**Early Career Researcher Grant**

**Application Form**

****

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **[April 2025]** | **For official use only:**  **Received:**  **Reference No.: ECG-**     - |

Early Career Researcher Grants are available to help recently appointed researchers (see the Early Career Researcher Grant Guidance Notes for eligibility) further develop their own independent programme of research. They can be used for new projects, critical pilot studies, critical replications, proof-of-concept work or to supplement other research programmes, whether currently funded or not. The grants can be used for laboratory consumables, equipment, computer hardware and software, purchase of time on shared facilities, purchase of specialised services (such as statistical analysis), travel for specific research related work. They cannot be used for salary or *ad hoc* payments to students for assistance with projects. Please ask us if you are uncertain about eligibility of your proposal.

There is no restriction on the subject or nature of the research, provided it addresses a question relevant to human health: the causation, prevention, diagnosis or treatment of illness or development of medical or surgical appliances. If a new device is being developed, there must be a clear plan for meeting regulatory standards.

As a charity, Medical Research Scotland is obliged to ensure that the results of work it funds are used for public good. We expect grant holders to be active in ensuring the protection and exploitation of any Intellectual Property arising out of the research. You must let us know if any IP is created but do note that we are not seeking any stake in this. IP remains with those creating it and decisions about dissemination are theirs.

**You must read the Early Career Researcher Guidance Notes and Standard Conditions before completing this application. The Guidance Notes constitute part of the conditions of this application. All sections of the application form must be completed.** Incomplete applications waste our and your time. We appreciate your help with this.

**If you require help, email us at** [**applications@medicalresearchscotland.org**](mailto:applications@medicalresearchscotland.org)

**1. INSTITUTION AND EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER DETAILS**

**1a Administering Institution**

|  |
| --- |
| Title of Institution: |
| Full Postal Address: |
| Postcode: |

**1b Early Career Researcher**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Surname: | | | Forename(s): | |
| Title: | Position held (See Guidance Notes for “eligible position” criteria): | | | |
| Start date of Position *(dd/mm/yyyy)*: | | | | |
| End Date of Position *(dd/mm/yyyy or Permanent)*: | | | | |
| Department/Division in which the research will be carried out: | | | | |
| Address: | | | | |
| Postcode: | | | | |
| Email Address: | | | | |
| Telephone: | | | | |
| What are your current career aspirations?: | | | | |
| How will this grant help in achieving this?: | | | | |
| Personal statement (*how do you past research and career achievements make you suitable for an Early Career Researcher Grant. Include evidence that you have developed your own independent programme of research)* (*Maximum of 600 words - this field is limited to 6000 characters.)*: | | | | |
| Provide a breakdown of time allocation of your eligible early career position contract (by % of time allocation or by full time equivalent (FTE)) If other, please define and provide % or FTE breakdown | | | | |
| Research: | | Teaching: | | Administration: |
| Other: | | Other: | | Other: |

**2. FINANCIAL SUPPORT REQUESTED**

**2a Funding Requested**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Consumables | Please specify and justify the requested funding | £ |
| Equipment | Please specify and justify the requested funding | £ |
| Other | Please specify and justify the requested funding | £ |
| Other | Please specify and justify the requested funding | £ |
| Other | Please specify and justify the requested funding | £ |
| **TOTAL** |  | **£** |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2b Existing Principal Investigator Funding Received**  These awards are only available to Early Career Researchers who have recently established their independent research programme. At the closing date for applications, applicants must already have received funding, as principal investigator, to support their independent research that is to be conducted while holding their eligible Early Career Research position. The previously awarded funding must extend beyond salary costs. Medical Research Scotland Early Career Researcher grants are not available as the first source of principal investigator funding for an early career researcher.  Please list all previous funding you have received as principal investigator at the time of, or since starting, your current eligible Early Career Researcher position, to investigate the proposed, or other, areas of research (*include the funding source, name of award received, project title, start and end dates of grant, amount of funding).* | | | | |
| Source of existing funding: | Name of award | Awarded Project Title | Start and End Dates of Grant | Amount of funding awarded |
|  |  |  |  | £ |
|  |  |  |  | £ |
|  |  |  |  | £ |
|  |  |  |  | £ |
|  |  |  |  | £ |
|  |  |  |  | £ |

