

RDM Funding Bulletin – March 2018

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
Novo Nordisk – Oxford Pump Priming Awards	3 April 2018
John Fell Fund (JFF)	RDM internal deadline 9 April 2018
Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)	RDM internal deadline 11 April 2018
Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)	RDM internal deadline 11 April 2018
Medical and Life Sciences Translational Fund	RDM internal deadline 11 April 2018
THIS Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship	RDM internal deadline 12 April 2018
Oxford-Celgene Fellowship – call for PIs to submit project proposals	20 April 2018
2018 RDM Pump Priming Call	3 May 2018
Returning Carers' Fund	RDM internal deadline 16 May 2018
Oxford-Elysium Prize Fellowship in Cellular Health	28 May 2018
Lab 282 – small and large scale awards	Applications can be submitted at any time but are reviewed quarterly
Other Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
EIT Health Funding call for collaborative projects	9 April 2018
Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship Scheme	11 April 2018
Bernard and Joan Marshall Early Career Investigator Prize	31 May 2018
External Fellowship Funding Opportunities	
Please see the RDM Funding Database , which lists fellowship opportunities and deadlines.	

***Please remember that your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the above deadlines.**

Please contact [Dr Ruth McCaffrey](#)

- With any queries related to funding opportunities
- For advice on potential sources of funding tailored to your career stage
- For guidance and support with fellowship applications

Internal

New online system for internal grant applications (IRAMS)



The University and Medical Sciences Division (MSD) is now using the [Internal Research Award Management System \(IRAMS\)](#) for most internal grant applications and coordinated bids.

When you click submit on your application, it will be sent to Dr Ruth. **All applications made via IRAMS will have an earlier RDM deadline** to allow Ruth time to submit your application to MSD, or where indicated in this bulletin, go through an RDM internal review process to add value to your application. You will be able to track your application on IRAMS.

When completing your application in IRAMS, in the field called **'Form editors'** please add the **name and details of your local divisional administrator**. You will need their SSO ID (you can find this in Outlook (it is listed under 'Alias', when you look up the Outlook properties of the contact)).

Funding Opportunities

Novo Nordisk – Oxford Pump Priming Awards

Research area: Type 2 diabetes and its co-morbidities.

Aim: To facilitate collaborations between University of Oxford and [Novo Nordisk Research Centre Oxford](#) researchers. Awards aim to increase the likelihood for applications for larger research projects.

Funding to support: consumables, expenses, analysis costs, animal costs, other services, travel and personnel costs at the University, but not that of a new hire.

Amount: Up to £25k per award. Funds are provided jointly by Novo Nordisk and University of Oxford.

Eligibility: Lead applicant must have a funded position at the University for the duration of their proposed project.

[More information.](#) It is strongly recommended that all applicants align with a Novo Nordisk Head of Department prior to application. Please contact [Dr Siobhan Dennis](#) if you have any queries or wish to reach out to Novo Nordisk members to align and discuss project proposals.

Deadline: 3 April 2018, Midday.

Future deadline: Autumn 2018 TBC

John Fell Fund (JFF)

Funding to support: (a) pump priming, (b) early career researcher, (c) other academic activities likely to lead to new research initiatives, (d) Research Facilitators, (e) support related to bids for external funding, (f) strategic investment in research assets.



Amount: small award scheme (< £7.5k) or main award scheme (> £7.5k with no upper limit).

Eligibility: Current employee of the University holding an academic post, or a research fellowship awarded competitively and intended to enable you to establish an independent research career. Senior postdoc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the lead applicant on JFF applications.

[More information](#). Please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) if you have any questions about categories to apply for and appropriate levels of funding to request.

RDM internal deadline: 9 April 2018 (end of day). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and [Ruth](#) in advance. Ruth is happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier deadline will be *strictly applied* as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. When you have completed your application via [IRAMS](#), click the submit button, which sends your application to Ruth. **The letter of support that is required from the Head of Department, Prof Hugh Watkins, will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting.**

Future deadline: 24 September 2018 (RDM internal deadline).

Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)

Funding is available for:

- 1) **Pump priming:** enables investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future (<£10k). **Postdocs are eligible to apply as the PI - an ideal opportunity to secure some funding in your own name.**
- 2) **Clinical pre-fellowship:** provides short-term (up to three months) funding to cover the salary of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford.
- 3) **Bridging and family leave:** Bridging funding supports salary costs (typically three months) pending the application of an externally submitted grant. To be eligible to apply researchers must: 1) be externally funded and bridging to another external grant; 2) not be bridging from startup packages regardless of funding source; 3) not be bridging to non-medical research, eg BBSRC or Leverhulme funding.

While the guidelines on the divisional website say there is no deadline for bridging funding applications, and IRAMS states that the deadline is rolling, **RDM sets an internal deadline** (see

below). This is because we can only submit 15 applications by the whole department per year. However, urgent applications for bridging funding will be considered on a case by case basis, as the need arises.

Funding can also be requested to support maternity/shared parental/adoption leave bridging costs for researchers whilst employed on an externally funded research grant. Applications to support this type of bridging are **not** included in the cap of 15 applications per department.

[More information.](#)

RDM Internal Deadline: 11 April 2018 (end of day). If you would like to apply, please inform [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in advance. Ruth is happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be strictly applied as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. Submit your application online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to Ruth and Serena.

There is no deadline for maternity/shared parental/adoption leave bridging funds and applications can be submitted at any time online via [IRAMS](#). As with all applications, we are happy to comment on drafts.

Future deadline: October 2018

Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund

1) Individual Career Support

Aim: pump priming funding is available to support researchers, who currently hold little or no WT funding, to make a subsequent competitive application to the WT or other external funder.

Funding is available to support the four categories below – both small (<£10k) and main (<£100k) funding requests can be made.

- a) **Early Career Researchers** – for researchers who have held a post for less than eight years, which involved developing their own research agenda. Funding is intended to accelerate applications for WT Fellowships, Investigator or Seed awards.
- b) **Early Career Clinical Academics** – funding is intended to support clinical lecturers in career development (eg through attending a conference, training, secondment, RA or admin support etc).
- c) **Career Transformation Scheme** – for researchers who hold an independent post who have a reduced research portfolio eg due to sickness or caring reasons or due to increased teaching load. Funding is intended to reinvigorate research careers so applications for further funding can be made eg WT Seed awards.
- d) **Discipline Hopping** – funding is available to independent researchers who currently work outside of the WT remit so that they can apply their expertise to the WT goals.

Eligibility: Must fit into one of the categories above. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply. Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.

Important: Applications for awards that are >£10k and <£100k must have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. This match funding can be cash or in-kind (eg equipment). Match funding can come from external sources (excluding any existing or new WT grants), or departmental funds.

[Further information on Individual Career Support.](#)

2) Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives:

Aim: to support strategic initiatives **across** departments. Only projects in the [WT research areas](#) can be supported.

Applications for both small (<£10k) and main (>£10k) awards will be accepted. If applying for a main award, you will need a minimum of a 20% match component at the point of application. The **total** project cost is not expected to exceed £200k.

Funding is available to support:

- 1) **Equipment, research assets or staff within shared facilities** where there is evidence of strategic need.
- 2) **Establishment of cross cutting themes** through activities such as research facilitation, symposia or conferences in order to encourage collaboration in new areas.

Projects that are limited to only one department/faculty will not be supported.

Eligibility: Must be employed by the University. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply.

[Further Information on Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives](#)

RDM Internal Deadline: 11 April 2018 (end of day). Submit applications online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to [Ruth McCaffrey](#). Ruth is happy to comment on draft applications before the RDM internal deadline. This earlier internal deadline will be strictly applied as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications.

In some cases (as indicated on the application form), a letter of support is required from the Head of Department, Professor Hugh Watkins. **This will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting.** If you have a query related to needing a letter of support, please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in the first instance.

Future deadline: October 2018

Medical and Life Sciences Translational Fund (MLSTF)

Aim: The MLSTF is a new internal fund that supports proof of concept projects at the earliest stages of translational research. It is essentially replacing the MRC Confidence in Concept fund. It funds researchers to accelerate the transition from discovery research to translational development projects by supporting preliminary work or feasibility studies to establish the viability of an approach. Funding is also available for other additional support initiatives on existing projects, including market analysis.

The MLSTF is a consolidated fund comprising devolved funding from MRC, BBSRC and Wellcome and so projects proposed should be broadly in the remit of these funders.

