

Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health Innovative Bid Scheme – Guidance

This scheme is administered by the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health - Centre for Academic and Researcher Development (CARD) – Wellcome EDI programmes.

Aims of the Scheme

The EDI Innovative Bid Scheme is a new funding scheme (Jan 2022) aiming to celebrate and raise the visibility of our diverse researcher community and to promote inclusive research culture and practice.

The Scheme will provide support to any researcher and research related staff to develop an idea; or develop themselves or others to unlock diverse researcher potential; or develop a small piece of research; or create an event to increase inclusive research practice awareness. The scheme is an opportunity to create or build something that will make a difference [to The University of Manchester] in terms of i) celebrating diverse researchers or ii) will promote EDI in research practice or iii) shape a more inclusive research culture.

For the purposes of this call researchers are defined as individuals (staff and students) whose primary responsibility is to conduct research and who are usually supported by external grants - this includes PGR students, research assistants, research associates, research fellows senior research fellows and research active academics. As well as those in PS research related or support roles including Research IT.

Information for Applicants

All applications must be made using the template application form and submitted to Wellcome EDI by email

✉ WellcomeEDI@manchester.ac.uk

- Applicants can apply for costs up to a maximum of £5000 to explore inclusive research opportunities. The funds can cover a variety of ideas including, event or networking costs, development activity costs, staff and consumable costs for feasibility and pilot studies or preliminary research data collection etc.
1. The duration of the project(s) should be within 12 months and/or completed by end of March 2023.
 2. A full breakdown of all estimated costs is requested on the application form; where costs are reported in a foreign currency, applicants should convert to sterling and quote details of the exchange rate used.
 3. Applicants should ensure all sections of the application form are complete including a summary of the project, a statement of support and requested budget. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
 4. Awards are made on the basis of estimated costs and if the actual costs incurred are lower than the amount stated, the award will be reduced accordingly.
 5. Successful applicants must follow Faculty and University guidance in relation to project set up, financial processes and procedures.
 6. It is a condition of awards that applicants should be happy to engage in promotion of the Bid Scheme. Following completion of the activity, applicants must complete and submit the Innovative Bid Scheme Impact Form.
 7. If you leave the University with a project unfinished, you will need to return any funds unspent and complete an Innovative Bid Scheme Impact Form.

Criteria for Awards

1. At the time of application the lead applicant must be a PGR student or member of staff at the University employed on either a research only contract, a PS support contract or a fixed term contract not due to end within the duration of the project applied for.
2. Research and research related staff can be part of teams submitting multiple proposals to the scheme but can only lead on one award within the awarding period.
3. Awards to successful applicants are not transferable and apply only to the researcher/staff member or team stated in the application.

4. Assessment is to be based on the following criteria:
 - i. Alignment to the University Strategy
 - ii. The quality, strength and impact of the proposed project/idea
 - iii. A clear breakdown of estimated costs within the maximum individual allocation (£5k).

Application Deadlines

Applications will be accepted on a rolling monthly basis until January 2023 and panels will be arranged bi-monthly for decisions. Applications may therefore take up to 8 weeks before a response can be expected depending on submission date. Applications should be submitted to the WellcomeEDI mailbox

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More information can be found on the [Wellcome ISSF EDI webpages](#) – Working towards an Inclusive Research environment.