Grant and Fellowship Development Awards

GUIDANCE NOTES

Aim:
The Grant and Fellowship Development Awards scheme aims to support the development of external funding applications by bringing collaborators together to work intensively on the research idea and the funding proposal.

Rationale:
Proposals with external partners or potential Fellowship holders are typically more cohesive and more convincing to reviewers if they have been developed in a more deeply collaborative manner.

The scheme is designed to facilitate meetings and development workshops between Warwick researchers, cross-sector, national and international collaborators during the project scoping, content mapping and/or grant preparation stages of the funding proposal.

To justify this investment, the application should be aiming to bring significant research income to Warwick.

Scope:
The Grant and Fellowship Development Awards scheme will support collaborative applications for external research funding, where collaborators from outside Warwick are involved, such as:

- **Large multi-partner bids in response to calls for applications from national, European or International research funders:** In all cases there is an expectation that Warwick will receive a significant part of the funding on the grant i.e. not a just small percentage of investigator time. This does not mean that Warwick must be leading the consortium, but it should have a significant role (e.g. leading a work package).

- **Fellowship applications where the applicant is from outside Warwick:** In developing an application to a major fellowship scheme (RCUK, Royal Society, Wellcome Trust, British Academy, Leverhulme Trust, Marie Skłodowska Curie, ERC etc) it may benefit the applicant to spend time at Warwick both to work on the application with more experienced colleagues and to build a relationship with the academic department (for example by delivering a research seminar during the visit). The aim is to attract excellent early-career researchers to Warwick to establish themselves in an academic career, so support for fellowship applications for those currently at Warwick will not be available.
- **Research council and other grant applications**: Support for Warwick academics submitting a grant application with collaborators from other institutions where the benefit of bringing the collaborators together during the development of the application can be demonstrated. It would normally be expected that the Warwick academic would be Principal Investigator and applications where there is only a small benefit to Warwick (i.e. Warwick academic is a co-Investigator and only a small percentage of their time is covered) will not be supported.

- **Centres for Doctoral Training and other large post-graduate training awards**: Where Warwick is part of a consortium bidding for a large doctoral training centre awards, the scheme will support meetings with partners to strengthen the application.

- **Other major funding applications where a meeting of collaborators would strengthen the bid**: Applicants are also invited to identify other funding opportunities which this scheme could support (for example collaborations with private industry)

**Eligibility:**
Applications should specify a Principal Applicant who must be a permanent (including probationary) member of academic or hold a fellowship awarded by an external funder (the duration of which extends beyond the proposed activity)

Co-Applicants from a different department to the Principal Applicant will strengthen case for interdisciplinarity.

Applicants must identify a specific call for funding and the deadline for submission of the funding application (if applicable).

**Guidance for applicants:**
The scheme will provide funding for a major meeting of 1-3 days in duration or a series of meetings typically held on Warwick campus. Warwick facilities in Brussels, Venice and at the Shard in London can also be considered for the meetings but this should be justified in the application. Funds may be used towards planning meetings aimed at progressing a new, collaborative research project targeting at least one external call for application.

There should be a clear benefit to Warwick in hosting such partner meetings, including agreement for Warwick to lead or have a major role in the grant, which will lead to significant grant income;

It is expected that the core research question/methodology will have already been identified and that the consortium clearly addresses the call objectives set by the external funder. The scheme does not
provide pump-priming funding to test out new methodologies, run short experimental or validation projects nor gather additional data etc. It is expected that any preparatory research work will have already been completed or be supported from other sources.

**Funding:**
Up to £3,000 can be sought to support a one-off or a series of meetings during the different stages of the bid development process e.g. outline, 2nd stage or panel interview etc. Funding can be used to cover transportation, accommodation and meeting catering, in accordance with the University’s Financial Regulations.

**Review Criteria:**
The application will be assessed against the following criteria -
- Identifies a specific funder and call with a deadline for submission of the funding application.
- Warwick academics to have significant role in the project
- Will bring significant research income to Warwick if successful
- Have a research question/methodology which clearly addresses the call objectives set by the external funder
- Demonstrate the need for a collaboration to address the research question and why further meetings are necessary to improve the bid
- Provides a clear programme of activity to be supported by the Grant and Fellowship Development Award
- Evidence of research funding track-record, if appropriate
- Clearly demonstrates interdisciplinary value of proposed activity
- Conveys added value of IAS funding and how this will improve the quality of the proposed submission

**How to submit an application:**
Applications can be submitted at any time by completing the application form available at the [scheme website](#)

This should then be submitted electronically through the [Online Submission System](#).

Upon receipt of the application form, it will be sent to at least 3 reviewers from different faculties. The feedback will then be collated and a funding decision taken. Applicants can expect the funding decision to be made within 4 weeks.
Duration of Award:
Awards will be for a maximum of nine months. If expenditure is planned across more than one financial year (1st August – 31st July) a breakdown of the costs in each financial year must be given in the application.

Further Information:
For any further queries please contact IAS@warwick.ac.uk