

SMERC 2018 Seed Funding

Phase II SMERC project underspend has provided the opportunity for SMERC to fund up to £3,000 per project seed funding in 2018

Seed Awards help researchers develop novel ideas that will go on to form part of larger grant applications to SMERC, Wellcome or other funding bodies.

You can apply for a Seed Award if you are a researcher in medical education research who wants to develop a novel idea that will go on to form part of a larger grant application. We encourage researchers who are at the start of their independent careers to apply. You must be based in Scotland in one of the SMERC collaborating institutions (see later).

Projects which propose interdisciplinary research across, for example, medical education and health services research, health economics research, science and population health research, humanities and social science, and product development and applied research funding, are particularly welcome.

Eligibility

These awards give researchers working at one of the SMERC institutions the opportunity to use innovative methodologies and carry out a broad range of activities, such as:

- pilot and scoping studies
- preliminary data gathering
- proof-of-concept studies
- planning sessions
- collaborative network meetings
- as well as research costs such as statistical consultancy and transcription

SMERC Seed funding is not for:

- discrete projects with no follow-on plans
- bridge funding

Criteria

We will review:

- your track record as a researcher, relative to your career stage, and your potential to lead a research programme in the future
- the novelty and importance of your research idea to your field, and your approach to developing it
- your expected research outcomes, and how they will lead to a larger grant in the future
- the feasibility of your proposal
- the suitability of your research environment
- evidence of collaboration with at least one other SMERC institution



Key dates

The closing date for bids is 31st March 2018. We expect to receive one electronic version of the application by noon on the closing date. Applicants will be informed as to the outcome of their application by 15th May 2018. The grant must commence in 2018.

Eligibility

This opportunity is available to emerging researchers or those already active in medical education research in one of the SMERC collaborating institutions: NHS Education for Scotland, and the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and St Andrews. Applications must fulfil the SMERC principals of demonstrating a collaboration across two or more of these institutions. Applications which are clearly set out as pilot, feasibility or proof-of-concept studies, and/or are testing novel ideas will be particularly welcomed.

Proposed projects should be completed within 12 months of the start date.

Assessment of applications

All applications will be processed by the SMERC officer initially. Those which have not fulfilled the guidance will be rejected at this screening stage. The remaining applications will be reviewed by a small Panel of experts selected on the basis of their expertise.

Funding

Requests for amounts up to £3,000 will be considered. If there are a number of good quality applications for smaller amounts, then there is the potential for funding more Seed projects, to a ceiling of £9,000. The full amount of funding will be paid at the outset of the project.

Acknowledgement of support

Presentations, publications and other forms of media communication, including media appearances, press releases and conferences, must acknowledge the support received from SMERC.



SMERC 2018 Seed Funding

Please complete this form if you want to apply for the SMERC Seed Funding. Before completing this form, please read the guidance information to applicants (see previous page). Please strictly adhere to the stipulated word limits where stated.

Once you have completed this form and have the necessary approvals and signatures, please submit this electronically to Pat MacLennan, SMERC Administrator pmaclennan@abdn.ac.uk by the **closing date of 31st March 2018**.

We expect to receive one electronic version of the application by **noon on the closing date** and one hard copy including all original signatures **within one week of the closing date**. Our contact details are SMERC Seed Funding, FAO Pat MacLennan, Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation, Room 0.063 Polwarth Building, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZY. Tel: (01224) 438436 or 437223.

Principal Investigator (PI):

Name:

Institution:

Position held:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Co-investigator 1:

Name:

Position held:

Institution:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Co-investigator 2: (please add more if more than 2 investigators):

Name:

Position held:

Institution:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Project title:

Please indicate the relevant SMERC theme(s):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Workforce | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| New models of care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Enhanced educational infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| An improved organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Details of proposed project

(Maximum 500 words excluding references)

Background to the project and critique of existing literature:

Study aims and research questions:

Possible methodology and methods:

Plans for dissemination of the work:

References (excluded from word count):

Explain how this project is innovative

(Maximum of 150 words)

Explain how this project will lead to a larger grant applications to SMERC, Wellcome or other funding bodies

(Maximum of 150 words)

Brief outline of the timetable of work and key milestones

(Note seed funded projects should be no more than 12 months duration). (Maximum of 150 words)

Total financial support requested from SMERC

Please outline and justify costs for the project. Please explain why your proposed project offers good value for money (Maximum of 150 words)

Outline how you will address the ethical considerations of the project

(Maximum of 150 words)



Provide details of your track record(s) in the relevant field, and why, if you are an emerging researcher, SMERC should invest in your project
(Maximum 250 words)

Provide details of the supportive environment(s) that will be provided to the researcher, including training provision
(Maximum of 200 words)

Approvals and signatures

The officer responsible for administering any grant awarded must complete and sign below:

Name of officer

Position held

Address

Telephone

Email

Signature

Date

The head of department (or equivalent) of the PI complete and sign below:

Name of head (or equivalent)

Position held

Address

Telephone

Email

Signature

Date