

RDM Funding Bulletin – August 2019

Internal Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
John Fell Fund (JFF)	RDM internal deadline 25 September 2019 (noon)
Human Iron Research at Oxford (HIRO) Fund	30 September 2019
Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)	RDM internal deadline 3 October 2019 (noon)
Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF)	RDM internal deadline 3 October 2019 (noon)
Returning Carers' Fund	RDM internal deadline 5 November 2019 (noon)
Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx) Travel Grants	Apply at any time
MRC Proximity to Discovery (P2D): Industry Engagement Fund	Apply at any time, activities must be completed by 31 August 2020
LAB10x awards	Apply at any time
Selected External Funding Opportunities	Deadline*
Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research	RDM internal deadline 30 August 2019 (noon)
Academy of Medical Sciences Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers	2 September 2019
Action Medical Research for Children Research Training Fellowship	3 September 2019
MRC GCRF Global Multimorbidity – Seed-funding	10 September 2019 (mandatory expression of interest)
Pathological Society Small Grants	1 October 2019
Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Junior Research Fellowship	17 October 2019
Society for Endocrinology Early Career Grant	20 November 2019
European Hematology Association Junior Research Grant	Call opens September 2019
<p>Please see the RDM Funding Database for more fellowship and funding opportunities.</p> <p>*Your local admin team and Research Services deadlines (where applicable) will be well in advance of the above deadlines – please check with them.</p>	
Funding events/workshops/public engagement	Date
AI@Oxford Conference	17 & 18 September 2019
BHF: early career funding workshop	19 September 2019

Wellcome: Enriching Engagement Grants Scheme – new Oxford pilot	20 September 2019
Oxford BHF CRE Annual Symposium	3 October 2019
Oxford Biomedical Data Science Training Programme	January 2020
More news from funders and the University here.	

RDM Research Strategy and Funding team

Please contact us at funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk or individually about:

	Position	Contact me for...
Dr Ruth McCaffrey	Research Strategy Coordinator	One-on-one meetings, career development, letters of support from the Head of Department, Research Excellence Framework (REF)
Dr Serena Briant	Research Facilitator and Programme Manager for the Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme	One-on-one meetings, fellowship applications, letters of support from the Head of Department, Novo Nordisk-Oxford Fellowship Programme
Dr Kathleen Dolan	Assistant Research Facilitator	One-on-one meetings, internal funding opportunities/IRAMS, Career Development Committee

More information about support we can provide and review processes for fellowship applications/interviews and internal funding opportunities on the [RDM website](#).

Online system for internal grant applications (IRAMS)

The University and Medical Sciences Division (MSD) use the [Internal Research Award Management System \(IRAMS\)](#) for

internal grant applications (e.g. MSIF, ISSF, JFF, MSLTF) and University co-ordinated bids. **All applicants must have an [ORCID ID](#) when applying through IRAMS.** This can be applied for on the University website [here](#).

When you submit your application, it is sent to the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#). **All applications made via IRAMS will have an earlier RDM deadline** to allow us 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. Once submitted, 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 IDs (you can find this in Outlook listed under 'Alias', when you look up the Outlook properties of the contact).

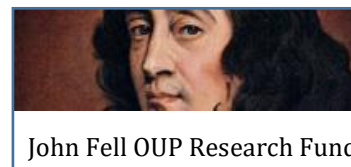


Internal Funding Opportunities

For all applications for internal funding opportunities or [IRAMS](#), please contact [Kathleen Dolan](#) or funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk. RDM internal deadlines will be ***strictly adhered*** to and we are happy to review applications before deadlines.

John Fell Fund (JFF)

Aim: To foster creativity and a proactive approach to research opportunities in all subject areas, in particular interdisciplinary fields.



Funding available to support: (a) pump priming; (b) early career researchers; (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 post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on JFF applications with support from the Head of Department. Letters of support will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting – do not request a letter of support directly from the Head of Department.

Further information on the JFF. Please contact funding@rdm.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions about categories to apply for and appropriate levels of funding to request. For prospective Category F applications, you must notify the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding team](#) well in advance as these applications need extensive discussion with the Medical Sciences Divisional office.

RDM internal deadline: 25 September 2019 (noon).

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#) in advance. A panel 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 us.

Future RDM internal deadline: Jan 2020 – exact date TBC.

Human Iron Research at Oxford (HIRO) Fund

Aim: Launched in 2018, Human Iron Research at Oxford (HIRO) is an initiative led by Dr John Ryan (NDM) and Professor Hal Drakesmith (WIMM). It is looking to link clinicians and scientists with an interest in iron research across Oxford.



