



WELLCOME^{TRUST}

funding opportunities



Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: Research Development and Support 22 Feb 2016 (#1)

[\[Click on blue hyperlink for further information\]](#)

The **WELLCOME TRUST** funding opportunities listed below are only a **selection** of pre-screened, currently open health funding opportunities for which **South African institutions are eligible to apply**. For a comprehensive selection of **WELLCOME TRUST** funding opportunities, please visit www.wellcome.ac.uk

Please be advised that you **must contact the Research Grants Management Office (RGMO) at least 60 days before the submission date**, Mr Eugene Baugaard (eugeneb@sun.ac.za), or as soon as you commit to apply for a grant. **All final application documents MUST reach the RGMO seven (7) workdays before application due date.**

About Wellcome Trust:

The Wellcome Trust is an independent global charitable foundation dedicated to improving health, because good health makes life better.

How to get funded:

Wellcome Trust (WT) provides more than £700 million a year to support bright minds in science, the humanities and the social sciences, as well as education, public engagement and the application of research to medicine. WT offers a wide variety of funding schemes to support individual researchers, teams, resources, seed ideas and places. WT also funds major initiatives in areas which are strategically important, by invitation, but also welcomes the opportunity to discuss ideas which might fit with strategic priorities.

2. Strategic Funding

Applications will be invited, but we welcome the opportunity to discuss research ideas that fit with our areas of strength, and that might be suitable for an invitation. From time to time we will also use targeted calls for initiatives to develop and support strategically important topics.

Hyperlinks:

[Our Planet, Our Health](#)

[Wellcome Trust Centres](#)

[Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises](#)

[Health Systems Research Initiative](#)

Purpose: Strategic funding is available to support major awards in research areas that we judge to be strategically important, informed by dialogue with our researchers and the wider community. Applications will be invited, but we welcome the opportunity to discuss research ideas that fit with our areas of strength, and that might be suitable for an invitation.

1. Funding for community engagement in Africa and Asia

Expression of interest:

Hyperlink: [Find out more](#) Type: International Engagement

You can submit an expression of interest at any time, but we encourage you to submit it well before the deadline for each round so that we can provide advice and feedback to increase your chances of making a successful application.

The deadlines for sending expressions of interest for the next funding rounds are: 19 August 2016

Purpose: The Wellcome Trust International Engagement Awards provide funding for innovative public or community engagement projects that explore biomedical research or health in Africa and Asia. We believe that understanding the social, political and historical contexts of biomedical science helps to deliver its full potential for health improvement and builds a society in which both research and the next generation of scientists can flourish. The public engagement activities we fund bridge the gap between the research community and the general public, and provide channels for these groups to understand one another. Engagement should encourage a critical awareness of the personal, ethical and cultural impacts of health research and should stimulate an insightful sharing of views that has benefits for all involved. The value of the projects we fund does not lie in public education but in true public engagement, which is why our International Engagement Awards do not support health promotion or basic health information provision, but projects that involve the community and facilitate discussion. Competitive projects could come in many forms, such as community-led digital storytelling, collaborative theatre projects or café-style debates. Our aim is to ensure science can be enjoyed and experienced as part of culture, entertainment and everyday life. Projects should:

- stimulate dialogue about biomedical research and health and its impact on the public
- promote innovative partnerships between community organisations, the cultural sector, and scientists/researchers
- strengthen capacity to conduct future public or community engagement with biomedical research and health.

Projects that are not eligible for the scheme include health promotion or public health campaign projects, research projects, or projects that do not deal with biomedical sciences, health or the history of medicine.

Budget: International Engagement Awards provide grants of up to £30,000 for up to three years.

2. Biomedical science - Investigator Awards

Applications are considered three times a year:

26 February 2016; 27 July 2016; 6 November 2015

Hyperlink: [Investigator Awards](#)

Purpose: We support research into all aspects of science: from molecules and cells vital to life, through the spread of diseases or the vectors of disease across the globe, to clinical and public health research to improve the quality of healthcare. Research can be based in the laboratory, the clinic or the field, and may involve experimental or theoretical approaches. Investigator Awards build on our strategic goal of supporting 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. 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. Joint Investigator Awards are available to support two researchers with complementary expertise working closely together on a shared proposal. To be eligible for an Investigator Award you must be based at an eligible higher education or research institution in the UK, [Republic of Ireland](#) or a [low- or middle-income country](#). You should be employed in an established academic post: a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract, salaried by your host institution. Research projects should be aimed at understanding and controlling diseases (either animal or human) of relevance to local, national or global health. This can include laboratory-based molecular analysis of field or clinical samples, but projects focused solely on studies *in vitro* or using animal models will not normally be considered.

