

Summary of funding opportunities

15th December 2014

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline
John Fell Fund (JFF)	<i>RDM internal deadline 5th January 2015</i>
Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme	<i>RDM internal deadline 5th January 2015</i>
Oxford BRC/OUCAGS Doctoral Training Fellowships for Clinicians	5.00pm, 8 th January 2015
Local Wellcome Trust Doctoral Training Centre scheme for clinicians	12.00pm 9 th January 2015
Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)	<i>RDM internal deadline 23rd January 2015</i>
Medical Research Fund (MRF)	19 th January 2015
Returning Carer's Fund	27 th February 2015
NOAF	31 st January 2015
RDM Pump Priming	16 th March 2015
External funding opportunities	Deadline
Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship scheme	<i>Research services deadline 5 pm Monday 5th January 2015</i> Royal Society deadline 4 pm 12 th January 2015
BIRAX Regenerative Medicine Initiative Fellowship Scheme	12 th January 2015
NIHR Annual Fellowship applications	<i>RDM internal deadline 14th January 2015</i>
JSPS Summer Programme 2015	15 th January 2015
European Research Council (ERC) Starter Grants	<i>Research services deadline 19th January 2015</i> ERC call deadline 3 rd February 2015
EMBO Long Term Fellowships (for postdocs)	13 th February 2015, 14:00 Central European Time
European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grants	<i>Research services deadline 25th February 2015</i> ERC call deadline 12 th March 2015
Wellcome Trust Investigator Awards	20 th February 2015

Other relevant information

1. Changes to the Wellcome Trust funding schemes
2. New Charity Open Access Fund launched
3. Research Services Christmas closure
4. Finding funding - Research Professional.com

Internal funding opportunities

1. John Fell Fund (JFF)

RDM internal deadline of Monday 5th January 2015 (end of day)

JFF deadline for submission of applications is noon on Wednesday 14th January 2015.

As all departments have to rank the applications being submitted, we have set an earlier RDM internal deadline which will be strictly applied. This internal deadline will give us time to review and rank the applications from RDM (we will convene a small group of PIs from across RDM to do this), give you feedback on your application and enable you to make changes to your application.

Funding is available in the following categories:

- Pump priming
- Early career researcher
- Other academic activities likely to lead to new research initiatives
- Research Facilitator
- Support related to bids for external funding
- Strategic investment in research assets

Full details on the [John Fell Fund, including their online application system](#), are available.

Please let your local administrator and Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk) know in advance if you are planning on submitting an application. If you have any questions about the online application process, categories to apply for & appropriate levels of funding to request, please do not hesitate to contact Ruth.

Future deadline: noon Wed 22 April 2015 (RDM internal deadline will be Monday 13th April 2015).

2. Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme

RDM internal deadline of Monday 5th January 2015 (end of day)

Oxford Harrington programme deadline for submission of applications is 4pm on Monday 12th January 2015.

As applications must contain a letter of support from your Head of Department (Prof Hugh Watkins) we have set an earlier RDM internal deadline. Applications should be sent to Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk) by Monday 5th January and she will ensure that the letter of support is obtained. Please let Ruth know in advance if you are planning to submit an application.

The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme was launched last month to support researchers at the University of Oxford to translate discovery science into medicines that improve human health. This new collaboration between the University of Oxford and the Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals in Cleveland will leverage their combined expertise and resources to advance drug discovery projects. It is expected that three awards will be made in the first half of 2015 to Oxford researchers working on clinical translational projects. The Oxford-Harrington Scholarship Programme will provide consultancy based support to researchers working on novel drug discovery research problems that have demonstrable potential to become new therapies, but may not be far enough along the drug development path to receive support from financial investors. Oxford-Harrington Scholars will have access to the Harrington Discovery Institute's Innovation Support Centre for strategic project management that includes dedicated drug development experts from industry that will be charged with advising on and materially helping the translational and drug development efforts of Oxford-Harrington Scholars.

[Further information on the programme and details on how to apply](#) are available.

In kind support and commercial advice (worth up to £60k, over two years) will be provided by the Harrington Discovery Institute. To match this support in kind, the applicant must be able to demonstrate that they have at least £60k of existing external grant income or departmental funds available to take forward the aims of the project.

Applications must be emailed as a single PDF to: leila.whitworth@medsci.ox.ac.uk copying in your local administrator to demonstrate that your department is aware of the application.

