

BBSRC-FAPESP Application Guidance

This is a guidance document created to assist applicants to the UKRI-FAPESP scheme in the completion of their application for submission to BBSRC. It is specific to the scheme and should be used in conjunction with the opportunity specific guidance found on the funding finder and information that can be found on the following web pages:

The UKRI central scheme web page can be found here [Collaborate with researchers in Brazil – UKRI](#)

The FAPESP scheme web page can be found here [FAPESP – UKRI Responsive Mode Submission](#)

Please note the important change for 2026 onwards: The UK component of projects submitted to the FAPESP lead agency agreement through BBSRC applicant-led mode must not exceed £1M FEC, BBSRC awards 80% of full economic costs.

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Application and assessment process

Applications (both the UK and São Paulo components) will undergo a single peer review process led by BBSRC. All FAPESP applications will be assessed through 'BBSRC

standard research grant: applicant-led mode' opportunities. Please check the UKRI funding finder site [Opportunities – UKRI](#) for the most up to date opportunity information.

Each application will be assessed by one of the [research committees \(A-D\)](#) in the manner detailed on the opportunity and, in competition with all other applications submitted to the same opportunity. Applications submitted to BBSRC under the FAPESP scheme will not undergo a unique review process.

Applications will be peer reviewed in accordance with BBSRC's criteria. For submitted applications, FAPESP nominated reviewers will be approached by the BBSRC as part of the normal peer review process.

Read the [How we make decisions – UKRI](#) for more information on UKRI assessment processes and refer to the specific opportunity for more details. Eligibility guidance for the São Paulo-based applicant can be found here: [FAPESP – UKRI Responsive Mode Submission](#). BBSRC are not able to advise on the eligibility of the São Paulo-based applicant.

BBSRC application guidance

There are four steps to applying:

1. São Paulo-based project leads must first confirm eligibility with FAPESP and receive a letter confirming this.
2. The São Paulo-based project lead should then submit the FAPESP application via Sistema de Apoio a Gestão (SAGe) and await confirmation from FAPESP that initial pre-assessment checks have been completed.
3. Once confirmation has been received, the São Paulo-based project lead should send a copy of the SAGe application to the UK project lead, together with the original letter of eligibility. This should happen as soon as possible after receiving confirmation from FAPESP that pre-assessment checks have been completed.
4. Within 7 days of receipt of the SAGe application, the UK-based project lead should submit their application through the UKRI Funding Service to BBSRC, uploading the FAPESP letter of eligibility and a copy of the SAGe application as attachments.

The UK component of projects submitted to this lead agency agreement through BBSRC applicant-led mode must not exceed £1M FEC. BBSRC awards 80% of full economic costs to the UK component.

Studentships or student resource may not be requested, or included, on BBSRC research grant applications so please ensure the UK component does not include doctoral students.

Documentation

Applications should include all the documentation expected for a standard research grant: applicant-led mode application, as well as the additional document relating to the FAPESP scheme (FAPESP proposal form, FAPESP consolidated budget form, FAPESP letter of eligibility).

FAPESP proposal form

The full proposal must be submitted by the applicant from the state of São Paulo to FAPESP through the SAGe system, containing the research project and all other documents requested in the “Documents” tab.

The applicant from the state of São Paulo must generate a PDF copy of the full proposal for submission with the BBSRC application by the UK applicant.

FAPESP consolidated budget form

All costs associated with São Paulo based researcher must be entered in the FAPESP budget table (which is included in the SAGe proposal form)

All costs requested from FAPESP should be eligible under the general rules and procedures for FAPESP research grants.

FAPESP letter of eligibility

The applicant from the state of São Paulo must consult FAPESP to obtain the Eligibility Letter for inclusion in the BBSRC application by the UK applicant.

Supplementary guidance for completion of application sections

Supplementary guidance for completing TFS sections specific for FAPESP applications is provided below, however this is not comprehensive nor exhaustive. You must ensure you also read the guidance and respond to the questions for the opportunity as directed on The Funding Service (TFS).