Funding to support: Consumables, equipment and other direct costs. Staff costs are not eligible.

Duration of funding: Up to 12 months.

Amount: Up to £15k for 10 projects per year.

Early career researchers are strongly encouraged to submit a proposal.

[Further information on the HIRO Fund.](#)

Deadline: 30 September.

How to apply: Email completed HIRO application [forms](#) to [Georgina Kerr](#).

Medical Sciences Internal Fund (MSIF)

Aim: To support researchers who are employees of departments within the Medical Sciences Division through different funding streams.

Funding available to support:

- 1) **Pump priming** - enables investigators to obtain pilot data to support larger scale applications for external research funding in the future (<£10k). **Post-docs 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: a) be externally funded and bridging to another external grant; b) not be bridging from start-up packages regardless of funding source; c) not be bridging to non-medical research (e.g. 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.

[Further information on the MSIF.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 3 October 2019 (noon).

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#) in advance. A panel 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 us.

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

Future RDM internal deadline: Jan 2020 – exact date TBC.

Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF)

1) Individual Career Support

Aim: Pump priming funding is available to support researchers, who currently hold little or no Wellcome funding, to make a subsequent competitive application to Wellcome or another external funder.

Funding available to support:

- 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 Fellowships, Investigator or seed awards.
- b) **Early Career Clinical Academics** – funding is intended to support clinical lecturers in career development (e.g. 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 (e.g. 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.
- d) **Discipline Hopping** – funding is available to independent researchers who currently work outside of the Wellcome's remit so that they can apply their expertise to the Wellcome's goals.

Eligibility: Must fit into one of the categories above. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply. Senior post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on ISSF applications. Only projects in the [Wellcome research areas](#) can be supported.

Amount: Small awards (<£10k) and main awards (<£100k).

Match funding is not required for small awards or the Early Career Clinical Academics funding stream. It is expected that funding requests to the ISSF for awards over £10k will have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. Match funding cannot come from a Wellcome award. Only direct costs will be covered.

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

2) Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives:

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

Funding available to support:

- a) **Equipment, research assets or staff within shared facilities** where there is evidence of strategic need.
- b) **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 will not be supported.

Amount: Up to £200k.

Match funding is not required for small awards (<£10k). It is expected that funding requests to the ISSF for awards over £10k will have a minimum 20% match component at the point of application. Match funding cannot come from a Wellcome award. Only direct costs will be covered.

Eligibility: Must be employed by the University. DPhil students, post-docs and clinical research fellows are not eligible to apply. Senior post-doc researchers who are genuinely on an independent career track (planning to submit external fellowship applications) are now eligible to be the PI on ISSF applications. Only projects in the [Wellcome research areas](#) can be supported.

[Further information on Interdepartmental Strategic Initiatives.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 3 October 2019 (noon).

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#) in advance. A panel 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 us.

Letters of support are required for some funding streams. They will be provided following the RDM internal deadline and review panel meeting.

Future RDM internal deadline: Jan 2020 – exact date TBC.

Returning Carers' Fund

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

Funding 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 a) are currently on leave for a minimum of six months; b) have returned from a break of at least six months within the last two years; or c) have returned from two breaks each of at least six months within the last five years. A break may comprise of two or more discontinuous periods of leave totalling at least six months, provided that they relate to a single life event (e.g. as part of a shared parental leave arrangement).

[Further information on the Returning Carers' Fund.](#)

RDM internal deadline: 5 November 2019.

How to apply: If you are planning to apply, please contact the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding team](#) in advance. Email [applications](mailto:applications@athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk) to athena-swan@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

Future RDM internal deadline: 11 February 2020 and 19 May 2020.

Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx) Travel Grants

Aim: The Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx) helps foster the establishment of equitable and sustainable collaborations between African academics and the University of Oxford.

Funding to support: Travel, accommodation and incidental expenses.

Amount: Up to £5k.

Duration of funding: One to eight weeks.

Applications for a travel grant must be made jointly between academics or researchers based in an African institution and at the University of Oxford. Search [here](#) to find a collaborator.

[Further information on the Africa Oxford Initiative \(AfOx\) Travel Grants.](#)

Deadline: Apply at any time.



MRC Proximity to Discovery (P2D): Industry Engagement Fund

Aim: To support activities that build relationships between the University and industry partners, and promote a culture of innovation. It may lead to future [Medical and Life Sciences Translational Fund](#) applications.