Projects must be able to articulate clear development milestones. These milestones will form the basis of a rigorous monitoring process that will take place throughout the project lifetime. An explicit outcome of the award of MLSTF is that projects should subsequently be strong candidates for external follow-on funding. All modalities of therapy and diagnostic including engineering/medical technology and bioinformatics approaches are welcomed. Applications for interdisciplinary research are particularly welcome; it is anticipated that half of the funding available will be awarded to interdisciplinary projects.

Funding available: Up to £75k per project. Awards will be made from MLSTF for direct costs only. For projects in the MRC remit, a match contribution is required and therefore the total cost of individual projects can be up to £150k. Match funding from industry is especially encouraged; it is anticipated that half of the funding available will be awarded to projects able to demonstrate an industry match. Any industry contribution should be costed at 100% FEC or above in line with University policy.

For projects in the BBSRC remit, a match is strongly encouraged but not a requirement.

Eligibility: All researchers who are members of staff of the University of Oxford are eligible to apply. *The Committee welcomes applications from Early Career Researchers and applicants seeking to establish independent research careers.*

[Further information on the MLSTF](#)

RDM Internal Deadline: 11 April 2018 (end of day). If you would like to apply, please inform [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in advance. This earlier internal deadline will be strictly applied as a group of PIs from across RDM will be convened to review applications. Submit your application online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to Ruth.

THIS Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship

Aim: THIS Institute Postdoctoral Fellowships will provide support for a postdoctoral fellowship in the field of healthcare improvement.

Funding available: Up to £150k

Eligibility: Nominated individuals should have received their PhD between two and six years prior to the application. The University can only support one application so expressions of interest are invited for a coordinated bids process to identify the institutional nominee. The EOI will consist of a one-page case for support, CV and 10 relevant publications.

[Further information on the University coordinated bids process for THIS Institute Fellowship](#)

[Further information on THIS Institute Postdoctoral Fellowship](#)

RDM Internal Deadline: 12 April 2018, Midday. Submit your expression of interest online via [IRAMS](#), which sends your application to Ruth McCaffrey.

Oxford–Celgene Fellowship – call for PIs to submit project proposals



Aim: The goal of this translational fellowship scheme is to stimulate new scientific discovery and translation and to facilitate skills transfer between researchers in academia and industry. The project proposals are aimed at fellows who must be committed to translational science and interested in obtaining experience with drug development in an industrial setting. Three to four awards are made annually.

Research areas: Proposals should be targeted to research areas of interest for Celgene. For the 2018 fellowships, these are:

1. Novel targets, biomarkers, cellular therapeutic approaches, or translational models in one of the following areas: immuno-oncology; neurodegenerative and neuroinflammatory diseases; fibrosing disorders; rheumatic and dermatologic disorders; hematologic disorders.
2. Methods for evaluating biochemical, cellular, tissue and phenotypic consequences of modulating epigenetic targets.
3. Methods for immuno-phenotyping of human subjects in oncology and autoimmunity.
4. Novel imaging approaches to measure disease activity in the above areas.

Funding is available to support: Clinical (Grade E64) or basic research scientists (Grades 7 to 8).

Duration of funding: 3 years.

Eligibility: Oxford Principle Investigators.

[Further Information.](#)

Deadline: 20 April 2018, Midday.

Future deadline: Annual call.

2018 RDM Pump Priming Call

Aim: We are keen to build new collaborations between researchers in different parts of the department and to foster new synergies. To aid in this process, each year we make funding available to pump prime new initiatives.

Funding is available to support: novel and innovative projects which would be difficult to get funded from external peer-reviewed sources because the project is too high risk or the data is too preliminary, or where a rapid decision is needed, or where there are concerns about confidentiality that make external peer-review unattractive. Priority will be given to applications that initiate **a new collaboration between researchers who have not previously worked together and who are based in different divisions of RDM** (CVM, IMD, NDCLS, OCDEM, & WIMM). However, if well justified, applications will be also considered where a new collaboration is being established between researchers within the same division of RDM. **We anticipate funding up to 3 awards, up to a maximum of £50k per award.**

Eligibility: *Please note that any researcher based within RDM is eligible to apply for RDM pump priming funding (i.e. postdocs can be the PI on the application).*

[Further information on the 2018 RDM pump priming call](#)

Any questions should be directed to [Ruth McCaffrey](#).