- See the TFS guidance for advice on completing applications to BBSRC here [How applicants use the UKRI Funding Service – UKRI](#)

- Please check the relevant sections of the [Guidance for applicants – BBSRC – UKRI](#) before applying.
- Please also refer to 'How to Apply' section of the relevant opportunity webpage

1. Title:

Title should be prefaced with "BBSRC-FAPESP:"

2. Summary:

This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

3. Core team

Please only provide details of the UK applicants in this section.

4. BBSRC scheme

Please state the corresponding number for the FAPESP scheme as indicated in the question. Please upload the following documentation as a single PDF:

- FAPESP proposal form
- FAPESP consolidated budget form
- FAPESP letter of eligibility

5. BBSRC remit classification

Select the most suitable research committee for your application (A-D).

6. Vision

Describe your application through a single integrated narrative, encompassing both the UK and São Paulo contributions.

7. Approach

Describe your application through a single integrated narrative, encompassing both the UK and São Paulo contributions.

8. Applicant and team capability to deliver

Please discuss both the UK and São Paulo teams and make sure to name the members of the São Paulo team and their respective research organisations.

9. Project partners

Complete this section for any project partners (both UK and São Paulo components). You must also name the São Paulo applicants to be funded by FAPESP here. Include the total costs requested from FAPESP as project partner in-kind contributions.

10. Project Partners: statement of support

Complete this section for any project partner including the named São Paulo applicants.

11. Resources and Cost

Costs and justification for the UK component should be provided here. The UK component of projects submitted to the FAPESP lead agency agreement through BBSRC applicant-led mode must not exceed £1M FEC, BBSRC awards 80% of full economic costs. Costs must be submitted in £.

Costs being requested from FAPESP by São Paulo-based applicants should not be entered into the Funding Service. The resources and cost justification should however include a clear summary and justification of the São Paulo costs sought from FAPESP, making it clear that these will be funded by FAPESP if the project is successful.

12. Data Management and Sharing

This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

13. Facilities

Only complete this section if you are using a facility from the [facility information list \(DOCX, 35KB\)](#). Otherwise enter 'N/A'

14. Ethics and responsible research and innovation (RRI)

This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

15. Animal involvement and the '3Rs'

You must complete this section about how your proposed project will involve or impact animals. This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

16. Genetically modified organisms and biological risk

You must complete this section if your project will include genetically modified organisms or genetic technologies. This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

17. Human participation in health-related research

You must complete this section about whether your project will include human participation. This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components).

18. Trusted research and innovation (TR&I)

This should cover the whole application (both UK and São Paulo components). You must include the named São Paulo applicants.

Contact details

Please provide as much information as possible in your email to ensure a rapid response.

For queries regarding BBSRC eligibility, contact: eligibility@bbsrc.ukri.org

For queries regarding BBSRC remit, contact: remit@bbsrc.ukri.org

For queries regarding FAPESP eligibility, contact: ukri-agreement@fapesp.br

For queries regarding FAPESP remit, contact: ukri-agreement@fapesp.br

For queries regarding the scheme, contact: inca@bbsrc.ukri.org

For TFS system queries please email: support@funding-service.ukri.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility

Q. What are the eligibility criteria for UK partners?

UK applicants must be eligible for BBSRC standard research grant: applicant-led funding. Further information about eligibility criteria can be found here [Find out if you can apply for funding – UKRI](#). Queries concerning eligibility of the UK partner should be sent to eligibility@bbsrc.ukri.org.

BBSRC is unable to provide guidance on the eligibility of São Paulo partners.

Q. What are the eligibility criteria for São Paulo partners?

BBSRC is unable to advice on the eligibility of São Paulo based researchers, queries should be sent to ukri-agreement@fapesp.br.