Funding to support: Staff exchanges (including travel, subsistence and accommodation); development and dissemination of technology platforms; and training workshops involving industry.

Amount: £237k for the entire fund.

Eligibility: Must be employed by the University.

[Further information on the MRC P2D: Industry Engagement Fund.](#)

Deadline: Apply at any time, but all grant activities must be completed by 31 August 2020.

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). If you would like to apply, please inform your local administrator and the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding Team](#) in advance. When you have completed your application via [IRAMS](#), click the submit button, which sends your application to us.

LAB10x awards



Launched in 2019, LAB10x is a collaboration between Sensyne Health plc, Evotec SE, the University of Oxford, Oxford University Innovation and Oxford Sciences Innovation plc.

Aim: LAB10x is a business incubator, created to accelerate the translation of research in the fields of clinical artificial intelligence and digital health at the University Oxford into breakthrough digital therapeutics; clinical AI algorithms; and to power data-driven drug discovery and development.

Research areas: Digital technology ideas that have the potential to revolutionise: (1) patient diagnosis; (2) patient treatment; (3) patient management; (4) service delivery improvement; (5) drug discovery and development.

Amount: Up to £250k.

Eligibility: Academics and clinicians from the University of Oxford and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

Interested academics are encouraged to talk to both the LAB10x Expert in Residence ([Andy Hill](#)) and a member of the Licensing and Ventures Group in Oxford University Innovation (OUI).

[Further information on Lab282 awards.](#)

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

Selected External Funding Opportunities

For all fellowship applications, please contact [Serena Briant](#) well in advance of applying, so help and support can be provided.

Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research

Aim: The University has been invited to submit one application to the Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research. This funding is highly competitive, and the applicant is expected to be an outstanding quality researcher in the early years of an established research and academic career. The award will support a programme of translation biomedical research for up to 5 years.



Research area: Projects must involve patients and have a clear strategy defining how the research will translate into patient benefit. There must be a clear specification of the hypothesis based on pre-clinical experimental data supporting the rationale of the clinical study, arising from the applicant's own work.

Funding to support: The award may not be used to meet the salary costs of the applicant(s) who should be in institutionally funded posts for the duration of the grant. Funding is also restricted to UK-based work.

Amount: Up to £1.7m.

Duration of funding: Up to five years.

Further information on the [Sir Jules Thorn Award for Biomedical Research website](#) and the University's [co-ordinated bids page](#).

RDM internal deadline: 30 August 2019 (noon). Anyone interested in applying must contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) in advance of the deadline. If we are not notified before, your application will not be submitted.

How to apply: [IRAMS](#). When you have completed your application via [IRAMS](#), click the submit button, which sends your application to us.

Academy of Medical Sciences Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers



Aim: To provide modest 'starter' funds to enable research active Clinical Lecturers to pursue their research work.

Funding is available to support: Consumables and equipment.

Amount: Up to £30k.

Duration of funding: One to two years.

Eligibility: Applicants must hold a PhD/DPhil or MD; a medical/dental/veterinary undergraduate degree; and hold a clinical contract. They also should not already have obtained substantial funding from other sources, for example a Clinician Scientist Fellowship, New Investigator Award or large project grant.

[Further information about the Academy of Medical Sciences Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers.](#)

Deadline: 2 September 2019 (5pm).

Action Medical Research for Children Research Training Fellowship



Aim: To prevent disease and disability with an emphasis on clinical research or research at the clinical/basic science interface.

Research area: Clinical research into child health including problems affecting pregnancy, childbirth, babies, children and young people.

Amount: Up to £250k.

Duration of funding: Two to three years.

Eligibility: Candidates are expected to have at least some experience of research following their first degree. Medical graduates should have had limited research training but wish to develop a long-term career in academic medicine in the UK. They should not normally be more than 6 years post MRCP (or equivalent).

[Further information about Action Medical Research for Children Research Training Fellowship.](#)

Deadline: 3 September 2019.

MRC GCRF Global Multimorbidity – Seed-funding



Aim: Support seed-funding projects that develop and test innovative ideas, foster interdisciplinary collaboration, build capacity, and lay the groundwork for future large-scale activity aimed at understanding and tackling multimorbidity in LMICs.

Funding is available to support: LMIC and/or UK research consumable costs; salary costs for LMIC and/or UK-based researchers; small-scale equipment (<£10k); partnership and networking activities; research training and capacity building activities; travel and subsistence.