Enquiries about the scheme should be directed to: leila.whitworth@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Professor Alison Simmons (NDM) was selected as the first Oxford-Harrington scholar in 2014.

3. Oxford BRC/OUCAGS Doctoral Training Fellowships for Clinicians

Deadline for submission of applications is 5.00pm, Thursday 8 January 2015.

Oxford BRC and OUCAGS are delighted to announce that at least two Clinical Research Training Fellowships are currently available from the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, in conjunction with the Oxford University Clinical Academic Graduate School. The Fellowships are available for up to 3 years depending on the candidate's needs and whether they have already completed part of their research degree.

[Further information and details on how to apply](#) are available.

4. Local Wellcome Trust Doctoral Training Centre scheme for clinicians

Deadline for submission of applications is 12.00pm Friday 9 January 2015

The Doctoral Training Fellowship Scheme for Clinicians offers 5 Wellcome Trust-funded Fellowships per year and 2 additionally funded Fellowships for clinical trainees on the Wellcome Trust Biomedical and Clinical Sciences D.Phil. programme. Fellowships provide a salary and contribution to research consumables, and will pay University/College fees at the Home/EU rate for a 3-year period of study.

[Further information and details on how to apply](#) are available.

5. Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF)

RDM internal deadline of Friday 23rd January 2015 (end of day)

WT ISSF deadline for submission of applications is Friday 30th January 2015.

All applications must be endorsed by the Head of Department (Prof Hugh Watkins) and therefore we have set an earlier RDM internal deadline which will be strictly applied. Applications should be sent to Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk) by Friday 23rd January and she will ensure that the endorsement is obtained.

The ISSF is a block grant provided to the University from the Wellcome Trust, which is managed by a small central committee. The ISSF Committee receives applications for funding from any department in the University. Research projects must fall within the remit of the Wellcome Trust, as well as the strategic remit of biomedical research at Oxford. Funding is available to:

- Assist the Institution in developing its research strategy across Departments and Divisions.

- Encourage new inter-departmental synergies, cross-disciplinary collaborations, and inter-institutional initiatives.
- Add value to existing Wellcome Trust investments in the Institution.

[Further information on the ISSF and details on how to apply](#) are available.

Each application to the ISSF requires a 50% or greater matching contribution from the Department, Division or University. Please let Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk) know, as early as possible, if you are considering applying.

Requests for funding can be in the range of £50K - £250K total funds (ISSF plus match, or £25k - £125k from the ISSF).

Applications should be submitted to: leila.whitworth@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Enquiries about applying to the ISSF should be directed to: jennifer.bardsley@ndm.ox.ac.uk

Future deadline: not yet known but 2 calls per year are planned.

6. Medical Research Fund (MRF)

Deadline for submission of applications is Monday 19th January 2015.

The Medical Research Fund (MRF) supports **medical research** conducted in all departments of the Medical Sciences Division (previously it was restricted to just the clinical departments). Funding is available in the following categories:

- Bridging funding: supports salary costs (typically 3 months) pending the application of an externally submitted grant application and supports family leave costs. Please note that applications for bridging funding will only be funded if the external research grant “promotes work in the field of **medical research**” (a grant application to the BBSRC may not count as medical research).
- Pump priming: supports small awards (up to £10k) to enable investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future.
- Clinical pre-fellowship: provides short-term (up to 3 months) funding to cover the salary costs of clinicians who will shortly begin an externally funded research training fellowship at Oxford.

[Further details on the MRF and on how to apply](#) are available.

Applications should be emailed to the secretary of the MRF Committee: mrf@medsci.ox.ac.uk

copying in your local administrator to demonstrate that your department is aware of the application.

Future deadlines: Monday 27 April 2015 and Monday 27 July 2015.

7. Returning Carers Fund

Deadline for submission of applications is Friday 27th February 2015.

The Returning Carers' Fund has been established as part of the Vice-Chancellor's Diversity Fund for the advancement of diversity among academic and research staff at Oxford. It is a small grants scheme intended to support the return to research of women and men who have taken a break of at least six months for caring responsibilities (a child or close relative). Support could include, but is not limited to: teaching buy-out, training or professional development, short-term secondments, conference attendance, short-term research or administrative assistance, funding visits to Oxford by your research collaborator(s).

The expectation is that awards will normally be up to £5k. In exceptional circumstances, larger amounts may be awarded, up to an absolute maximum of £10k.

[Further information on the scheme, including eligibility and details on how to apply](#), are available.

