ResearchBites Series: 
Finding Funding/Funding Landscape

Dr Andrew Phillips

September 2022
Research and Innovation
https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/research/

Develop a proposal
- Intention to submit
- Funding opportunities
- Internal Funding
- RESEARCH Connect
- Grant writing tips
- Fellowship applications
- Ethics and governance
- Impact and engagement
- Data management plans

Run a project
- Management
  - Accepting an award
  - Post award financial management
  - Data protection & GDPR
  - Data storage and archiving
  - IT services for researchers
  - Research data management
  - Reporting

Achieve impact
- Impact & Knowledge Exchange
  - KTP
  - Consultancy
  - Commercialisation
  - Intellectual Property (IP)
  - Maximising impact
  - PERU
  - Working with industry
  - PURE
  - Communications
  - Open Access/Data
  - ORCID

Finance and costing
- Costing an application
- IT costs

Legal and contracts
- Contracts for research

Development
- Researcher Development
- Researcher’s Toolkit
- Continuing Professional Development

ABERDEEN 2040
Goals of the Grants Academy

• Support at **ALL STAGES** of the research grant life cycle: conception of ideas, through development and refinement of an application, to research delivery and realising impact of the research we undertake.

• **Measureable increase in the quality and quantity** of research grant applications.

• **Sharing best practice and training.**
How the Grants Academy Works

• Developed as a series of interwoven elements including sandpits to support the development of ideas and projects, grant writing workshops, rebuttal support, support for delivery of outcomes and outcomes management and more.

• Including supporting:
  • Effective horizon scanning
  • Facilitation of early ideas development
  • Supporting interdisciplinary working
  • Supporting engagement with industry
  • Capacity building in strategic areas
Events and Training

NEW: Grants Academy: Conversations on series
Promoting Inter-disciplinary research

Conversations on ... is a new series of facilitated sessions, over a sandwich lunch, to bring together anyone from within the University (and beyond) with an interest in joining an early ideas discussion on the chosen topic. A list of the upcoming sessions is below, if you are interested in participating please register via the Eventbrite links.

Ideas for new topics? Please submit these to grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk or speak to your R&I BDO.

Upcoming Grants Academy: Conversations on......
ResearchBites

Research applications – Getting Started
- Finding Funding/Funding Landscape
- EU & EU Funding
- Getting Started with Funding Applications
- Building your Budget

Research Applications – in depth
- Narrative CV
- Lay Summary
- Gender Action Plans
- Sustainable Considerations

Delivering a Successful Research Project
- Introduction to Research Contracts
- My Grant and Research Finance
- Practical Management of a Research Project
- Sharing Data from 3rd parties for research projects
- Impact
- PERU

Research Culture and Governance – Achieving Excellence
- Introduction to Research Ethics
- Safeguarding in Research
- Research Culture Briefing
- Nagoya
- PURE
Grants Academy

Starting work on your next (or perhaps first) research project can be a daunting task. Here you will find information on the various initiatives that can provide you with inspiration.

Successful Grant Library

Application development

There are lots of things to think about when developing your application. Here you’ll find all the information you need to build a successful application.

Application submission

Now that you’ve developed your application, it’s time to check it’s ready for submission.

Managing your project

Find additional support to manage your project. Here you will find everything from HR support to data management.

Project outcomes

Congratulations on completing your project, here you will find the support information on financial reporting and promoting your research to the wider world.

Maximising Impact from Research

The impact of a research project is enhanced by the way in which it shapes understanding of a topic or challenge and the benefits it brings to stakeholders.
Funder Visits + Funder/ing Insights

Leverhulme Trust

FunDer InsighTs SeSSion — 24 March 2022 (11.30am to 1.00pm)

The Leverhulme Trust awards funding across academic disciplines, supporting talented individuals in the sciences, arts, humanities and social sciences to realise their personal vision in research and professional development. As well as substantial grants for research, the Trust offers fellowships for researchers at every stage of their career as well as grants for international collaboration and travel.

Dr Tracey Henshaw, Assistant Director of the Leverhulme Trust will be presenting the online session to update us on funding opportunities including forthcoming strategic calls such as the Research Leadership Awards and the Doctoral Scholarships. There will also be an opportunity to talk to some of our award holders.

