S&C Seed Fund – Application Form

Send to [r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk)

See [here](https://www.imperial.ac.uk/department-surgery-cancer/for-staff/committees/research-and-career-development-committee/) for the Research Committee Membership

**Section 1: About the Seed Fund**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Funding type** | Seed Fund Awards help early-career researchers develop novel, small-scale, exploratory research ideas that can eventually attract external funding.  Funding can contribute towards generating pilot data for a new and exciting idea, establishing and developing new collaborations, testing a new technology or using an existing technology in an innovative way.  The seed funding should not duplicate funding that is otherwise available. |
| **Level of funding** | The Seed Fund’s indicative overall annual budget is up to a total of £30,000. We expect to award approximately 5-6 projects (£5,000-£6,000 per project). |
| **Duration of funding** | Funds will be available for use for a period of up to **twelve months**. |
| **Who can apply** | You must:   * be an S&C Department-based researcher * have a PhD or MD(Res) * have a contract of employment with the department for the duration of the grant prior to application\* * have the support of your PI   You do not need a specific number of years of postdoctoral experience to be eligible to apply.  You can involve more than one research group in the project.  Although applicants are encouraged to involve students in their proposed activities, applications must be led, developed and submitted by the researcher.  *\*contact the Research Manager (*[*r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk*](mailto:r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk)*) for questions or to discuss individual circumstances.* |
| **Who can’t apply** | Seed Fund Awards are not for:   * discrete projects with no follow-on plans * bridge funding or short-term fellowships * those that have established their own research group |
| **How to apply** | Applicants must complete and submit their application form to [r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:r.carvalho@imperial.ac.uk) by the deadline specified below. |
| **How the application will be assessed** | Depending on the type of application, the assessment will focus on:   * your track record as a researcher, relative to your career stage, and your potential to lead a research project in the future * the novelty, impact and importance of your research idea to your field, your approach to developing it as a distinct and independent project from your current work. * your expected outcomes, and how they will lead to a larger grant in the future * the feasibility of your proposal * how this work will help the researcher to establish independence * how well placed the researcher is to carry out the study * the suitability of your research environment |

**What is funded**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Eligible** | The award will provide up to 1 year of flexible seed funding. Funding could cover:   * Experimental expenses * Associated running expenses * Animal costs * Equipment (not including laptops) * Collaborative travel and networking costs, in the UK * EDI initiatives * Training courses * Public engagement and patient involvement costs |
| **Not eligible** | The award does not cover:   * Salaries for postdocs or technical staff * Conference fees * Travel to conferences * Tuition fees |

**Key dates**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Round 3** |
| **Application deadline** | 16 May 2024 |
| **Shortlisting and outcome by** | 1 July 2024 |
| **Project earliest start date** | 1 August 2024 |
| **Project must end by** | 31 July 2025 |

**Section 2: Application Summary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Applicant, including title |  |
| Current Division |  |
| Email address for correspondence |  |
| Project Title |  |
| Proposed start date |  |
| Project duration |  |
| Co-APPLICANTS, if applicable: (please list any additional co-applicants, name and division/department) |  |
| Has this project, or a similar project, previously been submitted to this or any other funding body? If Y, include year submitted and funder |  |
| ADDITIONAL ATTACHMENTS: (please confirm these documents required are separately attached) | CV (no more than 2 pages) |
| A supporting letter from your PI |

**Section 3: Applicant details**

**Expand this section as necessary to a maximum of 1 page** (if required, delete the heading description to stay within the page limit)

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary of scientific career to date:** *Include key achievements and expertise relevant to application, prizes, and any external funding that you’ve obtained independently. Include brief description of your current project. How is the seed fund distinct and independent project from your current work?* |
|  |
| **Publications and other research outputs:** *Provide up to* ***3 most relevant*** *references including the titles, where possible include web-links. Please include number of total publications and number of first-author publications. If relevant, also include patents/ licencing, communication with policymakers, media activity.* |
|  |

##### Section 4: Research Proposal

**Expand this section as necessary to a max of 2 pages** (exc references; if required, delete the heading description to stay within the limit)

|  |
| --- |
| **Project title:** |
| **Lay Summary:** *Please explain* ***to a lay audience*** *the nature of the proposed research, the prospective outcomes, and the expected benefits.* |
|  |
| **Research and Development Plan:** *Please provide a detailed technical report including background, aims and objectives, detailed plan and milestones. Describe how, if supported and successful, the seed award would have an impact on your career trajectory and suitably help you plan your route to research funding success and establish independence.* |
|  |
| **Proposed budget for the project:** *List resources to be included in the project, including consumables, equipment, animal costs, etc. Include brief justification and estimated total cost for your proposal.* |
|  |