding for the duration of the planned partnership from funders such as UKRI, NIHR or significant third sector research funders.
- They must also be based at an organisation eligible to hold [research council funding](#). This includes higher education institutions, NHS bodies with research capacity, **eligible** public sector research establishments & independent research organisations.
- Your research partner must hold a contract of employment with the host research organisation for the duration of the award.
- You can have multiple research partners (Co-Investigators) on your application. You will need to have one host RO who will accept responsibility for administering the award.

# Host research organisation support

You should hold a contract of employment or an honorary contract with the host research organisation for the duration of the award.

The host research organisation must:

- be eligible to hold research council funding
- be registered in the Joint Electronic Submission system (Je-S)
- accept responsibility for administering the award, including making local arrangements where necessary to, for example, make payments to the NHS Trust to support backfill appointments
- demonstrate **appropriate support** (such as access to facilities) to enable you to successfully undertake your project.

You must include **a letter from the host institution** confirming its support and approval as part of your application.



# Employer support

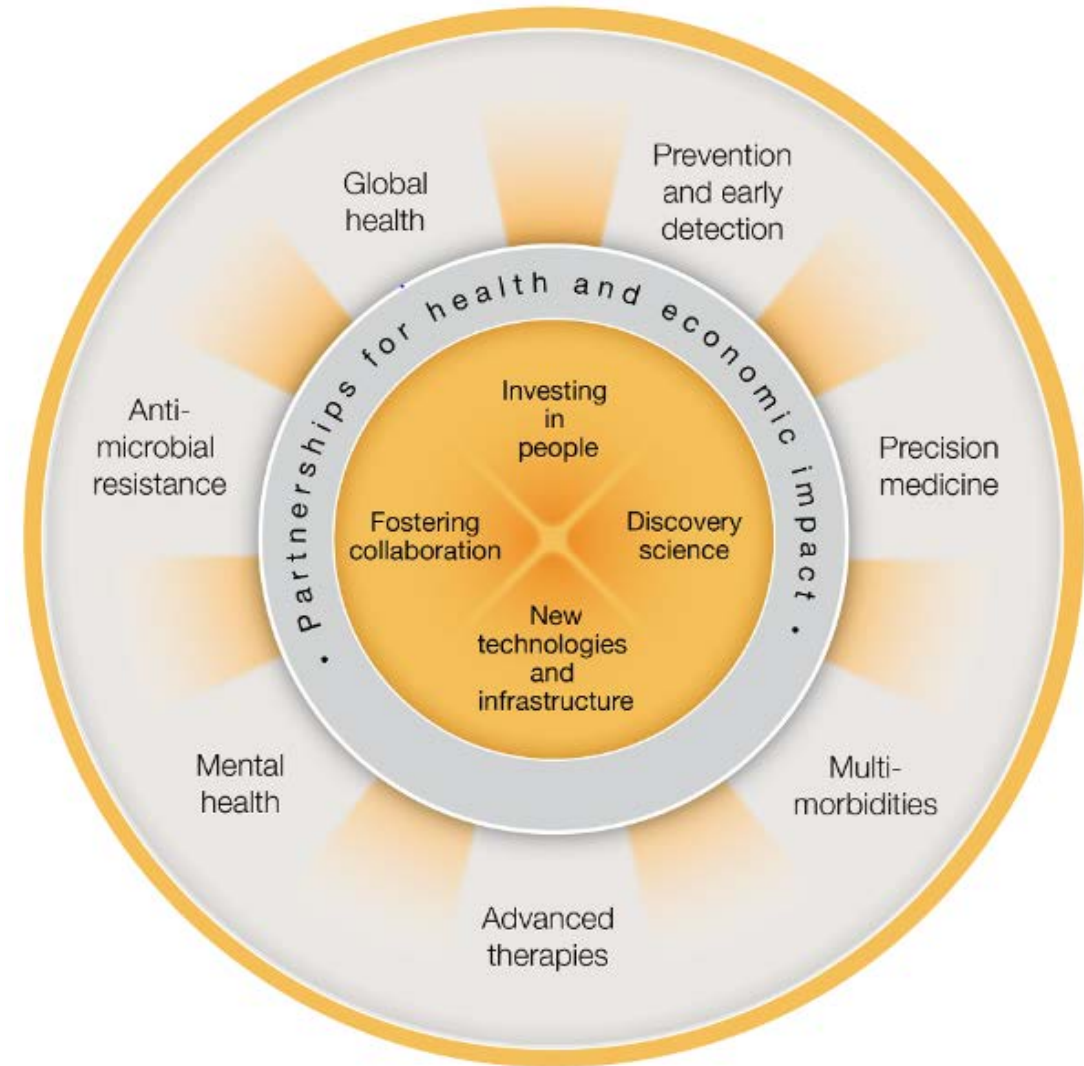
The NHS organisation (or equivalent, such as a local authority, care organisation, Public Health England) that employs you must provide a **letter of support**:

- confirming that you will have **protected research time** and will therefore be released for the proportion of time funded by MRC and the National Institute for Health Research
- including **clear and feasible** plans for your time to be **backfilled**, especially for applicants from niche specialties where this will present challenges
- guaranteeing that you can re-enter the clinic full time without any loss of career progression or status at the end of the award, if you choose to do so.
- Please note that as a condition of the award we will ask for a copy of your NHS job plan to confirm the number of research PAs.

