

1 New Applicant Funding

1.1 New Applicants Scheme

- 1.1.1 Newly appointed academic members of staff (lecturers or lecturer equivalent fellows) who have joined a department between grant reviews may exceptionally apply separately for support. This will potentially allow them to begin to establish a research programme on appointment. If grant funding is agreed, funding will be awarded as a separate grant to the department's existing consortium or consolidated grant.
- 1.1.2 It should be noted that the number of awards is likely to be limited and funding will be extremely competitive. Where awards are made it is likely to be at the low level of Travel, Consumables, Computing and Secretarial Support.

1.2 Eligibility

- 1.2.1 Applicants may not be funded on more than one grant. For example, if an individual transfers from another university, they cannot hold resource on both a new applicant grant, and a consolidated grant at their previous institution.
- 1.2.2 Applicants must be employed on a full or part-time basis as academic members of staff at the grant-holding University by the start date of the new applicants grant. Note that the usual eligibility rules apply – please see the [STFC research Research Grants Handbook](#).
- 1.2.3 Applicants will need to demonstrate that there are insufficient funds within the flexibility of the existing grant to support their research.

1.3 Terms of the scheme

- 1.3.1 Applicants must be the sole investigator.
- 1.3.2 Applicants can only apply once at any institution for a new applicant award.
- 1.3.3 Applicants can apply for funding for a minimum of a year and a maximum of three years up to the start of the department's consortium/consolidated grant. Applicants can apply for limited resources to allow the applicant to begin to establish a research programme.
- 1.3.4 The relevant grant panel will assess applications against the same criteria as the consolidated grant proposals (and funding will come from the appropriate grants line); however, research potential in addition to track record will be taken into account.
- 1.3.5 Grants are not renewable and cannot be extended.

1.4 Proposals

- 1.4.1 Applicants should submit a one page pre-proposal for consideration by the executive in consultation with the relevant grant panel.
- 1.4.2 Requests will be considered under urgency procedures.
- 1.4.3 The pre-proposal should briefly set out the circumstances, explaining why a new applicant proposal is appropriate, and how the application matches the eligibility criteria set out above.
- 1.4.4 The pre-proposal should also briefly sketch the nature and strength of the scientific case that would be described in full if permission for a full proposal is given.
- 1.4.5 The pre-proposal should provide an indication of the requested resources.
- 1.4.6 The pre-proposal should be accompanied by a brief letter from the Principal Investigator of the consolidated grant held by the department concerned, confirming the employment status and timing, and explaining carefully why the new member of staff's research cannot be supported using the spending flexibility allowed within the existing grant.
- 1.4.7 If the case for funding is considered to be potentially a high priority, applicants will be advised of next steps.