

Industry Collaboration Fund 1st Call for Proposals

Submission Deadline: 3rd February 2021, 12 noon

Please note projects awarded under the ICF Call 1 deadline with a duration of 12 months or longer, must start as soon as possible as the ICF funding needs to be spent by 31st March 2022

The Industry Collaboration Fund (ICF) is a combination of grants awarded to The University of Manchester through the EPSRC Impact Accelerator Account (IAA), BBSRC IAA, and MRC Proximity to Discovery (P2D) Account. Academics have the opportunity to apply for funding from one of the Research Council awards or as a joint Research Council award, to support multidisciplinary projects (subject to the individual Research Council eligibility requirements, set out in the scheme guidance documents).

The aim of the ICF is to increase and accelerate the impact of EPSRC, BBSRC and MRC research outputs from the university through a range of knowledge exchange activities. Running until March 2022, the ICF will aim to ensure the university fulfills its strategic knowledge exchange objectives in the domains covered by EPSRC, BBSRC and MRC research. The Knowledge Exchange Team is pleased to announce the ICF Call 1 for Proposals under the following mechanisms:

- **Proof of Concept Scheme** providing support for the very early stage of transforming research outputs into commercial opportunities
 - [Application Form](#)
 - [Guidance Notes](#)
- **Secondment Scheme** providing flexible support for secondments between The University of Manchester and businesses and other organisations
 - [Application Form](#)
 - [Guidance Notes](#)

Eligibility

Applications for the EPSRC and/or BBSRC IAA funding are only permitted for projects focused on the exploitation/application of knowledge or technology generated through EPSRC or BBSRC funded research. EPSRC and BBSRC IAA projects must also link to one or more of the [EPSRC Themes](#) or [BBSRC Responsive Mode Priorities](#), respectively. For MRC P2D funding, projects do not have to link back to previous MRC research, but they must meet and address at least one of the [MRC science areas and/or cross-cutting themes](#).

Eligible collaborators are UK-based businesses (including UK sites of international businesses), UK charities, and UK public sector organisations such as the NHS. Non-UK based businesses may be eligible where there is demonstrable evidence of the intention for inward investment during or beyond the lifetime of the project (e.g. establishing a UK site, job creation). If you have any queries regarding user organisation eligibility, please contact the Knowledge Exchange Team.

Do you have a potential project?

The Knowledge Exchange Team provide active support for the development of ICF submissions. Prior to applying, academics are strongly advised to contact a member of the KE Team for support, and ideally at least 1 month before the call closing date of 3rd February 2021. Initial contact should be made via ke@manchester.ac.uk.

Additional information on knowledge exchange opportunities are available [here](#).