# Project

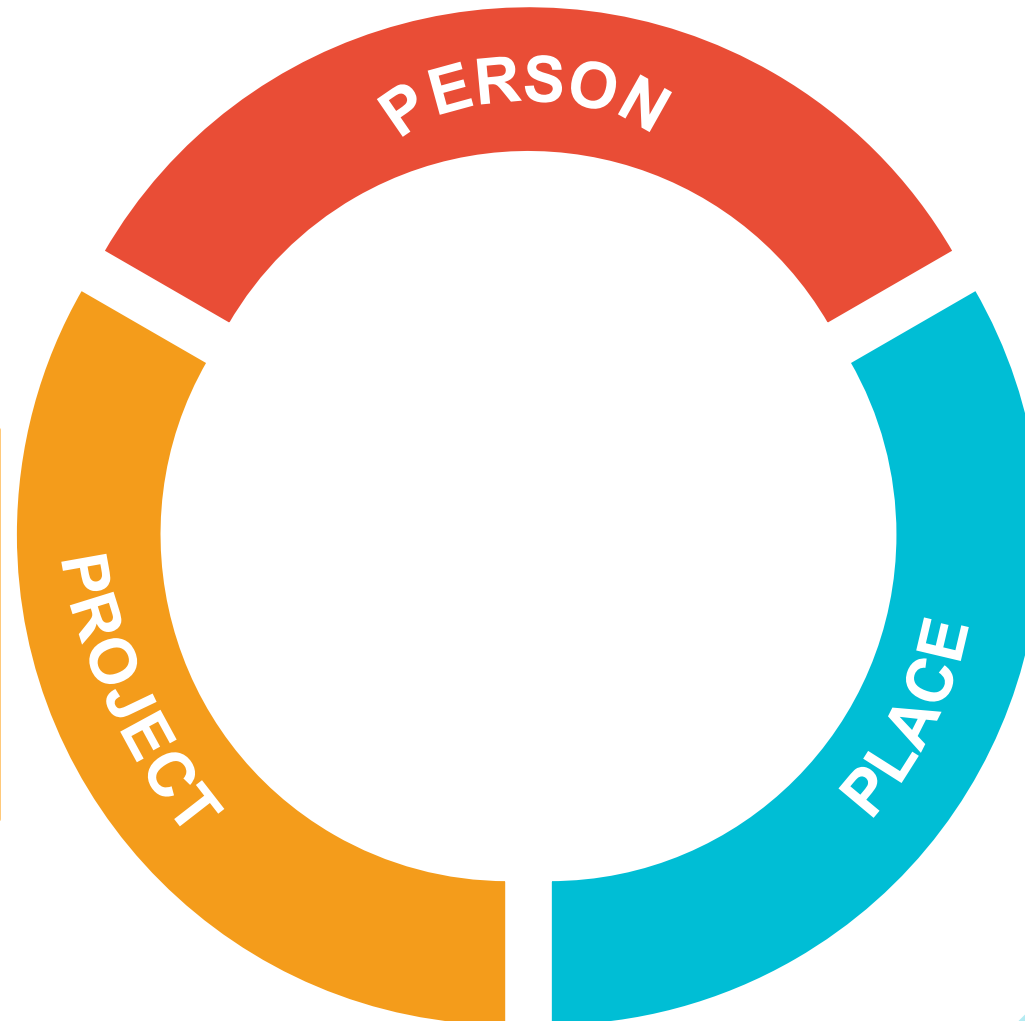
- Across **all areas** of MRC and NIHR remit
- Basic discovery science, translational and applied health research
- Disease-specific mechanistic hypotheses
- Primary care, population health, public health, mental health, molecular pathology etc.
- Global health issues resulting in primary benefit to those living in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)
- Interdisciplinary

**Tailored to the interests of and expertise of the applicant and research partner.**





- Consultant-level, or equivalent healthcare professional
- PhD/MD, or equivalent
- Typically less than 1PA or 4hrs/wk. 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



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# The Application



## Je-S Proposal Form Attachments

- Case for Support (4pgs)
  - Reproducibility and statistical design
  - Research disruption caused by COVID-19
- Justification of Resources
- Data Management Plan
- CVs
- Letters of Support
- Industry collaborators - MICA
  - <https://mrc.ukri.org/innovation/mrc-industry-collaboration-agreement-mica/>
- NHS resources – SoECAT
  - <https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/resources/#3.5>





# 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**

## Je-S Welcome to Je-S

Existing Users

User Name:

Password:

Log In

[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

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

For certain, limited, calls, [self-registration for organisation](#)

Je-S Helpdesk Phone Lines

**The Je-S Helpdesk continue to work re  
technical help relating to Je-S submiss  
Thank you for your patience and unde**

Important Note re: Application Summary and Title sec

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** For data analysis purposes, we ask

Covid-19 latest information

The ongoing situation regarding coronavirus has significa  
This page on the UKRI website (

# Costings

- 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.
- 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
- We do not expect salaries of research staff other than the applicant to be costed into the applications e.g. co-investigators, postdocs, research fellows, research assistants etc
  - Staff costs can be requested where essential for the delivery of the project. For example, to assist data collection in another country, requirement for an independent statistician, a trial coordinator for blinding participants in a trial, this is not an exhaustive list. Costs should be reasonable, fully justified and only form a small part of the request for funding.
- **Justification for Resources:** aids reviewers to make an informed judgement on whether the resources requested are appropriate for the research proposed. Needs to match the [Je-S form](#).

