

## Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership

### Guidance for applicants – Round 2

Researchers can face a number of barriers to taking the first step to translating their research, and often need more than financial support, including mentoring and regulatory advice. Together with funding from Wellcome, the Higher Education Fund (HEIF) and the University, the Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership (W-WTP) launched in 2020 with the aim to support researchers to make that transition between discovery science and translation.

The W-WTP provides through its suite of programmes, support for translational research projects, fellowships and access to external expertise to overcome well-defined barriers to translation aimed at exploiting emerging impact in the broad areas of science of early life, tissue models of human disease and disease control prevention. This ambitious programme will help to deliver lasting real-world impact from health and biomedical research, whilst strengthening links with partners in industry, clinical settings and government policy makers both nationally and internationally.

#### Two funding programmes are currently open for applications:

- **Translation and Innovation Grants**
- **Breaking Translational Barriers Awards**

#### Eligibility

Both programmes are open to researchers from the Faculties of Science, Engineering and Medicine, Social Sciences and Arts. Applicants should normally be a University academic employee, or be the holder of a personal research fellowship awarded competitively, with a contract lasting the duration of the project. UHCW-employed clinicians are also eligible and applications must provide an accompanying letter from the Clinical Director confirming support for the project. If funding is requested for buy-out time for clinicians a signed letter of support and commitment to the dedicated research time from the Clinical Director is required.

#### 1. Translation and Innovation Grants

Translation and Innovation Award Grants to provide project-focussed pump priming awards to support the movement of research ideas along the translational development spectrum and/or move to the next technology readiness level. Applications to buy out UHCW clinician's time for a translational project would also be welcome. It is anticipated that around 4-5 awards will be made. **Awards made in Round 2 are expected to start by 1 April 2021.**

#### How to Apply

Applications must be submitted on the Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership Application Form to [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk) by **18 January 2021**. Applications will not be accepted by any other means.

Within the application form, please provide:

- A lay summary which *describes the proposed project in simple terms in a way that could be publicised to a general audience*
- A project summary
- Information on how the project will translate into practice
- Information on previous or current Wellcome funding and how it relates to the project

- A case for support. In no more than 3 pages, describe the *underpinning research and current stage of development of the technology, objectives, work plan, milestones, outputs and outcomes, and what success looks like and how it will be measured. Please include details of Funder(s) of the underpinning research. Please state the current stage of the research on the D-to-T translational development spectrum or the technology readiness level (TRL) at the time of application and what stage the research would move to as a result of the funding. Please see document Guidance on Translational Development Spectrum.*
- Information on discussions with Warwick Ventures and/or UHCW
- Planned future external translational funding applications
- Data management and data sharing plan
- If ethics approval may be required
- Costings and information on match funding
- Justification of resources
- Head of Department statement of support

(UHCW applicants must provide an accompanying letter from the Clinical Director confirming support for the project).

### **Application deadline**

Second round: 18 January 2021

### **Assessment:**

Applications will be assessed by the Partnership Management Committee. The following criteria will be used to assess applications:

- Fit with Wellcome remit
- Link to Wellcome funding, where applicable
- Clear & articulated underpinning research
- Project partners, including Warwick-UHCW collaborations and wider stakeholders, where applicable
- Potential for translation into new technologies/interventions towards improving human health and how the grant applied for will maximise the translation
- Clear objectives and feasible work plan
- Clear outputs and outcomes, including plans for industry engagement (where applicable)
- Plans for future external translational funding applications and opportunities, including invention disclosures.
- Value for Money

The schemes will be closed to further applications once the available budget has been allocated.

### **Eligible costs**

The funding may be used to support directly incurred costs (e.g. staff, consumables, travel & subsistence, other project costs) at 100% FEC. Indirect, estate costs and other directly allocated costs (including salary costs for academic post holders) are not eligible. The funding must be used to carry out the project as detailed in the application. Wellcome should only be charged in arrears for actual expenditure incurred. *\*\*Please ensure that all costs are inclusive of VAT where necessary\*\*.*

**Translation and Innovation Grants** are expected to be up to a maximum of £46,000. If project costs exceed £46,000 you are required to contact the team on [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk) before any submission.

The **Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership Award** cannot be used to support:

- Discovery science projects (D1/D2)
- Research projects without underpinning work
- Research already supported by external funding
- PhD students/UG students
- Standalone equipment
- Standalone large throughput analysis, such as genomics, proteomics etc.
- Depreciation/replacement charge for facility costs
- Facility technician time
- Central service charges

## **2. Breaking Translational Barriers Awards**

Breaking Translational Barriers Awards to provide smaller awards of up to £10,000 to access bespoke external expertise and advice on the potential of the idea or technology and overcome well-defined barriers, for example engaging end users and networks, commissioning market research analyses and exploring routes to market to progress their research along the translational pipeline. The Breaking Translational Barriers Awards will not fund Warwick staff time.

### **Deadline – rolling deadline subject to funding**

Please contact [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk) to discuss the Breaking Translational Barriers Awards to access bespoke external expertise and advice.

