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| TIDAL logo | **Funding call 5**Information for Applicants |

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| **About TIDAL N+** |

TIDAL Network+ is an EPSRC-funded collaboration between UCL, Strathclyde, Salford, and Loughborough Universities. We are building an interdisciplinary network of researchers, assistive technology (AT) users, entrepreneurs, and clinical practitioners, to identify and tackle new research challenges that will help us to transform AT. Together we will create novel, innovative solutions that will lead to improvements in the quality of AT and enhance the lives of the people who use them. Our vision is for innovative, sustainable, and equitable AT, both physical and digital.

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| **Our research themes** |

We have identified three research themes that are priorities for TIDAL:

* Responsible Engineering
* DMS (Digital Design and Manufacturing Systems) and Physical Devices
* Sensors, Data Science and Communication Aids

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| **Purpose of this funding call** |

TIDAL N+ has been awarded funding by EPSRC (EP/W000717/1). This funding includes a budget for us to award feasibility research funds to provide short term support (about 6 months duration) to enable fundamental, interdisciplinary, early-stage research relating to our research themes.

We aim to fund interdisciplinary teams who have an excellent research hypothesis for solving a clear unmet need. Whilst teams are interdisciplinary, the hypothesis, when answered, should advance the engineering or physical sciences field.

The feasibility study should result in increased confidence in the proof of concept developed, which then has potential to attract further investment.

We expect all proposals funded through TIDAL N+ to take a co-creation approach and involve stakeholders including AT users, healthcare services, manufacturing partners etc., as appropriate.

We want the TIDAL network to have a long-term impact and to be sustainable beyond the term of our EPSRC funding. This call (our fifth) is therefore aimed specifically at supporting the next generation of researchers – current, final year, PhD students. (See, ‘Who can apply for funding’ later in this document for further details of eligibility.)

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| **Funding and other support available**  |

1. **Preparatory workshop (online)**
	* If you want to apply for funding, you will first need to apply for a place to attend the preparatory workshop. (See ‘How to Apply’ later in this document.)
	* The main aim of the workshop is to support applicants to write good applications, not only for this funding but also future funding applications in their post-doctoral careers.
	* There will be 8 places on the workshop, so those attending the workshop will competing with a maximum of 7 others for the available funding.
2. **Coaching support to develop a funding application**
* The 8 selected applicants will have 4 weeks after the workshop to submit their completed application form and budget
* During this time, the investigator team will provide coaching support online or in person by arrangement with individuals. Applicants can have 2 x 30-minute coaching sessions, online or in person by arrangement with the coach.
* Applicants will be assigned a coach and it is up to them to contact their coach to arrange coaching sessions.
* The main purpose of this coaching is to support the applicant to develop an excellent proposal e.g., to help them scope the project appropriately and realistically for the time frame; highlight aspects that need to be clarified or strengthened, or where an argument needs to be developed etc. It is not to advise on technical matters, nor to advise on any matters relating to internal processes at the applicant’s institution. The applicant will need to seek internal advice and support to ensure that they budget their project appropriately and secure all the necessary approvals in time to submit their proposal by the deadline.
* For face-to-face coaching session, we can refund up to £50 travel expenses (standard class public transport trains or buses only, unless you have other requirements for accessibility reasons).
1. **Feasibility research funding of £59k**
	* There is one award available of up to £59k. Note that EPSRC funding awards are made at 80% of Full Economic Cost (FEC). This means that if you apply for £59k of eligible costs and your project is selected for funding, we will actually reimburse 80% of your eligible costs i.e., £47,200, not the full £59k.
	* The contracting organisation (lead applicant/PI’s institution) must undertake to cover the other 20% from their overheads.
2. **Mentoring support from the TIDAL N+ investigator team during the project**
* There will be additional support for the successful applicant in the form of mentoring from the TIDAL team.
* The successful applicant will be allocated one more mentors from the TIDAL investigator team who will provide advice and feedback at appropriate times during the project activities.
* The aim is to provide the project with an additional level of support and guidance, rather than monitor its progress. It will still be the successful applicant’s project - led, directed and managed by them, and they will retain responsibility to delivering the project by the deadline.

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| **What we are looking to fund - general requirements** |

We are funded by EPSRC, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, so the kinds of projects we are looking to fund are engineering and physical sciences projects that fall within in the remit of what EPSRC fund.

