

## Innovation grants: Information for applicants

### 1. Purpose and scope

Applications are invited for grants of up to 12 months and for a maximum of £35,000. Grants are tenable only at a UK university, research institution, NHS trust or statutory social care organisation.

The Parkinson's Disease Society supports biomedical, health and social care and social policy research and wishes to encourage research related to improvement of the quality of life for people with Parkinson's and carers. The duration of an innovation grant is usually for a maximum of one year. Extension of a grant beyond one year is exceptional and requires formal re-application.

The purpose of the innovation grant scheme is to focus on:

- research into practical improvements for the lives of people with Parkinson's and their carers
- research examining the progression and delivery of healthcare to people with Parkinson's
- research which involves a new hypothesis where initial pilot/supporting data is required prior to a full project grant or fellowship application to the PDS or other funding body.

**All principal applicants should hold employment contracts that extend beyond the period of the grant.**

### 2. Application procedure

- Grant applications to the PDS are accepted only through the Society's online research grant application system, which can be accessed by visiting <https://research.parkinsons.org.uk/>
- One signed hard copy must be submitted with copies of relevant approvals. All coapplicants' and collaborators' original signatures must be submitted. Details of any collaboration should be included and a letter confirming agreement from each collaborator should be submitted. If the project includes work with patients please ensure a letter of written support is supplied from a clinical collaborator. The signatures of the head of department/clinical/social care directorate in which the project will be based, and the relevant finance officer are also required.
- The signed hard copy should be sent to: Research Department, Parkinson's Disease Society, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, SW1V 1EJ
- Only one publication in press is permitted and this should be directly relevant to the application. Reprints should not be included.
- If information is being pasted from other documents into the online application, please convert the text to Arial 11pt.

### 3. Ethical approval

Where clinical trials or investigations involving human subjects are intended, local ethical committee approval must be sought and a copy of this approval submitted when awarded.

### 4. Use of animals

The use of animals for research must fall within the regulations laid down by the Home Office. Projects involving animals should include a brief statement confirming that no reliable alternative approach is possible and that the minimum number of animals will be used. If animals are being used the project and personal licence numbers must be listed.

### 5. Terms and conditions of grant

Applicants should read 'Grant Terms and Conditions' before completing the application form.

## **6. Acknowledgement of applications**

Applicants will receive confirmation from the online applications system once an application is submitted. Unless the Society requires further information, no correspondence will be entered into until the results are notified. Applicants are especially requested not to initiate contact with the Research Department during the review process.

## **7. Unsuccessful applications**

Edited comments from the combined reports of members of the Research Advisory Panel and external referees will be made available to unsuccessful applicants. No further discussion with Society staff or with members of the Research Advisory Panel is allowed.

## **8. References**

References should be cited in full in the following format:

Surname, Initials (Date), Title of article, Journal, Volume, page - page.

## **9. Finance**

In line with AMRC guidelines, the Society will only reimburse direct research costs relating to the application submitted. The Society will not fund indirect costs nor will it pay on a percentage basis.

### Staff costs

Basic salary should be stated for each individual. Provision for London weighting, superannuation and National Insurance should be shown separately in the space provided. An appropriate grading and salary must be quoted even where a named assistant cannot be specified; both grading and salary should have the approval of the appropriate administrative officer of the institution where the assistant would be employed.

### Other recurrent

Details must be given. Project grants do not cover administrative expenses or costs involved in attending conferences.

### Animals

The species, number and unit cost of all animals must be shown.

### Equipment

Please specify.

### Inflationary rate

Estimated annual inflationary rate in percentage terms must be indicated. A maximum of 3% per annum is allowed in the second and third years.

## **10. Referees**

Please use this section to nominate two referees to review the proposal. Nominated referees will not necessarily be used by the PDS.

## **11. All applications will be judged by the following criteria:**

- quality of the research programme
- quality of the researcher and team
- relevance of the project to health and social gain in Parkinson's
- contribution to training and capacity building for research into Parkinson's in the UK
- value for money
- appropriateness of the plain English summary
- budget and infrastructure

If you have further questions about making an application please contact the Research Department on 020 7932 1332 or 020 7963 9327 or [researchapplications@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:researchapplications@parkinsons.org.uk).