**Reminder: Please note next session (Wellcome Trust funder insights) is taking place Monday 25 October 2021 1200 -1300 for details on how to register see below**

Grants Academy Funder Insights Series: UKRI, EU & Wellcome Trust

The Grants Academy, and Schools of Medicine Medical Sciences & Nutrition and Natural & Computing Sciences, will be running a series of ‘Funder insights’ sessions in the autumn with a focus on UKRI, EU and the Wellcome Trust. All staff from across the University are welcome to attend, with new colleagues and early career researchers particularly welcome. The sessions will be an opportunity to disseminate the latest information on funding priorities, hear insights from colleagues who have recent experience of siting on funding panels and who have had recent grant successes, as well as a reminder on some of the basic rules and information when planning to apply.

Please contact grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk to register for any of these events and a diary invite will be sent to your calendar.

Wellcome Trust: Monday 25 October: 1200 – 1300 (please note this session will run again in spring 2022)
NEW: Grants Academy: Conversations on ....... series

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Upcoming Grants Academy: Conversations on.....
Funding Bulletins and Opportunities

UKRI Funding Bulletin APRIL 2022

Please see below for a consolidated list of UKRI calls.

Welcome to the Grants Academy UKRI funding bulletin. This bulletin will initially be published on a monthly basis and we would welcome any feedback to grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk

Leverhulme Trust - Research Leadership Awards - Internal Selection Process

Internal Selection Panel: 5pm, 21 March 2022
Deadline: 12 noon, 10 June 2022

Scope: The scheme is designed to support talented researchers who have successfully launched a university career but who need to build a research team to address a distinct research problem. This creates an opportunity for the development and demonstration of research leadership; that is, for the direction of a modest team or group, whose research may significantly change the established landscape in a particular field of inquiry. Each grant runs over a period of 4 to 5 years. Up to £1 million is awarded for staff salaries and associated costs.

Internal Selection / Triage Processes
## External Funding

### Research Councils
- AHRC
- BBSRC
- EPSRC
- ESRC
- MRC
- NERC
- STFC

### EU Funding
- European Research Council (ERC)
- Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)
- Global Challenges/Clusters & Missions

### US Funders
- NIH
- NSF

### Major Charities
- British Academy
- British Heart Foundation
- Cancer Research UK
- Leverhulme Trust
- Royal Society
- Wellcome Trust

### Government Funding
- Chief Scientist Office
- Defence Science & Technology Laboratory (DSTL)
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- Department of Health
- Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- Scottish Enterprise
Internal Funding

The University of Aberdeen under the Aberdeen Grants Academy manages several internal funding opportunities to pump-prime research and knowledge exchange activities.

Deadlines are announced throughout the year for the various streams. Please feel free to ask questions at any time.

- Internal Funding to Pump-Prime Interdisciplinary Research and Impact
- SFC COVID-19 Grant Extension and Bridging Fund
- UKRI COVID-19 Extension Allocation
- Global Challenge Research Internal Fund: Pump Prime or Impact Accelerator Fund and COVID-19 Response Schemes
- Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation (KEC) Award
- Public Engagement with Research Enabling Fund 2020-2021
- Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF)
Working with Business

Collaboration
- Collaborations to develop long-term relationships, and to create innovative solutions for real-world problems:
  - Consultancy
  - Research Collaborations
  - Knowledge Transfer Partnerships
  - Partnerships including Programme Advisory Boards

Funding & Contracts
- Explore funding options for industry:
  - Horizon 2020
  - Knowledge Transfer Partnerships
  - Innovation Vouchers for SMEs

Business Contacts
- Find out more about who to contact at the University of Aberdeen, including Research & Innovation, and the Careers and Employability Service.

Development and Training
- Training and courses directed towards meeting the needs of business and industry:
  - Continuing Professional Development
  - Postgraduate Study
  - Executive Education

Facilities and Expertise
- Our world-leading expertise and facilities are accessible to businesses of all sizes through a number of routes:
  - Equipment and facilities
  - Expertise
  - Research Centres and Institutes

Working with Students
- Engage with the Careers and Employability Service for student and graduate recruitment, supporting student skills development and employability, and raising your profile:
  - Student placements and projects
  - Employer engagement
  - Career workshops
To consider before seeking funding?