# 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://youtu.be/ uWeny3NTvc](https://youtu.be/uWeny3NTvc)



# 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.



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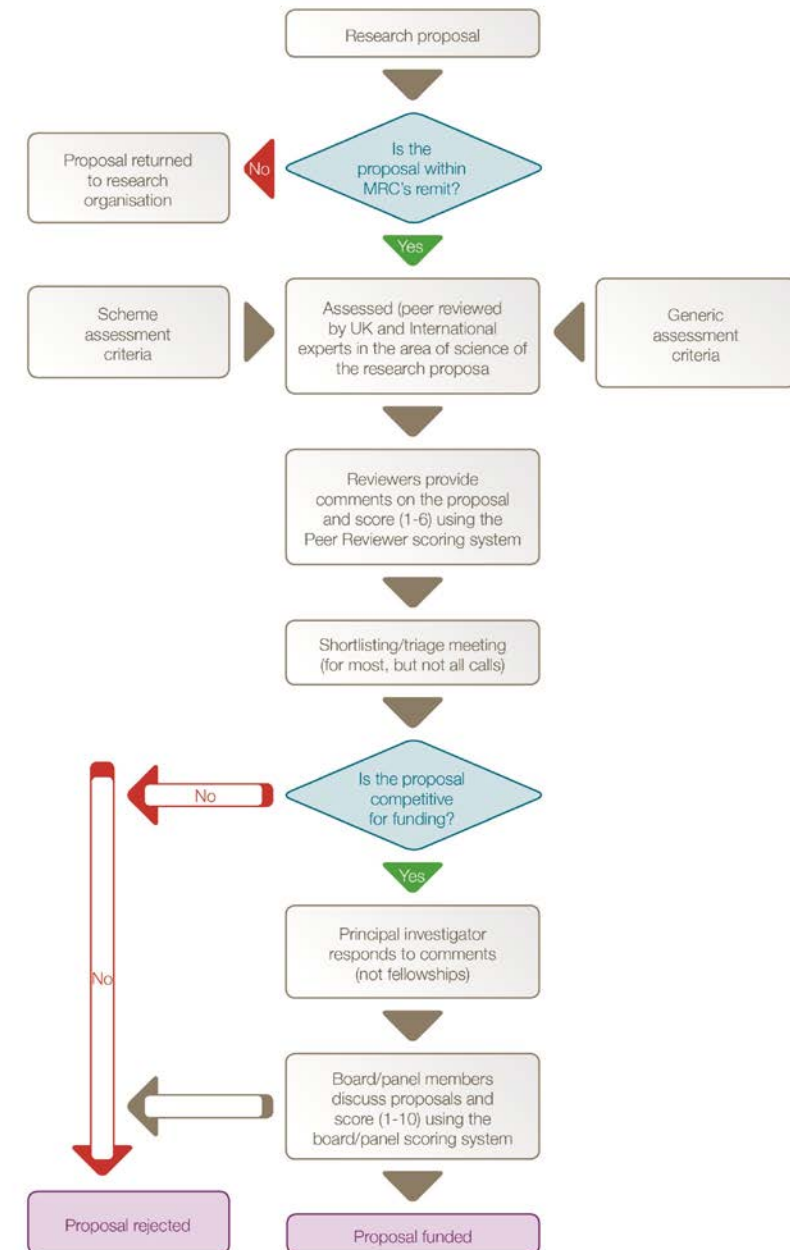
# Assessment



# Review Process



[https://youtu.be/\\_DErve4a0IA](https://youtu.be/_DErve4a0IA)



<https://mrc.ukri.org/documents/pdf/reviewers-handbook/>  
<https://mrc.ukri.org/about/our-structure/research-boards-panels/clinical-academic-research-partnerships-panel/>

# Assessment

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

**Quality**

**Impact**

**Productivity**



# 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.





# 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!**

# Your Questions

- Please don't worry if we don't get to your question. We will be saving and reviewing all the questions submitted. Still have questions?
  - Read the Call Text and Call Guidance thoroughly
  - Talk to your Research Partner
  - Talk to your Research Office
  - Email: [\*\*CARP@mrc.ukri.org\*\*](mailto:CARP@mrc.ukri.org)
- [\*\*NIHR Research Design Service\*\*](#)
- [\*\*NC3Rs\*\*](#)
- [\*\*MRC Regulatory Support Centre\*\*](#)