**3. RESEARCH PROJECT DETAILS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **3a Project Title:** *(Maximum of 25 words – this field is limited to 250 characters.)*: | | |
| **3b Project Type:** *wholly new project without existing funding, pilot project, supplementary to an existing funded project, other:* | | |
| **3c Lay Summary:**  This should describe succinctly the aims of the proposed research, how the investigation will be carried out and the results expected. The potential value to human health should also be explained.  This summary should be written in plain English so that Trustees with no scientific or medical background can understand the application and decide on the importance of funding the work.  Medical Research Scotland distributes publicity material, including online publication, on work it has supported, which includes the Lay Summary and details of awardees.  (*Maximum of 200 words - this field is limited to 2000 characters.)*: | | |
| **3d Anticipated Start Date:** | | |
| **3e Planned Date for Project Outcome:** | | |
| **3f Project Description:** | | |
| *Background to the Proposed Project* *(Maximum of 300 words – this field is limited to 3000 characters.)*: | | |
| *Aims, Objectives & Expected Impact* *(Maximum of 250 words – this field is limited to 2500 characters.):* | | |
| *Explain how the equipment, consumables and other resources requested will help meet the Aims, Objectives & Expected Impact (Maximum of 250 words – this field is limited to 2500 characters.):* | | |
| *Experimental Design and Methods* *(Maximum of 650 words – this field is limited to 6500 characters.):* | | |
| *Statistical Information (Maximum of 300 words – this field is limited to 3000 characters.):* | | |
| *Does the research require access to facilities, including but not limited to equipment, samples, cell lines, biological (or other), materials or data, external to those available at the administering institution and if so, has permission to use them been sought and granted? Please provide written evidence to support any granting of permission. (Maximum of 300 words – this field is limited to 3000 characters.):* | | |
| *Please check the box if you are attaching a letter of consent for use of facilities.* |  | |
| *References:* | | |
| *How does the Proposed Project and this application fit with the objectives of Medical Research Scotland?* | | |
| **The application may, *if essential*, include no more than one image or one table, which must be submitted using the *Early Career Researcher Grant Appendix* form. Please check this box if you are including an image or table.** | |  |

**4. ETHICS & REGULATORY ISSUES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **4a** Will the proposed research involve the use of human participants? |  | |
| **4b** Will the proposed research involve the use of human biological samples (*excluding established cell/tissue lines*)? |  | |
| **4c** Will the proposed research involve the use of personal and/or anonymised data (eg patient, study participant or public)? |  | |
| **4d** Will the proposed research involve the use of live animals in or outside the UK? |  | |
| (i) If ‘yes’ in what country(ies) will the research take place? |  | |
| (ii) If ‘yes’ what species will be used? |  | |
| (iii) If ‘yes’ are they animals which are protected under UK law? |  | |
| (iv) If ‘yes’ explain why animal use is necessary. Are there any other approaches? (*Maximum of 250 words – this field is limited to 2500 characters.):* | | |
| (v) If ‘yes’ explain why the species/model to be used is the most appropriate. (*Maximum of 250 words – this field is limited to 2500 characters.):* | | |
| (vi) If ‘yes’ how many animals will be used? |  | |
| (vii) If ‘yes’ justify the number of animals to be used per experiment, including details of any sample size calculations and/or statistical advice sought: | | |
| (viii) If ‘yes’ what would be the severity of the procedures? |  | |
| (ix) Provide details of the procedures to be carried out on the animals. (*Maximum of 250 words – this field is limited to 2500 characters.):* | | |
| (x) If ‘yes’ will any be genetically modified during the course of the proposed research? |  | |
| (xi) If ‘yes’ will any previously genetically modified animals be used? |  | |
| (xii) If ‘yes’ explain and illustrate how the ‘[Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Bioscience Research](http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/responsibility-use-animals-bioscience-research)’ and the National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research 3Rs (replacement, refinement and reduction) have been considered in the design of the proposed study: | | |
| **4e** Will the proposed research involve the use of animal tissues in or outside the UK? (*excluding established cell/tissue lines)* |  | |
| (i) If ‘yes’ in what country(ies) will the research take place? |  | |
| (ii) If ‘yes’ from what species will the tissue be derived? |  | |
| (iii) If ‘yes’ from what organ/what tissue type (e.g. blood, neuronal tissue, kidney etc)? |  | |
| (iv) If ‘yes’ in what country will the tissue be obtained from the animals? |  | |
| (v) If ‘yes’ what procedure will be carried out to obtain the tissue?: | | |
| **4f** Indicate which ethical and regulatory approvals and/or licences are required for the proposed research and whether or not they have been obtained [complete ***all***dropdowns]: | | |
| Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body(AWERB) Approval | |  | |
| Animal Licences (i) Personal for Early Career Researcher | |  | |
| (ii) Project licence | |  | |
| Ethical Approval (for human participants) | |  | |
| Indicate which committee gave approval – for example, University Ethics Committee, Departmental Committee. | |  | |
| HSE Approval | |  | |
| MHRA Approval | |  | |
| HFEA Stem Cell Work Approval | |  | |
| Other bodies if applicable. Please specify body: | |  | |
| Human Tissue Use: Confirm HTA Codes of Practice will be followed |  | |
| Personal and/or Anonymised Data: Confirm Information Services Division Scotland guidelines (<http://www.isdscotland.org/About-ISD/Confidentiality/>) will be followed |  | |