• What’s the big question?
• Why is it important?
• Does it fit RCUK (or charity) strategy?
• Why are you the person(s) to address it?
• Why should it be done now?
• Do you have a research strategy?
• What is novel?
• What will the impact be?
What type of funding / career stage

- Research Grants
- Travel Grants
- Equipment
- Pump-priming
- Early Career – named on grants
- Fellowships
- Impact and Knowledge Exchange
- Translation
- Public Engagement
- Tenders

"I was close to a breakthrough when the grant money ran out."
Improving Chances of Success

• Start early and plan in advance
• Accept mentoring and internal peer review
• Be positive but be realistic
• Read and follow the rules
• Present case logically and simply
• Justify the importance of your research
• Ensure essential collaborations are in place
• Make sure the outcomes are clearly stated
Research Career Stages

Employed on grant
First responsibility is to deliver research findings

Named on grant
Some input into application

Applicant on grant
Application for salary Joint with PI – roles?

Fellowship
You write the application
Looking for Research Funding Opportunities?

The University of Aberdeen subscribes to the web-based funding service at RESEARCHconnect, a comprehensive and reliable source of funding opportunities. You can save complex searches to re-run at a later date or set-up automated email alerts for funding opportunities. Guidance and further information available here.
Peer Review and Intention to Submit

Internal Peer Review

Peer Review and Mentoring Procedure

Intention to Submit

Intention to Submit UKRI Research Councils or Wellcome Trust Grant Applications

NERC Intention to Submit
Fellowship Traffic Light Process

Supporting Fellowships Application

5 Steps to fellowship applications

1. Early induction workshop: early career researchers
   - This mandatory induction workshop will introduce the types of fellowship schemes that are available and provide information on the benchmarks of competitiveness that should be achieved. An early-career writing course, which is part of the induction, will focus on managing expectations and in enabling prospective candidates to focus on the c.u.-building aspect of their career.

2. Complete required documents
   - You are required to complete a survey indicating the funders/schemes they wish to target, along with an abstract of their proposed project and CV. These form the basis of discussions in step 3. Most early-career researchers will be aiming to submit applications within a year, but completion of the survey by all will help forward planning for future years.

3. The spring traffic-light interview
   - All potential applicants are invited by a group of senior staff to critically assess the strength of their project proposal. The interview outcome will be classified as follows. Details and timelines, processes and support.

   - Traffic Light ‘Interview’ with senior staff (RAG Outcome)
   - Allocation of application mentor, peer reviewers and timelines, processes and support.
Worktribe

Sign into Worktribe at https://uoa.worktribe.com

The University has implemented Worktribe as part of the Research Award Management System project. This online platform provides a single end to end solution for development, submission and approval of grant applications through to post award monitoring and financial management.

Overview Session Recordings

FAQs

User Guides and Forms

Support, Training and Feedback
Soil microbial community assembly and function across the land-use intensity gradient

Biological Sciences
Research Grant
NERC
1 Nov 2022 – 31 Oct 2026
Bid Awarding Response
BDO Biological Sciences

Budget Summary

Cost to HER: £666,176.52
Cost to Funder: £633,013.30
Price to Funder: £506,490.64
Surplus / Deficit: £1,776.89 73.80%
Marginal Surplus / Deficit: £190,267.09 37.57%
Contribution to Overheads: £60,392.94 31.67%
Welcome to The University of Aberdeen Research Portal

We're committed to doing all we can to assist in the global response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

University of Aberdeen Research Portal

Established in 1495, the University of Aberdeen has an outstanding history of pioneering discoveries which have changed thinking and practice in medicine, science, arts and humanities over five centuries. The University supports and promotes research excellence in all its many forms. The University has numerous connections with universities in North America, Africa and across Europe. Situated in a beautiful central campus where ancient buildings sit side by side with outstanding modern facilities, there are more than 120 taught master degrees on offer and endless opportunities for research.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, 193 countries agreed to adopt a set of global goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all.
Deep-sea ecosystem functioning in a changing climate: consequences of changing sea-ice cover for Arctic benthic ecosystems

NERC award to University of Aberdeen and Ursula Witte

Acceptability of genetic testing and preventative treatment in Paget's disease: psychological and clinical predictors
## UoA Research Data