Q. Are applicants based in other countries eligible to apply?

No, only UK and São Paulo based applicants are eligible.

Funding

Q. Will BBSRC pay costs incurred by the São Paulo partners?

No, funding for activities undertaken by São Paulo partners will be met solely by the FAPESP. Likewise, FAPESP will not fund costs incurred by the UK partners; these will be met by BBSRC. All costs requested from FAPESP should be eligible under the general rules and procedures for FAPESP research grants, for more information see here: [FAPESP – UKRI Responsive Mode Submission](#).

Remit

Q. Is my application within remit for this scheme?

Projects must be within BBSRC and FAPESP remits. Further information about BBSRC remit can be found on the [Remit, programmes and priorities – BBSRC – UKRI](#). Queries concerning BBSRC remit should be sent to remit@bbsrc.ukri.org

BBSRC is unable to provide guidance on FAPESP remit, please contact ukri-agreement@fapesp.br.

Q: Which BBSRC Research Committee should I apply to?

Applications should be submitted to the committee you feel would be best placed to assess your application (A-D). Following submission, BBSRC will check your choice in line with the remit of the committee and make a final decision as to which committee will assess your application.

Details of the research committees can be found at [Research Committees – UKRI](#)

Q. Will applications submitted to BBSRC be reviewed by the usual research Committees or will a separate panel be used?

When BBSRC is the lead agency, all applications submitted will be assessed by the four committees (A-D) in the usual manner and in competition with all other applications submitted to the opportunity. Applicants should indicate which research committee is likely to be best able to assess the work proposed in the BBSRC schemes section.

Other

Q: Where do I submit my application?

All applications will be assessed through 'BBSRC standard research grant: applicant-led mode' opportunities. All information and documentation should be submitted to BBSRC through UKRI's TFS. Applications received via UKRI's TFS will be managed following BBSRC internal processes.

Q. Do applications under the FAPESP scheme receive any uplift during the assessment process or would the applications qualify for other applicant-led mode schemes, e.g. New Investigator, IPA, LINK?

No, applications will be assessed in competition with all other applications and will receive no additional uplift. Schemes such as New Investigator, IPA and LINK are not applicable to applications submitted to the FAPESP scheme. Please do not submit the full application to the BBSRC New investigator award: applicant-led mode opportunities.

Q. Will BBSRC share information I submit to the call with FAPESP?

Yes. As outlined in the call text and lead agency management plan, for the purposes of managing the administration of the lead agency scheme full stage applications will be shared between BBSRC and FAPESP staff.

Q. If funded, will the UK and FAPESP components need to have identical start dates?

Yes, we would expect the UK and São Paulo component to have the same start dates to enable a true partnership to take place. Successful applicants will be contacted to confirm start dates after outcomes have been communicated.

Q. My question is not answered above or in the information available of the BBSRC and FAESP website. What should I do?

For FAPESP related queries please contact ukri-agreement@fapesp.br

For BBSRC queries please contact inca@bbsrc.ukri.org

Additional information

Data Protection

UKRI BBSRC carries out the processing of personal data in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 1998/General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) www.ico.org.uk.

The information you provide for the FAPESP Lead Agency will only be used by BBSRC and its partner, FAPESP for the purpose of managing the call.

The personal data you have provided will be Name, Research Organisation, Job Title, and Email address. Information gathered will be used by BBSRC to manage applications.

The personal data provided will be retained on our systems for as long as is required to carry out processing for the purposes outlined above.

By providing your information you are consenting to its use as detailed above. You can access a copy of the UKRI Data Protection Policy here: [Data protection policy – UKRI](#).

Change log

v1.0 13/10/2025

Document created.

v1.1 08/04/2026

Full economic cost limit updated to £1M maximum for UK component of applications and the four steps to applying was added. Text updated to align with applicant-led responsive removal of deadlines, and introduction of structured ethics, TR&I and animal use question sets.

v1.2 01/07/2026

Formatting updated for accessibility.