Deadline: 3 May 2018, Midday.

Future deadline: Annual call

Returning Carers' Fund

Aim: Funding to support the development of research careers following a break to care for a child or close relative.

Funding is available to support: 1) Teaching buy-out to enable you to concentrate on research; 2) training or professional development; 3) short-term secondments to enable you to 'get up to speed' with recent research; 4) conference attendance to enable you to re-establish your profile; 5) short-term research or admin assistance; 6) small scale lab equipment purchase; 7) funding visits to Oxford by your recent collaborator. This list is not exhaustive and any reasonable applications will be considered providing the link to career development in scientific research can be demonstrated.

Eligibility: All those who: are currently on leave for a min. of six months; have returned from a break of at least six months within the last two years; or have returned from two breaks each of at least six months within the last five years. A break may comprise two or more discontinuous periods of leave totalling at least six months provided that they relate to a single life event, eg as part of a shared parental leave arrangement.

[Further Information.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 16 May 2018. If you are planning on applying, please contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in advance.

Future deadline: Oct/Nov 2018

Oxford–Elysium Prize Fellowship in Cellular Health

Aim: This prestigious fellowship invites application from outstanding early career scientists and clinicians aiming to conduct research at Oxford University in the field of Cellular Health. The programme will be open to candidates around the world working in all areas relevant to cellular health with a particular emphasis on the following areas:

Neurodegeneration, the microbiome, stem cells, circadian rhythms, autophagy and ageing.

Ambitious, innovative and interdisciplinary projects are strongly encouraged. In particular, projects that have a strong translational emphasis or potential are encouraged.

Funding available: The award includes 3 year's salary as well as generous consumables and travel budget. It also includes a £10,000 prize to be used towards the fellow's professional development.

Eligibility: No more than 3 years postdoc experience at the time of application.

[Further information](#)

Deadline: 28 May 2018, Midday.

Future deadline: TBC

Lab282 – small and large scale awards

Lab282 was launched in 2016 and is a partnership between the University of Oxford, Oxford University Innovation, Oxford Sciences Innovation and Evotec.



Aim: Lab 282 provides funding and expertise to achieve pre-clinical proof of concept for ground-breaking therapeutics.

Funding is available to support: activities in the following areas: target identification, target validation, screening and hit identification, testing novel therapeutics in in vitro and in in vivo models, drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics, medicinal chemistry, and proteomics and metabolomics. Both small scale (<25k) and large scale (£250k) projects will be supported.

Eligibility: Any PI employed by the University. Any post-doc who is contracted to be employed by the University for at least the expected duration of a funded project may also apply with a letter of support from a PI.

[Further Information.](#)

Deadline: Apply at any time, but applications are reviewed quarterly.

Other funding opportunities

EIT Health Funding call for collaborative projects

EIT Health, an EU funded initiative of which the University of Oxford is a core partner, has opened a call for proposals for collaborative projects.

The University is a core partner in the EU-funded EIT Health programme, a consortium of businesses, research centres, hospitals and academic institutions that contribute to the competitiveness of European industry, improve the quality of life of Europe's citizens and the sustainability of the healthcare system.

The programme offers three funding streams (with a total budget of €75-80million for 2019) that aim to **promote healthy living, support active ageing and improve healthcare** - Campus, Innovation Projects and Accelerator.

[More information.](#)

Deadline: 9 April 2018

Launch of Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship Scheme

Health Education England (HEE) and the NIHR have announced a new pre-doctoral level training scheme to support aspiring **non-medical clinical academics**.

The fellowship scheme will support award holders to **split their time equally between clinical service and academic training** over a two year period (can also be done part time). Fellows will undertake formal and informal clinical research training, designed around their unique training needs. The training will equip fellows with the skills and experience to access doctoral level funding. In addition, the fellowship will allow protected time for participants to **develop an application for PhD funding**, with support from a named supervisor and mentor.

[More information.](#)

Deadline: 11 April 2018, 1pm

Bernard and Joan Marshall Early Career Investigator Prize

The prizes are intended to reward excellence in research in any area of **cardiovascular biology or medicine**. The winner of the prize will receive £1,500, and there will also be four runners-up prizes of £500.

Eligibility: Applicants must be members of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research. Open to students and post-docs who are within 5 years of the award of their PhD/MD (excluding any career

breaks). Should have received higher degree from a UK institution and/or be currently working as a post-doc within the UK.