Projects must directly and strongly **align with one of our research themes**. See below for further details about our research themes.

We are looking to fund **projects that are at an early research stage** rather than a commercialisation or implementation stage; technologies at low TRL (Technology Readiness Level) probably TRL 2 or 3, so just beyond the initial idea.

We want **fundamentally research-driven ideas** that will help facilitate a step-change or transformation in the design of a particular product or service

Projects should have a **multi-disciplinary, co-creation approach**. This is very important. There should be involvement of industry, service providers, service users, clinicians etc. as appropriate to your project.

Projects should be **deliverable for £59k** in a 6-month timeframe. The idea is to fund a few months of research to prove enough to allow you to apply for much bigger funding.

We are particularly keen to fund proposals that **demonstrate clear plans for how the** **work will lead to a full proposal** **for further funding** to be submitted to a UK funder at a future time.

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| **Responsible Engineering theme: what we are looking for**  |

Our Responsible Engineering theme combines sustainability and care of the planet with development of next generation AT. COVID-19 has demonstrated the global interdependencies of current healthcare products and services and has revealed the fragility of global supply chains. We were unable to provide services effectively during the pandemic. Additionally, we know AT abandonment is a problem which affects users – they lose confidence, money, time and opportunity due to poor fit of product to need. This abandonment also affects the planet. Currently, the carbon footprint associated with the waste of inappropriately prescribed and/or poorly supported AT is difficult to estimate, but rejection rates across sectors are known to be high e.g., 80% for hearing aids and 13% for prosthetics.

Without AT, people are excluded, isolated, and locked in poverty, making health problems worse, and economically and socially marginalising people. Despite healthy levels of innovation, we still lack equitable AT provision globally, and NHS services lack resources. One of the most critical shortages is in personnel – there are simply too few clinicians able to prescribe and aid people in choice of AT.

Meeting user needs currently relies on services that require costly face-to-face appointments plus the carbon cost of travel and inconvenience to users. Current services must be able to scale sustainably to face the climate emergency and comply with UN Sustainable Development Goals.

A problem of this scale cannot be solved by simply increasing the volume of current activity, rather it requires a coordinated focusing of research, user, clinician, and industry efforts into transformative methods that can address the problems currently limiting the value of AT to the user.

**We are looking for proposals that will enable such transformative methods, including better matching of AT to users, better targeted online support, and timely identification, reuse, repurposing, and recycling of redundant or rejected AT.**

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| **DMS (Digital Design and Manufacturing Systems) and Physical Devices theme: what we are looking for**  |

Our DMS & Physical Devices theme seeks to investigate novel ways to exploit the potentials and advantages of digital design and manufacturing. Sometimes referred to as the 4th industrial revolution or Industry 4.0, DMS is characterised by the following:

* The exploitation of advanced digital software and telecommunication systems
* The use of digital tools to enable the semi-automated capture of patient / user data
* The remote, redistributed or semi-automated computer-aided design of typically custom-fitting or personalised Assistive Technology products.
* Flexible, adaptable, on-demand and or redistributed manufacture closer to or at the point of care

Without AT, people are at risk of being excluded, isolated and economically and socially marginalised, making their health problems worse. Despite healthy levels of innovation, societies still lack equitable AT provision globally, and NHS services lack resources. One of the most critical shortages is in personnel – there are simply too few clinicians able to prescribe and design AT and conventional manufacture is too labour intensive and time-consuming.

Current AT provision often requires an iterative hands-on design and manufacturing approach, and this process is often time consuming. Although, face-to-face contact is crucial to provide the best clinical care, minimising contact has the potential to alleviate the burden of travel and the need to take time away from work or caring responsibilities, which incur the costs of travel and lost earnings. In addition, most AT interventions are one-off and custom-made, making users dependent on only one device. Replication, repair or replacement requires the whole process to be repeated. These situations can be massively exacerbated for users in remote locations and low-resource environments.

It is important to recognise the depth of knowledge, training, skills and expertise that underpins the design and manufacture of AT. The exploitation of the potentials and advantages of DMS must aim to empower clinicians and providers of AT rather than aiming to make them redundant.

