Research funding…

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What Do You Want to Do?

**Fellowships**
- Single scholar study, involving buy-out of your teaching

**Collaborative Grants**
- Working with and for others, or with postdocs working for you

**Small Grants**
- Pilot studies, travel, small amounts of research assistance

**Network Grants**
- Organising a series of workshops, seminars or conferences

**Research Grant**
- For focused research projects that may be short or long term in nature
- May be led by a single investigator but often include collaborators

**Translational Research Grant**
- Turning fundamental discoveries into improvements in human health and economic benefit.
- Drive innovation, speed up the transfer of the best ideas into new interventions, and improve the return on investment in fundamental research.
Are you grant ready?

Do you have:

• A fundable idea?
• A suitable funder in mind?
• A sense of where your project fits in the research context?
• The right PI/team?
• The right support/collaborators?
• Pilot work and/or published in area
• The right timing?
• The right mindset?
Matching Your Project to a Funder

- Do your homework (as in applying for a job)
- Find out what they’re looking for
- What have they funded in the past
- Do you know any award-holders/reviewers?
- Look at example applications if you can
- Ensure you’re eligible, experienced enough, and there are no institutional restrictions
- Is there a hidden agenda?
- Will you have to shoehorn your interests into theirs?
- Contact the funder directly
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MRC Medical Research Council

Improving the health of people in the UK - and around the world - by supporting excellent science, and training the very best scientists.

- Research Grants (from basic lab research to clinical trials and population studies.
- **Career awards**
- **Biomedical catalyst** (DPFS and CiC)

Wellcome

To improve health by helping great ideas to thrive.
- Understanding health and disease, improving health, engaging the public and influencing policy
- Lots of schemes!

**Innovator Awards** : transforming great ideas into healthcare innovations

Academy of Medical Sciences

To advance biomedical and health research and its translation into benefits for society.
- Newton, GCRF networks
- **Clinician Scientist fellowship**
- Springboard fellowships
- FLIER programme
- Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers
Drives productivity and economic growth by supporting businesses to develop and realise the potential of new ideas including those from the UK’s world-class research base.

- Usually led by UK-based companies (sometimes SME needed)
- Testing feasibility, creating a new product, process or service, or improving an existing one, through research and development
- Sector competitions
- Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund
- Knowledge Transfer Partnerships
- Biomedical catalyst
- Open/SMART competitions
**Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise Fund** Supports collaboration and engagement with commercial, public sector and social enterprise partners.

**Impact Development Fund** Supports activities which enhance the reach and significance of impact or those that support “threshold criteria” for REF impact case studies.

**Proof of Concept Fund** Supports the development of projects with significant commercial potential towards achieving key commercial milestones.

**Research Infrastructure Fund** for core strategic equipment and software required to develop research capabilities.

**Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund LPMI Capacity Building call** 5 funding schemes co-funded by the Wellcome Trust to support and develop health-related research across the University.

**LPMI Capacity Building call** Capacity-building call for Precision Medicine Projects - providing funding to support 4 to 5 precision medicine projects of up to £30K/project (salary costs are not eligible).

**LD3 Call** The LD3 call is funded by the MRC Confidence in Concept award with the support of the College of Life Sciences. Supports projects from all stages of translational research - from innovation, through evaluation (including late pre-clinical work) and onto early clinical implementation.

**Industry & Academia Exchange Call** Supports the establishment of new collaborations by funding early interactions and knowledge exchange between external partners and academic researchers.

**Leicester Institute for Advanced Studies funding opportunities** Supports interdisciplinary collaboration through workshops and meetings, research networks and tiger teams.

**International Research Development Funding Call** – There are funds for non ODA (work in any country outside of the UK) and ODA. Also larger, strategic applications under this funding stream for up to £25k for consolidated activity will be considered in four themed areas: Resilience and Sustainability, Big Data and Development, Environment and Health, and Cultural Heritage.

**ESRC IAA Small Rapid Response Scheme** Up to £2,500 to develop the impact of existing Social Science research, develop new partnerships and/or nurture existing partnerships with organisations or user groups outside academia.
What makes a proposal competitive?

✓ Significance (important area of research)
✓ Original approach
✓ Strong likelihood of success, i.e., will make a significant contribution to the field
✓ Knowledge and experience in the discipline
✓ Experience in essential methodology
✓ Succinct, logical and focused project plan
✓ Realistic amount of work
✓ Cost effective
Good Luck!