Enquiries should be directed to Jennifer Anderson: jennifer.anderson@medsci.ox.ac.uk or athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk and applications should also be emailed to Jennifer.

In the last round of applications, the two applications submitted from RDM (Dr Katja Gehmlich, CVM and Dr Malenka Bissell, CVM) were both funded.

8. Nuffield Oxford Hospitals Fund (NOAF)

The deadline for receipt of applications is Saturday 31 January 2015.

NOAF funding can only be used for "... raising of the standard of the Hospital or Hospitals concerned in order to assist the development and carrying on of the Oxford University Medical School". Applicants are asked to note that research projects are not normally funded.

Recently grants have been awarded in the £20,000 to £40,000 range. The Trustees do not allocate grants for less than £5,000.

Bids are required to be submitted to Maria Kendall-Belcher in the Medical Sciences Divisional Office, Level 3, John Radcliffe Hospital at the latest by the 31st January using the NOHF application form (which can be downloaded from the link below).

[Further information](#) is available.

9. RDM pump priming

The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday 16th March 2015.

The second call for RDM pump priming funding will be announced at the RDM Annual Symposium on 2nd February 2015. The expectation is that the funding will be used to initiate new collaborative research projects between researchers who have not previously worked together and who are based in different divisions of RDM (CVM, IMD, NDCLS, OCDEM, & WIMM). Priority will be given to projects that are novel and innovative, that establish a new cross divisional collaboration within RDM, and where preliminary data is needed prior to submitting an application to an external funding agency.

Up to £50k is available per project and we anticipate funding up to 3 projects. Full details will be available on the RDM website in early February. Enquiries should be directed to Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk).

External funding opportunities

10. Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship scheme

Research Services deadline: 5 pm Monday 5th January 2015

Royal Society deadline for submission of applications is 4 pm Monday 12th January 2015

The Royal Society's Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship scheme is now open for applications. This scheme provides funding for outstanding, early-career scientists in the UK who require a flexible working pattern due to personal circumstances such as parenting or caring responsibilities or health issues.

[More information, including case studies about current holders](#) is available.

11. BIRAX Regenerative Medicine Initiative Fellowship Scheme

Deadline for receipt of applications is Monday 12th January 2015

The BIRAX Regenerative Medicine Initiative Fellowship scheme is inviting applications from PhD students, Post-Docs and others working in the field of Regenerative Medicine in Britain and Israel. BIRAX Regenerative Medicine Fellowships fund research visits of up to 12 months focused on developing research links and scientific collaboration.

[Full details on the Fellowship scheme and how to apply](#) are available.

Enquiries about the scheme should be directed to: biraxrmi@britishcouncil.org.il with the subject Line: Fellowships

A Q&A Webinar is being held on Wednesday 10 December 2014. Sign up for it by emailing: biraxrmi@britishcouncil.org.il

12. NIHR Annual Fellowship applications

RDM internal deadline of Wednesday 14th January 2015

Deadline for submission of applications is 1pm Wednesday 21st January 2015.

As applications must be signed off by the Head of Department (Prof Hugh Watkins) we have set an earlier RDM internal deadline. Applications should be sent to Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk) by this date and she will ensure that your application is signed.

NIHR Fellowships support outstanding individuals to become the health research leaders of the future by buying out their salary costs, meeting their training and development costs and by contributing to the research costs needed to complete an identified research project. To be eligible to apply you must be undertaking people or patient-based clinical and applied health research.

Five levels of NIHR Fellowship award are available:

- Doctoral Research Fellowship - offers 3 years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to undertake a PhD and is aimed at individuals of outstanding potential early in their research careers.
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship - offers 3 years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to individuals who are able to demonstrate their potential as researchers but do not, as yet,

have sufficient experience to be fully independent. Applicants will have obtained their research doctorate or submitted their PhD or MD thesis for examination, but must not have more than 3 years WTE post-doctoral experience at the time of applying.

- Career Development Fellowship - offers 3 years full-time funding (or 4 or 5 years part-time) to individuals who have significant and successful post-doctoral experience. It is expected that successful applicants will have the potential to become fully independent researchers on completion of the fellowship. Applicants will not have more than 7 years WTE post-doctoral experience at the time of applying. Applicants who have had a career break may be able to apply with up to 8 years WTE post-doctoral research experience.
- Senior Research Fellowship - offers 5 years funding to undertake a programme of research and is aimed at outstanding individuals who are currently independent researchers and can demonstrate the potential to become academic and research leaders within the duration of an award.
- Transitional Research Fellowship - Offers between 18 and 24 months funding to support researchers from any scientific discipline and sector to make a transition from basic or experimental science research to an area of research which is within NIHR remit. Applicants may also use a TRF to re-establish a research career after a significant career break.