**We are seeking proposals that seek to capture knowledge and expertise, empower clinicians and therapists by providing them with tools that can provide an order of magnitude gain in efficiency and responsiveness, driving down cost, accelerating processes, eliminating waste and improving the experiences of the user and the clinicians. We are particularly interested in novel areas of need besides prosthetics and orthotics.**

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| **Sensors, Data Science and Communication Aids: what we are looking for** |

Our **Sensors, Data Science and Communication Aids** theme seeks to investigate novel ways to exploit advances in ubiquitous sensing and data science to drive improvements in assisted living devices.

This call will look to support projects within the following areas of research:

1. The development of technology which uses low-cost, ubiquitous sensing technologies to better inform the design, provision, and use of assistive technology devices alongside clinical support decisions
2. The development of new assisted living devices, which leverage advances in sensors, data science and communication aids
3. Sensors and data science advances to improve:
	1. Communication aids such as hearing aids, sign-language interpretation and augmented and alternative communication (AAC) devices
	2. Assisted living decision-making within healthcare

Without AT, people are at risk of being excluded, isolated and economically and socially marginalised, making their health problems worse[[1]](#endnote-2). Despite healthy levels of innovation, societies still lack equitable AT provision globally, and NHS services lack resources. One of the most critical shortages is in data which is usable – data is often lacking or is not connected with the provision cycle in such a way as to be useful in decision making. This leads to waste of time and resources within stretched healthcare systems, leaving users unable to complete critical activities of daily living such as communicating with family, co-workers or carers.

As sensor power increases and costs reduce, we can envisage acquiring real-time data from devices such as wheelchairs, prosthetics, and walkers. The same data could be useful to multiple people, the user, their family or carer, their clinical team, and the manufacturer. We seek solutions which harness the power of such solutions, and which take account of the data privacy requirements and sustainability of the technology.

As data science becomes ever more powerful there are opportunities to provide technologies to people which are responsive. For example, AAC devices which can adapt to a person with Motor Neurone Disease needs, which will change daily. There are also opportunities to use large data sets, for example, to drive automated sign language interpretation and translation.

**We are seeking proposals that leverage advances in sensor technologies and data science in order to address clinician- and patient- identified needs in the assisted technology domain. The proposed solutions should show potential to improve users lives, and/or the effectiveness with which devices can be designed, prescribed and innovated.**

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| **What we are not looking to fund** |

We are not looking to fund:

* Projects which are not directly and strongly aligned with one of our research themes
* Incremental product development projects which might be better served by Innovate UK funding or commercial funding
* People who just want funds to get their product to market
* Activities that are normally the responsibility of central or local government
* Evaluations of your organisation’s own programmes
* Research studies that are already underway, though we would consider funding a new study that is part of a wider programme of research that has already begun
* Projects that duplicate the projects that we have already funded

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| **Who can apply for funding** |

We want the TIDAL network to have a long-term impact and to be sustainable beyond the term of our EPSRC funding. This call (our fifth) is therefore aimed specifically at supporting the next generation of researchers – current PhD students who are either in their final year now or will be in their final year at the time funded projects are expected to start, which is January 2024.

We are particularly keen to encourage those who currently lack support or lack opportunities to apply for support from their host institutions.

**To apply:**

* Your proposed project must align with one of the TIDAL themes.
* You must be a PhD student who is enrolled for a PhD at a UK institution that [qualifies for EPSRC funding](http://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/before-you-apply/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-research-and-innovation-funding/eligibility-as-an-organisation/#contents-list).
* You must either be in your final year now or will be in you final year in January 2024 when the funded projects are expected to start. If you are doing your PhD part-time, you should be at least three quarters of the way through your PhD by January 2024.
* You must not expect to graduate and/or leave your host University until after the completion date for your proposed project (which we expect to be 30th June 2024). If you do expect to have graduated by then, but your institution would be willing to keep you on as a research assistant until the end of your project, paid for by your project grant, that would be acceptable.
* If you are an International applicant, you would need to complete your project **within the period of your Right to Work and/or visa**, so these should not expire before June 30th 2024.

The lead applicant would normally be the PI (Principal Investigator) for the project, but EPSRC does not allow PhD students to hold a grant in their own right. The lead applicant will therefore be listed as a Researcher Co-Investigator.

**There must also be a named PI (Principal Investigator) for the project who must be in the same institution as the lead applicant and meet** [**EPSRC criteria for a PI**](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/)**.** They will technically be the grant holder. Their role will be to support, supervise and guide the lead applicant during the project. The PI could be the applicant’s PhD supervisor or another eligible academic in the same institution. Their time will not be funded so they must be willing to donate their time in-kind, and your institution must approve this.