Amount: Up to £200k.

Duration of funding: Up to 18 months.

Eligibility: Applications must demonstrate the research to be primarily relevant and directly linked to near-term or long-term benefits to the health and economic development of LMICs. See [here](#) for a list of LMIC/ODA countries.

[Further information about MRC GCRF Global Multimorbidity – Seed-funding.](#)

Deadline: 10 September 2019 (mandatory expression of interest).

Pathological Society Small Grants

Aim: To encourage investigative research in histopathology, particularly aimed at generating research data, which may contribute towards a substantive application to a funding body.



Amount: Up to £10k.

Duration of funding: One year.

Eligibility: Trainees (specialist registrars or honorary specialist registrars) consultants and post-doctoral histopathology trainees who are members of the Society.

[Further information about Pathological Society Small Grants.](#)

Deadline: 1 October 2019.

Future deadline: 1 April 2020.

Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Junior Research Fellowship

THE KAY KENDALL LEUKAEMIA FUND

Aim: To support outstanding individuals wishing to pursue research into haematological malignancies

Areas of research: Basic or clinical research into epidemiology, aetiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis or treatment of leukaemia or a closely allied malignancy.

Funding is available to support: Fellow's salary; consumables (up to £17k per year); and travel to conferences (up to £1k per year).

Eligibility:

- (Basic) Scientific Fellow: one to four years' postdoctoral experience.
- Clinical Research Fellow: Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians (MRCP) or equivalent.

[Further information about the Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund Intermediate Research Fellowship.](#)

Deadline: 11 April 2019 (5pm).

Society of Endocrinology Early Career Grant



Aim: For resources to gain preliminary data before applying for other external funding; to finalise a project; or short term salary funding.

Amount: Up to £10k.

Eligibility: Applicants must be Society members. They should normally be postdocs within 10 years of postgraduate study or, in exceptional cases, final year of PhD/DPhil students. The project should be distinct from that done during a PhD/DPhil.

[Further information about Society of Endocrinology Early Career Grant.](#)

Deadline: 20 November 2019.

European Hematology Association Junior Research Grant



Aim: European Hematology Association (EHA) research grants aim to support postdocs in advancing their careers, and to become research group leaders.

Funding is available to support: Applicant's salary; consumables; small equipment; and travel.

Amount: Up to €100k (or €50k per year).

Duration of funding: Up to two years.

Eligibility: Basic researchers between four to eight years post PhD graduation.

[Further information about European Hematology Association Junior Research Grant.](#)

Deadline: Call opens September 2019.

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

Reminders

- If your application requires a **letter of support from the Head of Department**, Professor Hugh Watkins, you must contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#) or [Serena Briant](#) *at least two weeks in advance of the deadline* to request the letter.
- 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 [Serena Briant](#) as early as possible.

Funding News and Events

Observers on RDM internal funding panels

Researchers wishing to apply for funding in their own name can now benefit from the opportunity to sit as an observer on RDM panels that review internal funding applications. Please note that spaces are limited, and we will give priority to researchers who plan on submitting their own fellowship or grant applications.

Please email [Kathleen Dolan](#) to register your interest and include information on when and where you plan to submit to external funders.

AI@Oxford Conference (17 & 18 September)

A two-day event, AI@Oxford is the first major international conference on artificial intelligence hosted by the University of Oxford. It will showcase world-leading research, game changing technologies and the innovative companies created in Oxford.

More information [here](#) on the programme and registration.

BHF to give early career funding workshop (19 September 2019)

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) research advisors will visit Oxford to discuss research funding opportunities and application processes. The workshop is aimed at early career researchers, departmental grants teams and research facilitators across the entire cardiovascular research spectrum. 1:1 sessions with BHF research advisors, Research Services and departmental grants team advisors will be available after lunch.

The workshop is free to attend, but [registration](#) is essential.

Oxford BHF CRE Annual Symposium (3 October 2019)

The 2019 Oxford BHF CRE Annual Symposium will be hosted at St Catherine's College on 3 October. The programme will include a full day of talks and poster sessions; a finalised programme will be published in due course on the [BHF CRE website](#).

Poster abstract deadline is Wednesday 28 August, and registration deadline is Monday 16 September. Contact [Philippa Major](#) with any questions or queries.

Oxford Biomedical Data Science Training Programme

The Oxford Biomedical Data Science Training Programme is a unique course designed to train biomedical scientists in the skills and methods required for analysis and interpretation of large-scale biomedical datasets, in particular genomic and functional genomic data. Hosted three times a year by the MRC WIMM Centre for Computational Biology, the next six-week programme will be in January 2020.

