



**Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council**

BBSRC Business and Academia Prosperity Partnership Round 2 Funding Opportunity Application Frequently Asked Questions

Q 1. What is the maximum duration of awards?

A 1. The maximum duration of awards is 60 months (5 years) in length and follows BBSRC standard research grant guidelines.

Q 2. Will this funding opportunity be launched on the new funding service?

A 2. Yes, this funding opportunity will be launched on the UKRI Funding Service (TFS). [Guidance has been created](#) in line with new processes for applying for any funding opportunity.

Q 3. When will this funding opportunity be open for applications?

A 3. The opening date of this opportunity is 27th September, with a closing date of 7th November for the Outline Stage.

Further details with key dates of this funding opportunity will be published on the BBSRC website upon call launch.

Q 4. Will the Flexible Talent Development account be included in this funding opportunity as it was in the previous opportunity?

A 4. No, support for skills and talent will now be requested through the main grant.

Q 5. Is there a list available of which costings on an application are eligible or ineligible to apply for?

A 5. Eligible costs for this funding opportunity are in line with standard eligibility guidelines outlined in our [guidance for applicants](#).

The only deviation from the guidance is that the skills and talent funding for applications will be funded at 100% full economic cost, as opposed to the standard 80%.

Q 6. What level of contribution are businesses expected to provide on a Prosperity Partnership award?

A 6. In the case that there is a single business involved they would be expected to provide at least a matched cash contribution on a Prosperity Partnership award.

In the case that there are multiple businesses involved they would all collectively be expected to provide at least a matched cash contribution on the Prosperity Partnership award, with the majority coming from the business lead.

We have provided an [example budget](#) to help guide applicants in what is expected in terms of contributions.

Q 7. Can a proposal include international business partners, provided that the work show a clear benefit to the UK business?

A 7. If the lead business partner is not based in the UK, then we encourage you to get in contact with us prior to application. Sufficient justification will need to be provided as to why capability does not exist in the UK.

Q 8. Can work on a proposed project be carried from outside the UK?

A 8. Any work that is required to take place overseas can be subcontracted as part of a proposal. BBSRC considers eligible institutions to be best places to determine how their work is undertaken. A subcontractor can be either a:

- third-party individual not employed as staff on the grant
- third-party organisation, who is subcontracted by the host organisation to deliver a specific piece of work. This will be subject to the procurement rules of the host organisation

For more information on sub-contracting, please view our [guidance for applicants](#) page.

Q 9. Are there any conditions with regards to any IP that arises from a project?

A 9. BBSRC stipulates that access must be in line with any relevant Subsidy Control regulation. In terms of exploitation, BBSRC would like to see a plan for how this will be carried out, however the logistics are to be decided and agreed by the parties involved.

Q 10. What is the maximum award I can apply for?

A 10. There is no specified minimum or maximum level of funding that can be applied for beyond the total amount of funding available for the funding opportunity.

Q 11. Can employment costs of research staff be counted as an eligible cost of the business matched contributed for researchers who are employed by the business lead?

A 11. The gross salary costs to research staff who are employed by the business(es) can be counted as part of the matched contribution.

Q 12. Will application assessments at the outlines stage affect assessment at full stage?

A 12. Applications submitted at the Outline stage will be built upon for submission to the final stage of this call, therefore BBSRC will consider the application submitted as a whole.

Q 13. Will there be an interview stage as was the case last time?

A 13. The interview stage of the process will now take place at the full stage of this funding opportunity.

Q 14. Is there a limit to how many business partners can be involved on a proposal?

A 14. There are no restrictions on additional partners, however there must be justification for their inclusion in the partnership and what contributions they will be making (not just towards the cash contribution). For guidance available for spinouts and international partners, please see the call text.

Q 15. Can there be more than one university involved in a project?

A 15. Yes, there can be multiple universities on an application, however one must act as the project lead.

Q 16. Can academic and industry partners who have not previously collaborated in a formal capacity apply for this funding opportunity?

A 16. Yes, new high-potential partnerships are eligible for this funding opportunity. All applications will be assessed against the assessment criteria.

Q 17. Is it acceptable for the businesses involved to contribute via in-kind contributions?

A 17. A matched cash contribution is a requirement for this call. Please see the definitive list of cash contributions in the call text for what we would consider constitutes as a cash contribution.

If the company involved is unable to cover the cash contributions alone, this could be made up by seeking to build a consortium with other companies.

Q 18. What is the process for applying if I have been invited resubmit a proposal?

A 18. For any invited resubmission, applicants must provide a covering letter declaring it as a resubmission and detail the modifications of the application which merit its reconsideration. This must be then sent to the [TFS Helpdesk e-mail account](#).

E-mails sent to the TFS Helpdesk e-mail account must be forwarded onto the Business Interaction Unit inbox - Business.unit@bbsrc.ukri.org.