**5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (see Section 6 of the Guidance Notes)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **5a** Is the proposed research likely to lead to patentable or commercially exploitable results? |  |
| **5b** The applicant must confirm that they are familiar with the strategy for the identification, protection and exploitation of all intellectual property in place at the Administering Institution |  |

**6. DECLARATIONS, AUTHORISATIONS & SIGNATURES**

**By signing below, we:**

(i) agree to follow the requirements of **Data Protection Law**;

(ii) agree to ensure that all **ethical approvals**; all licences required to carry out procedures on animals; and all other relevant regulatory approvals required to conduct this project will be obtained and will be in force when any work requiring such approvals and licences is conducted;

(iii) confirm that **we have read the Early Career Researcher Grant Standard Conditions** for this research programme *and* agree to abide by them and any amendments which may subsequently be issued by Medical Research Scotland;

(iv) confirm that **we have read the Guidance Notes** for this research programme which constitute part of the conditions of this award, which we agree to abide by;

(v) confirm that we, and all those providing personal information in this application, have read and understood the **Medical Research Scotland’s Privacy Policy** – please consult this at https://medicalresearchscotland.org.uk/privacy-policy/;

(vi) confirm that to the best of our knowledge and belief the **project described here represents the ideas, concepts and writings of the applicant** and is not a modification of projects submitted by others elsewhere;

(vii) **confirm that this application has been reviewed and approved** and that, if successful, the work will be accommodated in and administered by the Department/Division or equivalent of the Administering Institution;

(viii) accept **responsibility for the conduct of this project and funds awarded** for it and shall immediately inform Medical Research Scotland if there is any indication of scientific misconduct or misuse of grant funds.

**Signatures and full contact details are required below for the Early Career Researcher, the Head of Department (or equivalent), the Administering Institution’s Finance Director (or equivalent) and, if applicable, an NHS R&D Director. Separate pages are provided for each one – please circulate to each as required in order to collect signatures.**

**Scanned ink or electronic signatures are acceptable. Signatures cannot be entered directly to the Word doc form of the application. You can print, sign and scan the signed Application Form to a single pdf file, or convert the Application Form to a pdf file and sign it electronically.**

**The final document, including the Appendix and letters of consent, should be a single pdf and sent to:**

[**applications@medicalresearchscotland.org**](mailto:applications@medicalresearchscotland.org)

**6a The Early Career Researcher must provide all the information requested and sign below.**

Date *(dd/mm/yyyy)*:

Title and full name:

Position held:

Tel No/Ext:

Email:

Full name of institution:

Name of Department/Division

Address:

Postcode:

Signature:

**6b The Head of Department/Division (or Equivalent) in which the research will be accommodated must provide all the information requested and sign below.**

Date *(dd/mm/yyyy)*:

Title and full name:

Position held:

Tel No/Ext:

Email:

Full name of institution:

Name of Department/Division:

Address:

Postcode:

Signature:

**6c The** **Finance Director/Officer who will be responsible for administering the grant awarded must provide all the information requested and sign below.**

Date *(dd/mm/yyyy)*:

Title and full name:

Position held:

Name of Department:

Tel No/Ext:

Email:

Signature:

**6d Where the proposed project requires the use of NHS facilities this application must also be submitted to the relevant** **NHS R&D Director for approval.**

By signing below, I confirm on behalf of my NHS Institution (as named below) that access to the NHS facilities will be provided to the applicant as is required in terms of this application.

**NHS R&D Director**: **Please provide all the information requested and sign.**

Date *(dd/mm/yyyy)*:

Title and full name:

Position held:

NHS Organisation:

NHS facility name & address:

Postcode:

Tel No/Ext:

Email:

Signature:

**Where applicable, the NHS R&D Director should also enter the amount of NHS support awarded to this project: £**0.00