**To be eligible to apply for funding, the lead applicant must first apply to attend an online workshop. Only those who are given a place on the workshop, and attend the workshop, will be able to apply for the funding.** The aim of the workshop is to support applicants to write good applications, not only for this funding call but also future funding applications in their post-doc careers. (See section on ‘How to Apply’ later in this document.)

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| **What you can include in your budget** |

* Your budget can include direct costs such as Directly Incurred researcher salaries, consumables, research expenses, participant compensation, sub-contracting an individual or service to deliver a specialist service or input; also, indirect costs such as overheads and estate costs.
* TIDAL allows and encourages Early Career Research (ECR) staff on fixed-term contracts (i.e., Research Associates / Research Assistants within 10 years of receipt of a doctoral qualification) to be named as a Co-I (Co-Investigator). Their time can be budgeted as Directly Incurred staff. Any Co-I must meet [EPSRC criteria for Co-Is](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/). **Please note**, however, that although EPSRC rules say that ordinarily a Co-I would not be required to have a contract that extends beyond the term of the grant, **we require Co-Is to have a contract that extends beyond the term of the grant,** as the project timeframe is only 6 months.
* Other RAs working on the project who are not on permanent contracts can also be costed as Directly Incurred.
* Costs should be actual, auditable, and verifiable; researcher time should be justified, not salary.
* Funding is **not available** to support Directly Allocated staff i.e., permanent academic staff such as lecturer or above, including ECRs with permanent contracts. However, according to EPSRC rules, PhD students cannot be direct recipients of funding, so a member of staff who meets the EPSRC criteria for a PI must still be named as a PI to supervise the project. They will need to give their time in-kind and should not be costed into your budget. You can include the cost of their time as an in-kind contribution to the cost of the project, but you cannot pay for this time from the grant funds.
* Open access publication charges are not eligible costs. EPSRC expect these to be covered by your institution’s block grant.
* We will not fund the costs of producing the video that will be one of the project deliverables: this could be as simple as a presentation with a voice over (e.g., recorded Zoom presentation) so it could be delivered for zero budget.
* Our expectation is that travel costs will be for essential travel only, that essential travel will be minimal, and only within the UK. We do not anticipate funding any international travel.
* We will NOT fund air travel other than in exceptional circumstances and with prior permission from the TIDAL N+ team. We would consider a request to cover air travel if the travel was essential and there was no alternative means of travel, or if an individual would be significantly disadvantaged (not merely inconvenienced) in some way if unable to travel by air. In all cases, you would need to request permission for air travel from the TIDAL N+ team before incurring the costs.

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| **Required deliverables** |

Your research proposal will set out what your project will deliver. At a minimum this will include:

* A report of 4-6 pages
* A 3-minute video about your project, covering the need, the research/engineering challenge, how your project addresses this. This does not have to be highly produced: it could be as simple as a presentation with a voice over (e.g., recorded Zoom presentation) so it could be delivered for zero budget.
* A presentation at the TIDAL N+ symposium or Doctoral Colloquium

Where a proposal is successful, the lead applicant’s organisation will be required to sign a contract committing to deliver what the proposal says will be delivered.

Lead investigators will be expected to attend and present their work, either in progress or complete, at TIDAL N+ events, and to provide certain information to the TIDAL N+ team on request (see Terms and Conditions below).

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| **IP and publication of funded research** |

This will be grant funding. None of the institutions involved in the TIDAL N+ project (UCL, Loughborough University, Salford University, Strathclyde University) will claim ownership of the IP in the work arising from this funding, although we will reserve the right to disseminate the work and publish it on the TIDAL N+ website and in other media owned by the collaborating institutions. Such publishing would not prevent publication of the material in a scientific journal.

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| **Equality, diversity and inclusion**  |

TIDAL N+ committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. We know that diverse teams deliver high quality research outcomes. We want to encourage, support and respect ideas from everyone and ensure our inclusive activities are representative of our network’s community.

**We particularly welcome applications from teams which are diverse in terms of protected characteristics and disciplinary areas.**

**We are particularly keen to encourage applications from those who currently lack support or lack opportunities to apply for support from their host institutions.**

Access needs to the workshop will be provided, for example, closed captioning. The workshop application form will ask about access requirements.