[More information.](#)

Deadline: 31 May 2018

External Fellowship Funding Opportunities

Please see the [RDM Funding Database](#), which lists fellowship opportunities and deadlines.

Other relevant information

RCUK open access block grant: are you still using the old form and policy?

Please make sure you are using the correct [Open Access block grant application form](#). The current version is dated Nov-2017 and the latest version is always available on the [Open Access website](#). Please delete any saved copies of earlier versions which relate to Oxford's previous RCUK policy.

[More information.](#)

NIHR information event on British Heart Foundation funding, 26 April 2018

A free event for researchers intending to submit to the British Heart Foundation will take place on Thursday 26 April at the Richard Doll Building, Old Road Campus. A limited number of one-to-one sessions will be available. For more information contact [Phil Saunders](#).

ERC Advanced Grant Workshop

The Research Services European & International Team will be running a workshop in May for ERC (European Research Council)Advanced grant applicants. The workshop will be useful for applicants, administrators and anyone else also supporting an Advanced Grant application against the 2018 call. Attendees of all disciplines are welcome.

The workshop date and venue is:

Wednesday 2nd May – 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. LR1 (Lecture Room 1) in the Department of Engineering Science, Thom Building, Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PJ: [map](#)

Please click on the doodle poll link [here](#) to register. The ERC submission deadline for the 2018 Advanced Grant call is 30 August (the call opens 17 May).

Reminders

- If your application requires a **letter of support from the Head of Department**, Prof Hugh Watkins, you must contact Dr Ruth McCaffrey at least two weeks in advance of the deadline to request the letter. However, if you are applying to the JFF or WT ISSF, your letter of support will be provided after the RDM internal review process.
- The RDM Funding Database holds information on internal and external funding opportunities, including fellowships, travel, seed funding, translational grants, equipment and studentships. The 'Fellowships' tab is particularly useful because you can filter for career stage and whether you are a basic or clinical researcher, which provides a quick summary of potential fellowship opportunities.
- RDM has a process to coordinate and support all fellowship applications being submitted (with the exception of clinical research training fellowships). Anyone wishing to apply for a fellowship must notify Ruth McCaffrey as early as possible and provide a summary of their proposed research and a copy of their CV. Further information is available on the RDM website.
- Upcoming funding deadlines that are announced after we have circulated this Funding Bulletin will be disseminated in the RDM Weekly Bulletin.



Brexit and Horizon 2020

Update at 7 March 2018

These notes set out the current position on eligibility for research and innovation funding from the European Commission's Horizon 2020 funding programme. We will update these notes as appropriate in the lead up to 30 March 2019 when the UK is expected to formally leave the European Union.

Business as usual

Article 50 was triggered on 29 March 2017 and negotiations began on 19 June 2017. It is expected that the UK will leave the EU on 30 March 2019. In the meantime

- The UK is an EU Member State until the date it formally leaves the EU
- The UK has the same rights and obligations as all other 27 EU Member States, including the right to participate in EU funding programmes
- Oxford academics/researchers and their Departments/Faculties can continue to lead and/or participate in collaborative applications, and to apply for ERC funding, and to host MSCA fellowships

Evaluation concerns

There is no evidence that evaluators are operating any type of bias against UK participation in applications since the referendum in June 2017.

Evaluators are explicitly told in EC briefing: **“Experts should not evaluate proposals with UK participants any differently than before”**.

There is NO requirement to address Brexit in applications. From FAQ on the EC's Research and Innovation Participant Portal “Should project co-ordinators on H2020 proposals dedicate a part of their proposal to addressing the potential risks as a consequence of the UK referendum?

No. At this stage, any speculation on the consequences for the H2020 action of a withdrawal of the UK from the EU will not be taken into account in the evaluation”.

Existing/new project funding post March 2019

The UK Government has underwritten the continued funding of awards beyond March 2019. The underwrite applies to any awards made before the date of Brexit and to any awards made after this date where applications were submitted before the date of Brexit. UK Government's advice is

“UK businesses and universities should continue to bid for competitive EU funds while we remain a member of the EU and we will work with the Commission to ensure payment when funds are awarded. The Government will underwrite the payment of such awards, even when specific projects continue beyond the UK's departure from the EU”.