[Full details of the Fellowships and how to apply](#) are available.

Enquiries should be directed to: nihrfellowshipenquiries@nihrtcc.org.uk

Please note that:

1. As the NIHR scrutinise the IP section of the application very closely and view it as crucial to its success, applicants are invited to approach their department's Research Services Medical Sciences contracts contact who will be happy to advise on the completion of this section.
2. The applications require sign-off by several parties and in previous years applicants have been confused as to who should be added in which role. To clarify, the following people should be added in the listed roles:
 - Research Contracts Officer/Participant – Denis Murphy (Research Services)
 - Administrative Authority or Finance Officer – Grants/Finance Officer within the department
 - Head of Department – Prof Hugh Watkins (RDM)
 - Host Organisation Authorised Signatory – Julie Matthews (Research Services)

13. JSPS Summer Programme 2015

Deadline for submission of application is Thursday 15th January 2015

The JSPS Summer Programme provides the opportunity for current MPhil or PhD students to receive a one week orientation on Japanese culture and research systems on arrival and then move to a host institution in Japan of their choice and approved by JSPS, to conduct collaborative research activities for 2 months during the summer.

Value of award: Return international airfare, maintenance allowance (534,000, JPY), research support allowance (158,500 JPY) and overseas travel and accident insurance policy are provided.

Eligibility: Applicants must be a British national and a current MPhil or PhD student based at a UK university or research institution at the point of April 2015.

The Fellowship must take place during the fixed period of 9th June to 19th August 2015

Applications should be sent to the British Council Tokyo. [Application guidelines and forms](#) are available on their website.

14. European Research Council (ERC) Starter Grants

Research Services deadline 19 January 2015

ERC call deadline 3 February 2015

Please note that your local admin team may have a deadline that is earlier than the Research services deadline outlined above.

ERC grants provide funding to support excellent investigators and their research teams to pursue ground-breaking, high-gain/ high-risk research. These grants are highly competitive. Scientific excellence is the sole evaluation criterion and both the PI and the proposed research project are evaluated against this criterion.

Typically a maximum award is €1.5m for a period of up to five years. To be eligible to apply, the applicant's PhD must have been awarded at least two and no more than seven years before 1 January 2015 i.e. between 01/01/08 and 31/12/12.

Research Services has produced a very useful [factsheet on applying for ERC Starter Grants](#).

Enquiries should be directed to the EU Team ([contact details](#)).

15. EMBO Long Term Fellowships

Deadline for submission of applications is Friday, 13 February 2015, 14:00 Central European Time. Please note that all applications must be started before Monday, 9 February 2015, 14:00 Central European Time. No new applications can be started after that.

The EMBO Long-Term Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and **support post-doctoral research visits to laboratories throughout Europe and the world**. International exchange is a key feature in the application process. All fellowships must involve movement between countries. The receiving institute or the applicant's nationality must be from one of the EMBC Member States. Full information on the Fellowships and details on how to apply are available from the [EMBO website](#).

16. ERC Consolidator Grants

Research Services deadline 25 February 2015

ERC call deadline 12 March 2015

Please note that your local admin team may have a deadline that is earlier than the Research services deadline outlined above.

Typically a maximum is €2m for a period of up to five years. To be eligible to apply, the applicant's PhD must have been awarded at least seven and no more than 12 years before 1 January 2015 i.e. between 01/01/03 and 31/12/07.

Research Services has produced a very useful [factsheet on applying for ERC Consolidator Grants](#).

Enquiries should be directed to the EU Team ([contact details](#)).

17. ERC Advanced Grant Workshops

This is an early heads-up that the Research Services European Team will be running two workshops in February 2015 for Oxford University ERC Advanced grant applicants. The ERC submission deadline for the 2015 Advanced Grant call is 2 June (the call opens 10 February). The workshops will be identical so you only need to attend one.

The workshop dates and venues are:

- Thursday 19th February - 9.15 am to 11.45 am in the Sherrington Large Lecture Theatre, Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics in the Parks Road Science Area
- Thursday 5th March – 10.00 am to 12.30 pm in the Kennedy Institute on the Old Road Campus, Headington

Attendees of all disciplines are welcome at both workshops. Please click on the [doodle poll link](#) to register.

