



UCL Neuroscience – Neuroscience Center Zurich (ZNZ) Collaboration

Call for applications for joint research funding in neuroscience

[UCL Neuroscience](#) and [Neuroscience Center Zurich \(ZNZ\)](#) are leading institutions that cover a broad spectrum of basic and clinical research in neuroscience.

Our aim is to strengthen existing collaborations and develop new interactions in neuroscience research and training. As part of this initiative, short-term seed funding will be provided to support joint neuroscience research activities, which are intended to represent a priming step towards seeking comprehensive joint external research funding.

Please note:

- Applications must involve at least one group leader affiliated with UCL Neuroscience and at least one group leader affiliated with ZNZ.
- The added value of the joint effort must be demonstrated.
- Group leaders/teams can participate in one application per funding round.

Types of Activities Supported:

Applications can be made under one of the following **two** categories.

1. **Pilot projects** - small awards will be made to enable investigators to obtain data to support larger-scale applications for external research funding. This category will fund staff, postgraduate student exchange or short stays of group leaders at the partner institution as well as research consumables. The maximum amount that can be requested is **GBP 20,000 or the CHF equivalent (currently circa CHF 22,167)**.
2. **Travel and accommodation** - awards will provide support for travel and accommodation costs to allow researchers to co-locate for a short period of time and focus on drafting a grant application for research funding. Applications under this category should only be submitted if the applicants feel that they are already able to progress directly to drafting an external grant application, without the need for a workshop or pilot project funding to generate any additional data. The maximum amount that can be requested is **GBP 1,500 or the CHF equivalent (currently circa CHF 1,660)**.

Eligible Costs:

Funds can be requested for:

- √ Return standard airfares between Zurich and London, and internal standard travel costs, for the applicants and collaborators listed on the grant. Air travel must be claimed at the lowest economy fare.
- √ Directly incurred costs of the research project, including laboratory consumables.
- √ Per diem costs to cover accommodation and reasonable out of pocket expenses (as a guide, these costs should be in the range of GBP 100-150 in London or CHF equivalent currently circa CHF 110-166 in Zurich, per day). If these expenses are expected to be significantly different (e.g., housing with a colleague; special needs), this should be indicated in the budget.
 - √ Venue hire and costs of refreshments for workshops.

Non-eligible Costs:

X Salaries or stipend costs

X No visitor fees, student fees, or bench fees will be levied by either University on collaborative activities funded under this scheme

X Scan or instrument use fees

X Honoraria for guest lecturers

X Costs of publication

X Significant items of equipment (over GBP 700 or CHF 775 total)

Funds can only be requested for 12 months from the start date of your award

How to Apply:

3. Applicants are asked to submit an [Intention to Submit](#) (PI and Co-I names and category of call applied to via MS Forms).

Please submit your Intention to Submit by **25th of October at 4pm.**

4. Applicants will also be required to submit an **application form.**

The application form will contain the following:

- o **2-page description** of the proposed activity and anticipated outcomes, including how and when it may lead to joint applications to external research funding organizations.
- o A **1-page budget** providing an itemised breakdown of costs.
- o A **3-page CV** including a list of publications from the last five years from the Lead(s) and each of the co-applicants.

Please send your completed application form with the subject line **‘UCL Zurich Funding Call 2023’** in the email to ***both***:

Dr Ruth Wainman

UCL, Life and Medical Sciences Research
Coordination Office

r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk

Dr Wolfgang Knecht

Neuroscience Center Zurich

wknecht@neuroscience.uzh.ch

The deadline for full applications is **1st of December at 4pm.**

Review Criteria:

A joint review committee with members from UCL Neuroscience and ZNZ will review applications according to the following criteria:

- Track record of the applicants.
- Quality and originality of the proposed activity, including the extent to which the activity represents an additional gain above what could be achieved by each group on their own.
- Quality of the research environment where the proposed activity will take place.
- Extent to which the proposed activity could not be supported by conventional means.
- The reach and impact of the proposed project.

Please see links below for an overview of Neuroscience research at UCL and ZNZ:

UCL Neuroscience research groups:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/research/domains/neuroscience/research>

ZNZ research groups: <https://www.neuroscience.uzh.ch/en/research.html>

The committee reserves the right to not make any awards if they consider the quality of the applications is not sufficiently high to warrant an award.