



WTCGHR Flexible Funding Pot - Terms of Reference

Objective of the FFP

To develop and operate a Flexible Funding Pot (FFP) that will catalyse the development of high quality Wellcome Trust (WT) Fellowship applications through the Wellcome Trust Liverpool Glasgow Centre for Global Health Research (WTCGHR).

Concept and timeline

The FFP is designed to support the costs of targeted pump-priming activities that will increase a candidate's competitiveness in applying for a Wellcome Trust Fellowship.

The FFP is available for applications throughout the period of the Centre's current core grant to 31.08.2018, whilst funds remain available. Applications can be received by the Centre's Manager at any time during the academic year, and will be reviewed at the Centre's bi-monthly Steering Group meetings.

Promotion

WTCGHR intends to promote the opportunity for applicants to undertake a short pump priming activity, in consultation with a WTCGHR academic colleague, which will subsequently lay the foundation for a competitive fellowship application to the Wellcome Trust.

The FFP shall be promoted initially via existing channels at Centre Partner organisations including LSTM, UoL, Glasgow University, MLW, and NIMHANS.

It shall also be promoted within relevant university PhD programmes, to attract individuals planning their careers in advance of their graduation.

Further promotion through relevant specialist societies & publications will also be undertaken – targeted according to Centre research priorities.

Eligibility

The FFP is intended to support candidates from both UK/EU and L-MIC countries. WTCGHR also offers a placement programme in parallel to the FFP, intended to focus on supporting L-MIC candidates to undertake a placement at a research institution before submitting a fellowship application.



Application and Selection Process

Applicants must have made contact and discussed their proposed activity with a WTCGHR academic colleague, in advance of submitting a written application.

Applicants must satisfy all criteria for a Wellcome Trust fellowship at the outset of the application, or be in a position to satisfy them at the end of the supported period of activity.

Applicants must complete the FFP application form, including the following information:

1. A brief outline of the research concept to be pursued.
2. Background information, to support internal discussion of the research concept.
3. Brief plan of activities at the Centre and summary of costs to be incurred.
4. A short statement completed by the academic collaborator on the research concept and expectations for progression to Fellowship application.
5. Applicant CV

The WTCGHR Steering Group will review applications received during bi-monthly meetings, or on an incidental basis if an urgent response is required.

Activities supported by the FFP can include overseas site visits, data collection, short periods of training and meetings etc. This not an exhaustive list and applicants and their academic collaborators are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the WTCGHR Centre Manager.

All reasonable expenses not limited to travel & accommodation, subsistence, travel/health insurance, visa fees, etc. will be supported. Salary and research costs will not be supported.

On completion of the proposed activity, a brief written summary should be completed showing clear milestones to a WT Fellowship application. WTCGHR will continue to provide assistance during the development of the fellowship application, including arranging academic peer review, mock interviews, assistance with development of budgets etc.

Evaluation:

The Steering Group will review applications to the FFP with consideration to the following points:

- Overall quality of applicant (basic eligibility for WT Fellowship, assessment of CV)
- Quality of research concept and its relevance to the Centre (match with research themes, academic interest, likelihood of WT interest)
- Quality of planned activity to be supported by FFP and quality/likelihood of achieving planned milestones to Fellowship application.
- Justification of proposed costs and value for money.

The Centre will retain summary information on all applications to the FFP.