More information [here](#) or contact [David Simms](#).

New updates to Oxford and the EU: Q&As

Additional information has been published on the University Staff Gateway page answering questions on Oxford's position if the UK leave the European Union. Information includes: immigration and visas; research awards; travel and welfare; and pay and purchasing.

Find Q&As for [staff](#) and [students](#).

REF2021: University dry run

In preparation for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021, the University is currently conducting a dry run of its processes in accordance with their submitted [Code of Practice](#).

If you have questions about REF2021, more information can be found [here](#) on the process or contact [Ruth McCaffrey](#).

Plan S and new Wellcome OA policy delayed until 2021

At the end of May, it was announced that Plan S and the [new Wellcome Trust Open Access \(OA\) policy](#) has revised its original proposed date to now take effect on 1 January 2021.

More information [here](#) as well as an updated timeline for open access policies [here](#).

New claim process for Charity Open Access Fund open access fees

Oxford's 2018-19 Block Grant from the Charity Open Access Fund (COAF) has now been fully spent. Researchers funded by the five non-Wellcome COAF partners below should therefore first contact their funder for permission to take the paid OA route, then obtain and pay the invoice, and finally send the claim to the funder for reimbursement. Please do not fill in an application form for Oxford's COAF block grant.

Contact details for COAF partners: [Bloodwise](#), [British Heart Foundation](#), [Cancer Research UK](#), [Parkinson's UK](#), [Arthritis Research UK](#). Wellcome-funded authors should continue with the usual block grant procedure and [application form](#).

New guidance for international research partnerships and collaboration

The Research and Innovation Committee have approved a new mechanism to evaluate opportunities for the University of Oxford to partner with international organisations on large-scale research initiatives. This is to ensure there is a robust review prior to a University commitment; however the majority of collaborations will not have to go through review.

More information [here](#) (SSO required).

Launch of LAB10x

LAB10x is a new business incubator, supporting clinical artificial intelligence and digital health researchers to develop personalised healthcare, new disease insights, new diagnostics and therapeutics. Applications are now being sought, anyone interested can contact the Expert in Residence ([Andy Hill](#)) or [Oxford University Innovation](#) (OUI).

More information about awards [here](#).

Wellcome: new funding model to replace Public Engagement Fund

Wellcome is closing its Public Engagement Fund and will be replacing it with new partnerships that will allocate funding to innovative public engagement projects.

Oxford University is one of the first to pilot a new way that Wellcome's public engagement funds are allocated through the [Enriching Engagement Grants Scheme](#). Wellcome grant holders and awardees at the University are eligible to apply for two levels of funding: (1) £10k - £30k and (2) £50k - £100k.

Deadline for applications is Friday 20th September 2019 (5pm). Applications are submitted through [IRAMS](#).

More information [here](#) and contact [Charvy Narain](#) if interested in public engagement opportunities.

MRC: update on New Investigator Research Grants

In June, the Medical Research Council (MRC) updated their application guidance for New Investigator Research Grants (NIRGs). Researcher co-investigators (a researcher who has made a substantial intellectual contribution to the development of a project) will not be permitted on NIRGs as hopefully they will be the lead PI on the application.

More information on MRC application guidance [here](#).

MRC to pilot new Transition Support scheme

The MRC are investing £4 million into a new pilot scheme aimed at supporting existing intermediate MRC fellows to transition to research leadership. The pilot will provide short-term support to candidates who have made good progress with their fellowship project but have not yet achieved outputs that will aid securing follow-on funding via alternative routes. Eligible MRC award holders are Career Development Award holders and Clinician Scientist Fellowship holders.

This scheme requires commitment from the host research organisation; please contact the [RDM Research Strategy and Funding team](#) well in advance, if you are interested in applying.

More information [here](#).

BBSRC: Bioscience Big Ideas pipeline submission

BBSRC is calling for researchers to submit 'big ideas' in a pilot programme designed to identify the next generation of potential research and innovation priorities in bioscience. This is an opportunity to contribute to the regular review of UKRI-BBSRC strategy and develop business cases for investment. Please note that this is not a funding call.

More information [here](#).

NIH: expiration of financial year 2014 grant funds

The NIH has issued a reminder that grants awarded in financial year 2014 (01/10/2013 – 30/09/2014) will expire on 30 September 2019.

More information [here](#).