

BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account

Push-to-IP Scheme

Extended Deadline 12 noon 17th July 2019

Guidance Notes for Applicants

Purpose of Push-to-IP scheme

To progress a promising concept through to the point where patent protection can realistically be granted.

The Push-to-IP scheme aims to drive impact from research disclosures/commercialisation, supporting projects where the intellectual property (IP) position is currently confounded or immature for pure commercialisation. The scheme will fund:

- Final steps in reaching the stage of filing for patent protection
- Strengthening of parameters to support granting of patent protection or commercialisation of IP
- Supporting projects to enable patent protection or commercialisation of IP to be broadened and extended to new applications
- Working with an industrial collaborator to develop/strengthen a patent/IP for commercialisation

It is therefore important that proposals clearly outline the envisaged route through which impact will be delivered from the protected asset.

Applicants are encouraged to engage with the University's Technology Transfer Officer (UMIP) for insight and guidance prior to submission.

The research must link with BBSRC funded research projects.

The maximum duration of a project is 12 months. The maximum IAA grant contribution will be £20k, up to £25k for exceptional applications. *Please be aware the IAA contribution will cover direct and directly allocated costs, with indirect costs and estates costs covered by the PI's School/Institution.*

The aims of the scheme are:

- To support research projects to realised high quality patents and progress research along the commercialisation pathway
- To produce protected assets with clear pathways of impact taking into account development, production, and dissemination of the asset; ideally with an industrial collaborator in mind.

Anticipated outcomes:

- An increase in the number of commercially viable, protected assets from research linked to the University BBSRC funding portfolio.
- An increase in the number of licenses granted from IP/protected assets emerging from research linked to the University BBSRC funding portfolio.
- An increase in impact case studies
- An increase in direct investment from external partners

Submitted projects will be assessed by the BBSRC IAA review panel, which is comprised of business engagement specialists, academics and external industry experts from diverse scientific backgrounds. **It is therefore essential that applications are written for a non-specialist audience.**

Please be aware the scheme will NOT fund patent filing or similar costs associated with registering IP.

Projects from early-career researchers and those building new collaborations with external organisations are strongly encouraged.

Please note: this is a new scheme, so if you feel your project doesn't quite fit with the suggested approaches, please discuss with Kate Meade (kate.a.meade@manchester.ac.uk, x65418) to explore further.

Eligibility

Applications are only permitted for projects that focus on the translation of knowledge or technology that links to research previously funded by BBSRC. It is understood that multiple funders may have been involved in a body of research, but there must be a demonstrable connection with funding previously awarded by the BBSRC.

Please ensure an NDA is in place before disclosing any unpublished research to industry partners.

If you have any queries regarding user organisation eligibility, please contact Kate Meade (kate.a.meade@manchester.ac.uk).

Funding Arrangements

Funding is intended for those projects where a company/collaborator will make direct financial contributions to the project in addition to the provision of in-kind resources (including, facilities, equipment, consumables and technical expertise). Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to secure such support in order to form a competitive proposal.

If an industrial/external partner is not part of the envisaged route to commercialisation, then this must be explained clearly in the application form (for instance forming a spin-out company).

Industry partners will be expected to provide a letter of support with clarity on the next step should the project be successful, as well as outlining any in-kind contribution to the project.

The BBSRC IAA panel expects University staff to negotiate with a partner organisation a deal

which minimises the support necessary from the BBSRC IAA fund. The value to the partner and the University (in generating research publications, ongoing collaborations, IP etc.) must be taken into account.

Spend Completion Date

Maximum project period is 12 months. The project period runs from 1st September 2019 – 31st August 2020. All project expenditure must be completed by the end date stated in the application form. Any unspent funds will be returned to the Business Engagement Team for reallocation.

Costing & Eligible Costs

scheme will NOT fund costs of patent filing or similar costs associated with registering IP. Projects are expected to be costed on a full Economic Costing basis. The BBSRC will provide funding for directly incurred and directly allocated costs only. **Indirect costs will be covered by the PI's School/Institution.**

All costs must be entered into a Project Budget Sheet to accompany the application. The Project Budget Sheet must not be shared with collaborating parties.

Eligible costs include:

Directly Incurred:	staff costs Equipment and consumables Travel and subsistence Training and development
Directly Allocated:	PI time

BBSRC IAA projects are exempt from the minimum PI contribution of 20%

The maximum IAA contribution will be £20k, up to £25k for exceptional applications.

Project Budget:	Project costs must be discussed with RSMs and entered into the budget page of the application form.
Total Project Costs:	These are those costs directly associated with the project, in the eligible cost headings outlined above. These should include all staff costs, travel and subsistence and consumables.
Company Contributions:	These are the direct (invoiceable) company contributions to the total project.
In-kind Costs:	These may include staff time, access to equipment or facilities, provision of consumables.

Assessment of applications

Applications will be assessed by the University's BBSRC IAA panel. Applicants should remember to write their proposals for a non-specialist audience.

Assessment will take into account:

- The benefits to the partner, the University, and the staff involved
- The likelihood the research outputs will result in a protected asset
- The strength of impact expected to be delivered by the protected asset

- The envisaged route through which impact will be delivered (such as licensing, investment from external partners, follow-on funding)

Application Submission

The deadline for submissions is **12 noon on 17th July 2019**.

Please note that applications will be evaluated by the BE team for content and eligibility before being sent to the IFF Panel for consideration. **You are strongly advised to contact Kate Meade, for advice and guidance at least one month prior to submitting your application:**

Kate Meade
0161 306 5418

Business Engagement Officer
kate.a.meade@manchester.ac.uk

Once signed by Head of School/Division and collaborating company (ies), completed applications should be submitted with the project budget sheet and letter(s) of support. Letters of support must outline any financial and in-kind contribution and provide details of next steps for collaboration should the project be successful, as well as outlining any financial and in-kind contribution to the project.

Electronic submissions are acceptable for application deadline purposes but a signed paper application and letter(s) of support should follow (signed and dated by all partners) no later than seven days after the deadline date.