### Applications and Awards

#### Financial Year 2021/22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>By Financial Year/Quarter</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>By School/Division for FY 2021/22</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine, Medical Sciences &amp; Nutrition</td>
<td>£51,002,000</td>
<td>£15,972,879</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural &amp; Computing Sciences</td>
<td>£12,113,387</td>
<td>£7,574,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering(LV3)</td>
<td>£8,339,473</td>
<td>£3,735,514</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences(LV3)</td>
<td>£11,752,026</td>
<td>£3,049,787</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geosciences</td>
<td>£7,549,984</td>
<td>£963,538</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Senior Management</td>
<td>£511,064</td>
<td>£453,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divinity, History &amp; Philosophy</td>
<td>£3,655,178</td>
<td>£343,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business School(LV3)</td>
<td>£751,670</td>
<td>£396,367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law(LV3)</td>
<td>£771,357</td>
<td>£325,690</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology(LV3)</td>
<td>£2,719,444</td>
<td>£296,664</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language, Literature, Music and Visual...</td>
<td>£1,195,930</td>
<td>£273,380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>£2,329,371</td>
<td>£240,903</td>
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<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>£629,541</td>
<td>£162,766</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£103,540,000</td>
<td>£33,024,372</td>
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<tr>
<th>By Ref UoA 2021 for FY 2021/22</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<tr>
<th>By Funding Body Category for FY 2021/22</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Overseas</td>
<td>£14,300,465</td>
<td>£12,258,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK Charities</td>
<td>£14,229,630</td>
<td>£7,812,877</td>
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<td>UKRI</td>
<td>£36,021,017</td>
<td>£6,256,387</td>
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<td>UK Industry</td>
<td>£4,496,767</td>
<td>£5,287,425</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK Govt</td>
<td>£22,952,111</td>
<td>£3,048,996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
<td>£603,912</td>
<td>£434,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Other</td>
<td>£915,593</td>
<td>£156,444</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU Govt</td>
<td>£9,940,049</td>
<td>£66,371</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£103,540,000</td>
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**Last Refresh:** 29/03/2022 08:30:28
Funder Websites

Funding

We provide a range of funding opportunities to enable individuals and groups to pursue world-class bioscience research.

Related links
- Funding news
- Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)
- Neutron Fund

External links
- BBSRC is not responsible for the content of external websites:
  - BBSRC funding on Twitter
  - BBSRC funding feed
  - Gateway to Research
  - Je-S Helpdesk
  - Je-S system
  - responsive grants

How to apply

Guidance for creating high-quality research grant applications is available on Je-S or contact the helpdesk using the details below.

Submit your research grant application
- Apply via Je-S system. Guidance on how to use the system is available on Je-S or contact the helpdesk using the details below.
- Je-S Helpdesk: support@je-s.direct or 01224 272299 (out of hours please leave a voicemail message).
- Open Monday to Thursday 08:00-17:00 and Friday 08:00-16:30 UK time (excluding bank holidays and other holidays). Please provide your name, organisation and user ID, date and time, which part of the form or system you were working on, and the nature of the problem.

Read our grants guide

Our grants guide covers all aspects of research grant funding, including eligibility, research equipment and application processes. If you can’t find what you're looking for, please contact us (see below).

Are you eligible?

Read our grants guide

Our grants guide covers all aspects of research grant funding, including eligibility, re what you're looking for please contact us (see below).

BBSRC research grants: The guide (PDF 387KB)

You may need to download additional plug-ins to open this file.
Fit to Strategy
Look at delivery plans, mission statements and align

Download copies of our 2022 to 2025 delivery plans

Arts and Humanities Research council
- Arts and Humanities Research Council strategic delivery plan 2022 to 2025
- Arts and Humanities Research Council delivery plan 2019 (PDF, 4.8MB)

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council strategic delivery plan 2022 to 2025
- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council delivery plan 2019 (PDF, 2.2MB)

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Our strategic objectives
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  Objective 6: A world-class organisation ........ 23

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Funder’s Perspective

• Little time
• Pressure on funds
• Priorities and politics
• Pressure to be impartial
• Pressure to short list (grants which don’t play by the rules are the easiest to eliminate)
• The panel may not know you
• The panel does not necessarily care about your subject
• Panel may have no specialist in your area
Funder’s Perspective

- Assume panel sees 80 grants/round
- ~5 will be truly exceptional and will funded with little further analysis;
- The majority (~60) will not receive serious consideration due to intrinsic faults leading to adverse consequent referee’s comments;
- ~15 will be argued over - some will fail and others be funded;
- the committee need to be convinced!
Dr Andrew Phillips
Business Development Officer
Biological Sciences and Psychology
andrew.phillips@abdn.ac.uk

Research and Innovation (R&I) consists of teams of specialist advisors dedicated to maximising the University’s research income, identifying and nurturing impact and facilitating interactions with external organisations. R&I are the first point of contact for business, facilitating access to the University’s expertise for Consultancy and Continuing Professional Development.

R&I works closely with colleagues in the University’s Schools and has detailed knowledge of their research interests and expertise. Dedicated resource is provided to each of our Schools.