



## **Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (WT ISSF) *Flexible Support Awards 2019***

UCL is the recipient of a Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF) award that enables us to invest in our excellent research capabilities in the life and biomedical sciences. The ISSF supports strategically important research activities that are within the remit of the Wellcome. Applications are currently being sought for two schemes:

- 1) Establishing New Research Groups or Research Programmes
- 2) Fellowship Extensions

Please see below for the guidelines and eligibility criteria for the relevant scheme.

### **1. ESTABLISHING NEW RESEARCH GROUPS or RESEARCH PROGRAMMES FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS**

Division/Institute Directors in SLMS and Heads of Departments in BEAMS and IoE are invited to apply for strategic support for the establishment of new research groups, programmes and/or laboratories specifically aimed to support early career researchers. This may include the purchase of essential equipment, recruitment of key research staff, maintain animal lines, providing to access core facilities.

Only initiatives that are able to demonstrate a clear strategic need and alignment to faculty plans will be supported. Divisions/Institutes/Departments are expected to make a 50% contribution to the award.

#### **Eligibility**

- Applications will be accepted from Division/Institute Directors in SLMS and Heads of Department in BEAMS and IoE only, on behalf of the PI(s)/Group.
- Funding is available for early career academic researchers only. PhD and Postdoctoral Researchers are not eligible for funding.
- For requests to support recruitment packages, the UCL job offer must have been accepted at the time of application.
- Funding is available to researchers across all Faculties provided that the proposed area of research is within the remit of the Wellcome Trust (<https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding>) and aligned to UCL faculty strategies.

#### **Funding**

Awards are expected to be in the range of £25k–£100k and match-funding is a requirement. These projects should be up to 12 months in duration. The project costs should be appropriate for the proposed plan of work. Funds are expected to be used between August 2019 and July 2020.

#### **Eligible Costs**

ISSF awards will support direct costs including but not limited to staff costs (excluding PI salary), consumables, equipment, access fees, animal costs.

### **2. FELLOWSHIP EXTENSION**

The UCL Wellcome ISSF will provide support for early- and mid-career researchers, who currently hold a Fellowship award at UCL, and require additional research support beyond the end of their fellowship funding. These awards will enable early- and mid-career researchers to apply for additional research

grants, and to continue to supervise students throughout the tenure of their fellowships. We would expect applicants to have already applied for a follow-on Fellowship/research grant at the time of submission.

**Eligible Cost:** Fellow salary, research staff, and/or research costs.

**Eligibility:**

- Early- or mid-career researchers, including postdoctoral researchers who are recipients of independent research fellowships.
- Funding is available to such Fellows across all Faculties provided that the proposed area of research is within the remit of the Wellcome (<https://wellcome.ac.uk/funding>) and aligned to UCL faculty strategies.

**Funding:**

Awards are expected to be in the range of £25k–£50k and have a duration of no more than 6 months, with funds expected to be used between August 2019 and July 2020. The project costs should be appropriate for the proposed plan of work and justified within the application. Matched funding is a requirement; please see below for details.

**How to Apply for Flexible Support Awards:**

To apply for funding, please complete the **Flexible Support Awards application** and send, along with the other required documents, to [r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk), no later than **5pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June** with “WT ISSF Flexible Support Awards 2019” in the subject line. Incomplete applications which do not follow the guidance provided will not be considered.

Applications must include:

1. A completed application form
  - Requires confirmation from Divisional/Institute Director in SLMS or Head of Department in BEAMS that they are willing to contribute 50% of the funds.
2. CV(s) [2 pages max + 1 page of publications (Please list all authors)]
  - For New Research Groups please include PI(s) CV
  - Fellowship Applicant
  - Please note that CVs will be circulated to reviewers, the finance department, research services and the funder. If you do not wish for your personal details to be shared, please remove them from your CV.
3. Standalone Worktribe costing (this is an option under “Projects” in Worktribe) with confirmation from Divisional Director in SLMS/Head of Department in BEAMS that the costings have been approved.

**Important dates:**

Internal dates	
Deadline for applications	5pm, 7 <sup>th</sup> of June
Applicants informed of outcome	Early July

**Match Funding:**

- Matched funding is required and its source and value must be clearly articulated in the application. This must be from non-Wellcome sources and be a **minimum** of 50% of the total budget.
- Match funding can come from external sources or grants (excluding Wellcome grants) or divisional/department recurrent funds.
- Please note the Wellcome ISSF will only cover direct costs.

**Got questions?** If your questions are not answered above, please contact Ruth Wainman ([r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.wainman@ucl.ac.uk))