BBSRC Impact Acceleration Account

Follow on Fund Guidance

Applicant Guidance

1. Background

1.1 The BBSRC IAA Follow on Funding scheme supports the development of outputs from existing or previous research at the University of Birmingham. This follow on fund is aimed at providing early stage commercialisation funding. This can include market analysis, business modelling or business planning for commercial validation.

1.2 This funding provides the opportunity to build upon, across and between individual projects to progress research outputs and outcomes towards impact.

1.3 Please also review the [Research and Innovation Services intranet pages](https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/finance/ris/research-funding/Internal-Funding.aspx) for further guidance on internal funding or by directly contacting the following research facilitation staff:

* Michelle Read, email: [m.l.herron.1@bham.ac.uk](mailto:m.l.herron.1@bham.ac.uk) or by telephone 0121 371 8517

1.4 All recipients of Follow on Funding will benefit from support Business Engagement and Technology Transfer teams and will have access to entrepreneurial training.

1.5 Individual project funding is expected to be in the range of £10,000 - £30,000, with the latter being a limit for exceptional projects and most tending towards the lower limit.

1. Eligibility

2.1 Funding is open to application from all members of the academic community who hold/have held BBSRC funding.

2.2 IAA funding may support the following:

* Both directly incurred and directly allocated project cost. Consequently Investigator and staff time can be charged to individual projects as required.
* Direct costs including Travel and Subsistence, may be claimed at 100% and appropriately justified in your application.

2.3 IAA funding is not intended to:

* Fund activities that should already have been anticipated and supported through standard routes, e.g. Pathways to Impact, Doctoral Training Partnerships, Collaborative Training Partnerships, fundamental research;
* Duplicate other sources of funding that can be used for impact activities within the remit of BBSRC, e.g. Public Engagement Catalysts, HEIF, Innovate UK
* Support estates and indirect costs
* Purchase single items of equipment costing greater than £10,000
* Fund entire translational projects
* Subsidise staff between posts/funding (i.e. ‘bridging’)
* Fund PhDs
* Fund costs relating to the protection of intellectual property

2.4 Further information regarding research council grants terms and conditions can be found here: <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/>

1. How to Apply

3.1 All applications must be submitted via the application form found here.

3.2 It is the responsibility of the applicant(s) to ensure that all proposed activities are in accordance with the University’s Code of Ethics and Code of Practice for Research.

1. Assessment Criteria

4.1 Award of funds will be made on the following criteria:

1) Excellence and innovation;

2) Potential for impact;

3) User engagement including associated leverage;

4) Delivery feasibility; and

5) Excellence of underpinning research.

4.2 All projects will be required to provide a clear description of outputs and to identify objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

4.3 Whilst the focus is largely on the impact outside the University, a key element of all end of project and biannual reporting will be the evaluation of the impact on our researchers, particularly with respect to the areas of capacity building.

4.4 Applications will need to demonstrate a clear link to previous BBSRC funding.

4.5 Award recipients may not hold more than one Follow-on Fund grant concurrently. Unsuccessful projects may only be resubmitted where this is invited by the Management Group.

4.6 Applications will be reviewed by a core panel, supported by a peer review assessment.

4.7 Applicants will normally be notified of the decision within 10 working days of the panel meeting.

4.8 Decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

1. Reporting

5.1 The use of PURE for recording outputs is mandatory for IAA funded projects.

5.2 Award recipients will be required to submit a report detailing expenditure, use and outcomes (for recipients and users) within 4 weeks of the conclusion of the project, and at 9 month intervals for projects of 12 months or longer.

5.3 Additional audit may be conducted at further intervals after the conclusion of projects to track impact leverage over time.

5.4 All reporting requirements will be confirmed on award of funding.

5.5 A final report will be required for any completed IAA funded projects before further funding applications will be considered.