We are keen to challenge our own thinking as we deliver our programme. We therefore encourage applicants to discuss with the TIDAL N+ any specific requirements that will enable them to participate in the Network.

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| **How to apply** |

The process for the funding call and submitting applications is as follows. Also see ‘Key dates and deadlines’ below.

1. **Apply to attend the preparatory workshop**
* To be eligible to apply for the feasibility project funding, the lead applicant (PhD student) must first apply to attend an online workshop. Only those who are given a place on the workshop, and attend the workshop, will be eligible to apply for the funding.
* To apply for the workshop, complete a workshop application form. This will ask you for:
	1. Name and contact details
	2. Details of your affiliation and enrolment
	3. Your PhD title and a 50-word summary of your PhD topic
	4. A 250-word narrative summary of your project idea which must align with one of the TIDAL themes
	5. A personal statement up to 500 words to include:
		+ What you are hoping to gain from the workshop and why this is important to you
		+ One or more examples of how you have collaborated with colleagues or others in a personal, academic or other work context
		+ Up to three key skills you could bring to a collaboration process, with examples of how you have developed and/or used these skills. Examples of such skills include but are not limited to networking skills; facilitation/running workshops; creative thinking; conflict resolution; emotional intelligence; listening skills; team-building skills; organisational skills; project management
		+ What inclusivity means to you in practice

**Approvals required for your workshop application form**

The following will be required to approve your workshop application and sign it off before you submit it. You should talk to these people as soon as possible so that they know what will be required, can ask any questions they have, and so that they can let you know the date when you will need to send them your application to review and sign off. Do not leave this to the last minute in case you miss the submission deadline! It will probably take longer than you think!

* + 1. Your PhD supervisor
* We require confirmation from your supervisor that you are not expected to graduate (actually be awarded your PhD) or leave the institution before 30th June 2024, and that your visa (if applicable) and Right to Work will not expire before 30th June 2024.
	+ 1. Your proposed PI
* We require confirmation from an academic in your institution (which could be your supervisor but could be a different academic) that they will supervise your project on an in-kind basis (i.e., the supervisor’s time will not be funded). This person will be the named PI (Principal Investigator) so they must also meet the [EPSRC criteria to be a PI](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/).
	+ 1. Appropriate financial authority
		- We require confirmation from your departmental finance officer / Dean / Head of Department / Head of Finance, or other appropriate financial authority, as required by your organisation, that if your funding application is successful, they will 1) allow you to submit a funding application even though we will not cover the costs for the PI’s time and 2) if your funding application is successful, they will pay the additional 20% of eligible project costs that is not funded by TIDAL.
1. **Attend the workshop if you are granted a place**
* If you are given a place on the workshop, you must attend in order to be eligible to submit a funding application after the workshop
* If you are not given a place on the workshop, you will not be eligible to submit a funding application
* If you are given a place on the workshop but do not attend, you will not be eligible to submit a funding application
1. **Submit a funding proposal no later than 4 weeks after attending the workshop**

Those who have attended the workshop will have 4 weeks after the workshop to submit a completed funding application form, together with a budget, which must be presented on the template provided.

* During the 4-week period, the investigator team will provide applicants with coaching support online or in person by arrangement with individuals. Applicants can have 2 x 30-minute coaching sessions, online or in person by arrangement.
* Applicants will be assigned a coach and it is up to the applicant to contact their coach to arrange coaching sessions.
* The main purpose of this coaching is to support the applicant to develop an excellent proposal e.g., to help them scope the project appropriately and realistically for the time frame; highlight aspects that need to be clarified or strengthened, or where an argument needs to be developed etc. It is not to advise on technical matters.
* For face-to-face consultations, we can refund up to £50 travel expenses (standard class public transport trains or buses only)

**Approvals required for your funding application form:**

* We will require similar approvals for your funding application as for your workshop application.

Please submit your application form and budget in Word format and PDF.

**Please do an accessibility check (which you will find under the Review tab in Word and Excel) on all your documents before submitting them. Please correct any issues that are flagged, as these are likely to cause problems for people using screen readers.**

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| **Assessment process** |

All those involved in the review and decision-making process will be required to declare any conflicts of interest and will not be involved in reviews or decisions relating to projects where they may be conflicted, for example, applications from PhD students at their own institution.