Budget: An Investigator Award provides a flexible package of funding that is driven by the requirements of the proposed research. Awards may be small or large, typically up to £3 million, and lasting up to seven years. The duration and costs you request should be clearly justified by your proposed research. Also, you should ensure that the scope of your proposal and the associated resources are appropriate for your career stage and research experience. If you already hold considerable research support, you will need to demonstrate that the Investigator Award will cover important and complementary studies that are distinct from the work that is already funded.

The award covers the direct costs of carrying out the research, such as:

- research expenses; this may include research assistance, animals, equipment, fieldwork costs and funding for collaborative activity
- travel and subsistence for scientifically justified visits
- overseas allowances where appropriate.

The award does not include your salary costs. These must be provided by your host institution.

3. Biomedical science - Seed Awards

Applications are considered three times a year:

20 June 2016; 3 October 2016; 25 January 2017

Hyperlink: [Seed Awards](#)

Purpose: Seed Awards provide responsive, flexible funding, enabling researchers to develop a novel idea to a position where they would be able to be competitive for a larger award from the Wellcome Trust, or another source. Their exploratory nature gives scope for the use of bold or innovative methodologies, and a broad range of possible activities; from pilot and scoping studies, to preliminary data gathering and proof-of-principle studies, to planning sessions and meetings of collaborative networks. They are not intended to fund discrete projects with no follow-on plans. We encourage applications which propose to carry out interdisciplinary research across our Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Innovations funding. We would particularly like to encourage researchers:

- at the start of their independent careers
- who wish to develop innovative ideas outside of their discipline or area of expertise.

To be eligible, you must:

- hold an appointment at an eligible institution in the UK, Republic of Ireland or a low- or middle-income country;
- not be based at a core-funded research institute;
- receive personal salary support from your host institution for the duration of the award, which must not come from Wellcome Trust funding (e.g. Institutional Strategic Support Fund). Alternatively, you may hold a personal award or fellowship if this provides your salary but no substantive research expenses;
- not currently hold significant funding for research (as a guide, broadly equivalent to the level of the Seed Award), or have held such funding in the 12 months before the application closing date. You can only hold a Seed Award once in your career. We expect applicants to typically have completed a PhD or equivalent higher degree (e.g. an MD).

Budget: Seed Awards are worth up to £100,000 and are normally for up to two years. They can provide funding for the direct costs of carrying out the research, including:

- materials and consumables
- equipment
- animals
- research assistance
- fieldwork and data collection
- travel, including travel to meetings.

Awards are not intended to serve as short-term fellowships or to provide bridge funding. They cannot be used to pay your personal salary costs.

4. Biomedical science - Collaborative Awards

Applications are considered three times a year:

Hyperlink: [Collaborative Awards](#)

1. Preliminary application closing date is 26 April 2016 with the full application closing date 20 July 2016
2. Preliminary application closing date is 21 September 2015 with the full application closing date 12 January 2016
3. Preliminary application closing date is 5 January 2016 with the full application closing date 24 March 2016

Purpose: Collaboration promotes the development of new ideas and can bring disciplines together to speed the pace of discovery. The Wellcome Trust has therefore launched a new Collaborative Award scheme, supporting groups of researchers who are pursuing scientific problems. Collaborative Awards provide flexible support to excellent groups of independent researchers with outstanding track records. Proposals must address important scientific problems that can only be achieved through a collaborative team effort. We encourage applications which propose to carry out interdisciplinary research across our Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Innovations funding. Applications will be considered from lead applicants who meet our eligibility criteria and are recognised international leaders in their field. We encourage interdisciplinary research collaborations of basic scientists and/or clinicians (medical and veterinary) and/or non-biologists (e.g. mathematicians, physicists, chemists, engineers and social scientists). We would not normally expect a team of more than seven applicants, including the lead applicant, but more may exceptionally be considered if demanded by the research to be undertaken.

Budget: Awards will normally be for up to five years. They provide funding for the direct costs of carrying out the research and may include:

- research expenses, including research assistance, animals, equipment and fieldwork costs
- travel and subsistence
- overseas allowances, where appropriate
- research management and support costs, where applicable.

The amount of an award will depend on what each proposal can justify as necessary to fulfil its objectives. Awards will not normally exceed £4 million. Applicants can also apply for provision for public engagement costs, which provides dedicated funds to enable grant holders to communicate their research to the public. Collaborative Award holders may also apply for future enhancement funding.

More links:

- [Funded projects](#)
- [Application information](#)
- [Wellcome Trust Grant enquiries](#)