Government Q&A updated in October 2017 set out the parameters of this guarantee:

- The UK Government guarantees awards where the application is submitted before exit and is subsequently approved. This includes proposals which are informed of their success but, at the point of exit, have not signed a grant agreement, and proposals which have been submitted before exit and that are only informed of their success following exit
- Two-stage application processes are included, provided that the first stage of the application is submitted before the UK leaves the EU and that the application is subsequently successful

Note that the underwrite applies to successful applications submitted before the date of exit regardless of the date of a specific call deadline.

Participation in Horizon 2020 after Brexit

A Joint Report published on 8 December 2017 by the UK Government and EU negotiators sets out the financial settlement provisionally agreed through which the UK will continue to pay net contributions to the EU to the end of the current EU budget plan (as committed to as a Member State at the beginning of the current budget plan). This so called Transition agreement includes provision for the UK to continue to participate in programmes funded through the current budget plan – including Horizon 2020.

The transition plan is dependent on final agreement on the terms through which the UK exits the EU.

On 28 February the draft Article 50 Withdrawal Agreement was published by the EC. This will be presented to the European Council and to the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group for discussion before being transmitted to the UK as the formal basis for negotiation of the terms of withdrawal. The European Council is expected to meet on 22 and 23 March. The draft agreement includes the legal framework proposed for the transition plan.

According to the Joint Report and to the terms currently set out in the draft Article 50 Withdrawal Agreement (both of which are subject to the terms of the final negotiated agreement)

- The UK will continue to benefit from EU programmes during the period 2019 – 2020 post exit, including from Horizon 2020. UK based individuals and organisations would therefore remain eligible to bid for funding, participate in and lead consortium including for calls in 2019 and 2020
- Projects approved during this period will be funded from the EU to their end dates

Para 71 of the Joint Report states

“Following withdrawal from the Union, the UK will continue to participate in the Union programmes financed by the MFF 2014-20 until their closure (excluding participation in financial operations which give rise to a contingent liability for which the UK is not liable as from the date of withdrawal). Entities located in the UK will be entitled to participate in such programmes. Participation in Union programmes will require the UK and UK beneficiaries to respect all relevant Union legal provisions including co-financing. **Accordingly the eligibility to apply to participate in Union programmes and Union funding for UK participants and projects will be unaffected by the UK's withdrawal from the Union for the entire lifetime of such projects**”

BEIS document: UK Participation in Horizon 2020 - and overview with Q&A

Published on 5 March this document summarises the current position on participation. It actively encourages UK institutions and researchers to continue participating in and applying for Horizon 2020 calls.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/685533/Horizon_2020_External_Core_lines.pdf

Paragraph in Participant Portal and in award communications

The EC have recently added a paragraph to their participant portal. They are including similar wording in award communications.

“Please be aware however that the eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the UK withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to be eligible to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 50 of the grant agreement”.

This is a reference to Article 50 of the EC’s model grant agreement. **The UK Government’s underwrite protects participation of UK institutions in successful bids submitted before the date on which the UK exists the EU.**

Attitude of potential collaborators

Should would-be collaborators be concerned about UK participation in applications please feel free to use the information above or to refer them to Gill Wells, Head of the European & International Team and Strategic Lead on GCRF. The UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has an inbox (research@beis.gov.uk) for queries and to report issues concerning H2020 partnering and projects. Researchers and research organisations from outside the UK can contact this inbox in case of queries. Anyone encountering bias against UK participation should report it on this BEIS inbox.

More Information

[UK Government overview of UK Participation in Horizon 2020](#) with Q&A: published 5 March 2018

[Joint Report](#) from the UK Government and negotiators of the European Union (published 8/12/17: para 71 refers to UK participation in EU programmes)

[Draft for the Article 50 Withdrawal Agreement](#) published by the European Commission 28/2/18: Articles 130 and 131 refer to EU programmes

UK Government’s [Horizon 2020 Underwrite Q&A](#)

UK Government statements and speeches relating to the UK’s exit of EU are published on the website of the [Department for Existing the EU \(DexEU\)](#)

The European Commission has a website on the [Taskforce on Article 50 negotiations with the United Kingdom](#)

European & International Team, Research Services provides information and advice on all aspects of EC research and innovation funding: ecresearch@admin.ox.ac.uk