Workshop applications

* Workshop applications will be reviewed by two reviewers.
* The TIDAL investigator team will award places on the workshop to the eight highest ranked applications.

Funding applications

* Applications will be reviewed by 2 reviewers.
* Applicants will be given the ability to respond to reviewer comments before final funding decisions are made.
* Scores may be adjusted based on responses to reviewer comments.
* The funding will be awarded to the highest-ranked application.

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| **Assessment criteria** |

**Workshop applications**

Workshop applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

* Does the applicant qualify for the funding?
* Have all required information, approvals and signatures been provided?
* A score out of ten will be given to each of:
1. 250-word narrative summary of your project idea which must align with one of the TIDAL themes
	* + Does the idea align directly and strongly with one of the TIDAL themes?
		+ Does it align with the general requirements of what we are looking to fund
		+ Is it a good idea that could potentially be fundable and achievable within a 6-month timeframe, or could it easily be re-scoped to be achievable?
2. Personal statement
	* + Reviewers will consider how strongly the applicant has responded to each element of the personal statement (as set out above) and will give a single overall score

**Funding applications**

Funding applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

**Research question**

* Is there a strong research question which addresses a clear, unmet need within the scope of TIDAL N+ and is directly and strongly aligned to one or more of the TIDAL themes?
* Are the research question(s) important, novel, and likely to lead to significant new understanding?

**Multidisciplinary team and co-creation approach**

* Is there a multidisciplinary team in place?
* How will industry and/or other relevant stakeholders such as AT users be involved?

**Future funding potential**

* Does the application demonstrate potential for development of future funding applications from EPSRC, Innovate UK or other UK funding streams?

**Dissemination and impact**

* Will the dissemination plans maximise the impact of their work?

**Feasibility**

* Is the project realistic, given the budget and time constraints?

**Research team**

* Does the team have the expertise, skills and experience to complete this project successfully?
* Will this funding make a tangible difference to the research trajectory of the lead applicant?
* Does the lead applicant have sufficient support in place such as suitable supervisor (PI), appropriate collaborations?

**Financial justification and value for money**

* Are the funds requested essential and appropriate for the work?
* Does the proposal demonstrate value for money in terms of the resources requested and potential of the work?

**Ethical issues**

* Are there ethical and/or research governance issues?
* Are there satisfactory plans in place to address these?
* Are there clear plans in place for storing and, if appropriate, sharing data in accordance with relevant data protection legislation?

**Equality, diversity and inclusion**

* How does the proposal demonstrate excellence in commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion?

**Responsible research and carbon impact**

* How does the proposal demonstrate responsible research e.g., measuring and limiting the carbon footprint of the project and other sustainable research practices?

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| **Contracting** |

The following will apply if your application is successful:

### **Contracting between UCL and the successful lead applicant’s organisation**

A contracting process will be initiated by UCL with your institution to formally agree the contract for the funding. EPSRC terms and conditions will apply, as well as any terms and conditions specific to the TIDAL N+ grant, and any terms and conditions specific to this award. We will ask you for details of your contract team if you are successful.

The lead applicant’s/PI’s institution should sign and return the contract as soon as possible. If the lead applicant’s institution wants to request any revisions to the draft agreement, the lead applicant is responsible for ensuring all requested changes are made and tracked in a single Word document.

This document with requested revisions must be submitted to the UCL contracts manager as soon as possible. Our contracts manager will discuss the proposed changes with the lead applicant’s institution and will then send a final version of the agreement for signature.

The lead applicant on the successful project is responsible for having the amended document signed by their institution and returning it to UCL within one week of it being sent out. We would strongly recommend that you are proactive in following-up progress on the contract negotiations with your contracts manager.

### **Contracting between the successful lead applicant’s organisation and their project partners**

Successful applicants will be expected to put in place a collaboration agreement or other suitable agreement with any of their project partners or collaborators (including Co-Is and other collaborators/partners), governing the terms of the collaboration. This agreement should reflect all applicable terms of your organisation’s contract with UCL, the role and contribution of each individual/organisation, any financial payments to be made, IP arrangements, and delivery deadlines. Successful lead applicants should seek the advice of their contracts team without delay to put appropriate agreements in place.