18. Wellcome Trust Investigator Awards

Deadline for submission of applications is Friday 20th February 2015

Following recent changes to the Wellcome Trust funding schemes, the Trust has combined its New Investigator and Senior Investigator Award schemes to create a single type of Investigator Award, providing all who hold established posts in eligible organisations with the same opportunity to obtain funding. All applicants are considered according to their career stage and experience, with any career breaks or time out of academic research taken into consideration.

Investigator Awards support the brightest researchers with the best ideas, and offer flexible funding support for researchers at all career stages. These may be newly appointed lecturers, mid-career researchers, up to senior or emeritus professors.

Full details are available on the [Wellcome Trust](#) website.

Future deadlines are: 17th July 2015 and 6th November 2015.

19. Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellowship

Deadline for submission of applications is 5th March 2015 at 4 pm (the call opens on 1st January 2015).

The Early Career Fellowships aim to provide career development opportunities for those who are at a relatively early stage of their academic careers, but who have a proven record of research. A fifty per cent match-funding for the salary costs of three-year academic research position is available (to a maximum of £24,000 per annum and the balance is to be paid by the host institution). Given the prestige of the awards each Fellow may request annual research expenses of up to £6,000 to further his or her research activities.

Full details are available on the [Leverhulme website](#).

Other relevant information

20. Changes to WT funding schemes

The Wellcome Trust has made a number of changes to its funding schemes. The biggest change relates to their Investigator Awards. The Trust has combined its New Investigator and Senior Investigator Award schemes to create a single type of Investigator Award, providing all who hold established posts in eligible organisations with the same opportunity to obtain funding. All applicants are considered according to their career stage and experience, with any career breaks or time out of academic research taken into consideration.

Other changes include:

- **People:** increased funding for the [Sir Henry Wellcome Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) and the [Sir Henry Dale Fellowship](#) schemes.
- **Seeds:** The introduction of Seed Funding, to support the generation of new ideas. It aims to address a gap identified by our community: small awards to investigate riskier concepts.
- **Teams:** [Portfolio Awards](#) support collaborative research and technology development by funding programmes which require a portfolio of projects to deliver leading-edge innovations in healthcare. The call for applications will open in the New Year.

Full details on all the changes can be found on the [Wellcome Trust Website](#).

In addition, a [Q & A document](#) is available on WT website.

21. New Charity Open Access Fund launched

The Charity Open Access Fund (COAF) has been formed between Arthritis Research UK, Breast Cancer Campaign, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, Leukaemia & Lymphoma and the Wellcome Trust to make charitably funded research freely available as soon as it is published. COAF will run as a two-year pilot project from 1 October 2014 with a block grant provided to the 36 UK universities & institutions to meet open access article processing charges (APCs) for peer reviewed publications resulting from research funded by one or more of the 6 partner charities. Work must be made freely available as soon as it is published. The fund will be administered by the Wellcome Trust in the same manner as their open access fund has operated to date. [Further information](#) is available. If you have any questions please contact Ruth McCaffrey (ruth.mccaffrey@rdm.ox.ac.uk).

22. Research Services Christmas closure

Research Services will close for the Christmas/ New Year break at 4pm on Tuesday, 23 December 2014 and will re-open at 8.30am on Monday, 5 January 2015.

- Applications with a funder deadline falling between Tuesday, 23 December 2014 and Monday, 5 January 2015 inclusive should reach Research Services by Tuesday, 16 December 2014.
- Applications with a funder deadline between Tuesday, 6 January and Friday, 9 January 2015 should reach Research Services by Thursday, 18 December 2014.

Please note that all Grant Deliverables for RCUK awards due over the Christmas period must be submitted on time as the due date will not be extended.

23. Finding funding - Research Professional.com

[Research Professional.com](#) is an online research funding opportunities data and alerting service that the University subscribes to. All members of the University can create a free account and use the service to find research funding in all disciplines.

You can set up specific searches to find funding relevant to your interests/career stage. At the above website you will find a quick start guide to using ResearchProfessional.com as well as details of training courses and links to short tutorial videos.

Questions about ResearchProfessional.com should be directed to: claudia.kozeny-pelling@admin.ox.ac.uk in research services.

Funding opportunities can also be found on the [Find Funding](#) page on the Research Services website.