### **Terms and Conditions**

All award holders must:

- Follow the Wellcome standard Grant Conditions that apply to this award ([www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/grant-conditions](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/grant-conditions)). Award holders must follow Wellcome funding policies ([www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/policy-and-position-statements](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/funding/managing-grant/policy-and-position-statements))
- The funding may be used to support directly incurred costs (e.g. staff, consumables, travel & subsistence, other project costs) at 100% FEC. Indirect, estate costs and other directly allocated costs are not eligible. The funding must be used to carry out the project as detailed in the application. Wellcome should only be charged in arrears for actual expenditure incurred.
- Funds must be spent in accordance with the University of Warwick's established procurement policies. Control of expenditure awarded on the grant is governed by the normal standards and procedures at Warwick and will be covered by any formal audit arrangements that exist at Warwick.
- The principles of good research practice are followed, including clinical governance, data sharing and preservation in line with Wellcome Grant Conditions and the Policies and Positions;
- Where Wellcome-funded Intellectual Property arises from your award, you must obtain Wellcome prior written consent (not to be unreasonably withheld in circumstances where it is an appropriate means of achieving charitable public benefit) before you make any commercial use of, or grant to any third party any exploitation rights over, the Wellcome-funded Intellectual Property. As a condition of granting consent, Warwick will require you

to accept Wellcome's standard revenue- and equity-sharing agreement as set out in the Grant Conditions. Please liaise with R&IS and Warwick Ventures.

- On accepting the award, the grant holder is agreeing to both the Wellcome Bullying and Harassment Policy and the University of Warwick being able to supply the information required to comply with these terms. The full policy can be found at: <https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding/guidance/bullying-and-harassment-policy>. Further details are listed below.
- Any outcomes of the award that are suitable for publication must be published in accordance with the publication provisions in the Wellcome Grant Conditions and Policies and Provisions which include Wellcome's Open Access policy.
- Consult Wellcome's Media Office before the release of any announcements, press statement or other media presentation concerning the award.
- Individuals and Departments can demonstrate that they cannot support the project or activity from existing individual or departmental discretionary funds.
- Funds must be spent according to an agreed profile, failure to spend will result in a claw-back event. Requests to reallocate funds and/or to alter the spending profile must be made to [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk).
- Any over-spends become the responsibility of the host Department or Departments.
- Funds must be spent by 30 November 2022. No extensions are possible.
- There are no significant additional space implications that cannot be accommodated within the Warwick Department(s) and external organisation(s) involved.
- Appropriate ethical approval must be sought and granted where necessary before the start of the project.
- The appropriate contractual arrangements between Warwick and Industrial partner(s) will be put in place as required where applicable. The Industrial partner(s) will need to accept the Wellcome Grant Conditions, in particular in regards to Intellectual Property and revenue-sharing.
- Award holders are required to actively participate in activities related to the Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership, such as symposia and dissemination events, and to support the University in achieving the key deliverables as listed below.
- Interim, Annual and Final reports must be provided via email to [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk) by the deadlines indicated (a template will be provided).

### **Further details to the Wellcome Bullying and Harassment Policy**

On accepting the Wellcome award, the grant holder is agreeing to both the Wellcome Bullying and Harassment Policy and the University of Warwick being able to supply the information required to comply with these terms. The policy requires that when an investigation into an allegation has been opened by the University that Wellcome's Director of Grants must be informed of this, which should include a brief factual statement about the nature of the allegation.

The Wellcome reserve the right to ask for the name of the employee whose conduct is being investigated, where they consider that they have a legitimate interest in doing so. This applies to any university employee who is associated with: a grant application (either as a lead applicant, sponsor or supervisor); a Wellcome grant and a Wellcome advisory committee.

Once the investigation has completed and any final appeal has been heard, the university is required to confirm to Wellcome: if the allegation was upheld; the findings of the investigation and if any are sanctions being imposed.

Wellcome reserve the right to request a copy of the investigation report, where they consider they have a legitimate interest in doing so.

### **Key Deliverables**

The Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership will focus on investing in fellowships and projects aimed at exploiting emerging impact in the science of early life, tissue models of human disease and disease control and prevention. The Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership will provide supporting expertise in impact delivery and will strengthen links to partner institutions in industry and the local hospital network.

Specifically, the Warwick-Wellcome Translational Partnership has the following projects outputs for 2020-22:

1. Increase in number of MRC/UKRI/CRUK/Wellcome translational/Innovation research funding applications.
2. Establishment of new clinician-driven translational research projects (UHCW-UoW interface).
3. Increase in number of invention disclosures.
4. Translational fellows winning follow-on fellowships, joining industry or driving spin-outs.
5. New industry engagement through reverse fellowships, research partnerships and investment.
6. Facilitation of new translational research through the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building (IBRB).
7. Emergence of translational projects from Wellcome-funded research base.
8. Percentage Wellcome-funded researchers engaged in translation.
9. Number of Researchers who have actively engaged with the TPA.
10. The number/range of external advisors engaged to support translational projects.
11. Website traffic and qualitative feedback on tools or events run as part of Partnership.

### **Reporting**

Interim, Annual and Final reports must be provided via e-mail to [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk) by the deadlines indicated (a template will be provided).

### **Contact**

Contact the team on [Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:Wellcome-Translation@warwick.ac.uk).