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| **Terms and conditions** |

EPSRC terms and conditions will apply to this funding, as well as any terms and conditions specific to the TIDAL N+ grant, and any terms and conditions specific to this award.

Specific terms and conditions for this award are as follows:

1. Lead applicants will be required to:
2. Ensure that their organisation puts in place a collaboration agreement or other suitable agreement with any of their project partners or collaborators (including Co-Is and other collaborators/partners), governing the terms of the collaboration. This agreement should reflect all applicable terms of your organisation’s contract with UCL, the role and contribution of each individual/organisation, any financial payments to be made, IP arrangements and delivery deadlines.
3. Provide timesheets for people working on the project in line with [EPSRC requirements for timesheets](https://www.ukri.org/news/update-to-ukri-full-economic-cost-grant-and-training-grant-terms-and-conditions/).
4. Participate in TIDAL N+ events and present the work of their project (in progress or completed) at the TIDAL N+ symposia, and/or other events.
5. Provide information and updates for the TIDAL N+ website and other media when requested. This may include short quotes or other information to demonstrate the activities that are taking place.
6. Ensure that the work is acknowledged as being supported by EPSRC and TIDAL N+ when promoting projects, either through articles, papers, presentations or interviews. Both EPSRC and TIDAL N+ logs should be visibly included on any presentations and in other documents and media where appropriate. Journal publications must include a funding acknowledgement, with the TIDAL N+ grant number, using the wording: ‘This project was funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council [grant number: EP/W00717/1] through TIDAL Network Plus - Transformative Innovation in the Delivery of Assisted Living Products and Services’.
7. Discuss any proposed changes to spend or milestones with the TIDAL N+ team in advance and secure approval in writing before making the proposed changes.
8. Comply with the financial and other regulations of their institution.
9. Ensure best value in any expenditure of any grant funding.
10. Ensure all funding is tracked and is in line with the budget submitted (or any amendments subsequently agreed in writing with the TIDAL N+ team).
11. Submit to UCL on request any receipts or other confirmation of payments made from grant funding. UCL reserves the right to withhold payment where these cannot be produced.
12. Incur no expenditure before the funding contract with UCL has been signed by both UCL and their organisation. UCL will not be responsible for any expenditure incurred before the contract has been signed.
13. Keep detailed records of, and supply to UCL on request and in the requested format, all data required for ResearchFish and any other EPSRC reporting, including (but not limited to) publications arising from the work undertaken; collaborations and partnerships including interactions with external individuals / organisations / partners / the public / other stakeholders undertaken during the funded activity; any further funding obtained; next destinations for any team members; engagement activities, influence on policy, practice, patients and the public; new research tools or methods which have been created or commissioned by you or your team; any new research datasets, databases and models or data analysis techniques you create; intellectual property arising from the research; software and technical products created; awards or other recognition; other outputs/outcomes; use of any shared research facility or service; PPI involvement.
14. Liaise with the TIDAL N+ administrator and TIDAL N+ investigator team as appropriate.
15. The host institution will be required to:
16. Cover any expenditure beyond the agreed value of any award.
17. Itemise bills based on 100% of eligible costs and then invoice at 80% of eligible costs.
18. UCL reserves the right to disseminate the work arising from this funding and publish it on the TIDAL N+ website and in other media owned by the collaborating institutions.

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| **Key dates and deadlines** |

**Deadline for workshop applications** This has been extended to **Thursday 15th June 2023**

Review workshop applications Friday 16th June to Weds 21st June 2023

Workshop Weds 28th June 2023 – all day (9.30am to 5.30 am times t.b.c), online

Applicants write grant applications /

TIDAL team provide coaching support Thur 29th June to Thur 27th July 2023

**Deadline for grant applications** **Thur 27th July 2023**

Review grant applications Mon 31st July to Fri 11th August 2023

Applicants respond to reviewer comments w/c 14th August 2023

**Deadline to submit response to reviewer comments** **18th August 2023**

Announce award 21st August 2023

Contracting 21st August to end Nov 2023

Project begins Target date 1st Dec 2023.

 No later than 1st Jan 2024.

Project delivery date No later than 30th June 2024

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|  Any other questions? |

We want you to put in a great application so we are really happy to answer any other questions and queries you may have, or to clarify anything that isn’t clear in the call documentation. Please contact TIDAL@ucl.ac.uk

1. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)