LONDON’S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY



**Neuroscience Careers Network**

**Neuroscience Domain**

**2024 NCN Post Doctoral Development Fund Call**

This call is designed to provide neuroscience researchers with an opportunity to develop novel ideas and generate preliminary data to support larger-scale applications for external research funding. This pump-priming funding is open to post-doctoral researchers (Grade 7 and above including those on academic positions (lecturers)) who have not yet held substantive personal awards (e.g. grants that fund salaries and research expenses including URKI or Royal Society Fellowships, Wellcome Early-Career Awards or ERC Starting Grants, subject to a case being made for the NCN Development Fund award). Applications will be reviewed by members of the UCL Neuroscience Domain Steering Group considering the criteria of scientific quality, strategic relevance to neuroscience, and feasibility.

* The award is a maximum of **£5,000** to be used over 12 months.
* Start date: **1st April 2024.**
* Funded applicants must provide a brief report on their research project within 1 month of completion of the award, summarising current and projected outputs of the grant and next funding stage.
* Funded applicants must obtain confirmation from their group leader that they will have the necessary time to undertake the proposed research project.

This award forms part of the UCL Neuroscience Careers Network commitment to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusivity and we encourage applications from candidates who may be underrepresented in the UK research community. For pre-submission enquiries, please contact Ruth Wainman (r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk)

Applications must be sent to Ruth Wainman with the subject line **‘NCN Post Doctoral Development Fund Call’** by **1st March 2024, 10am.** Please use font size 11 and keep within the limits marked out below.

**Section 1: Personal Details**

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| **Name** |  |
| **Department** |  |
| **Current Position** |  |

**Section 2: Application Details**

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| **Amount Requested (£)** |  |
| **Title of Proposal**  |  |
| **Have you applied to the NCN Fund before? (Y/N)** |  |

**Section 3: Lay Person Summary – 300 words max, 11pt font.**

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| Please provide a lay summary of the proposal based on the guidance below. * **The challenge:** simply explain what the project is looking at – the area of work, why it needs to be done and the key questions being posed.
* **Finding a solution:** without using overly technical terms, explain what methods will be used to tackle the questions being posed.
* **The potential:** describe what is the potential impact, what new knowledge will there be – and why is this work worth doing for the wider research community, patients, and society.
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**Section 4: Details of the Research Project - one side of A4 max, 11 pt. font**.

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| Use the headings below to provide all relevant details of the research project. * **Aims and objectives**
* **Background to proposed research**
* **Methodology**
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**Section 5: Costs and justification - 300-words max, 11pt font.**

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| Please provide an itemised breakdown of the requested funding, explaining how you intend to spend it. * Please note this can cover reasonable travel, accommodation, and research costs over a maximum period of 12 months. It cannot cover investigator time/project management, salaries for staff or students or indirect costs.
* All proposed expenditure must adhere to UCL’s guidelines
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| **Item** | **Cost (£)** |
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**Section 6: Impact**

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| What is the expected impact and outcomes of the project for your career goals? Please be specific regarding possible next stage or downstream funding opportunities.  |
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| **Group leader Support:**Post-doctoral researchers are required to obtain confirmation from their group leader that they will have the necessary time to undertake the proposed research project.**Name of Group leader: Signature:**  |