

Paediatric Research Project Grant 2019 Cycle 2**Frequently Asked Questions****Can current NCRC project grant holders apply?**

Individuals currently in receipt of a NCRC Research Project Grant are not eligible to apply to this call, unless they are in the **second half** of their existing award. The Scientific Advisory Committee may consider an exception to this where an applicant in receipt of a NCRC Research Project Grant is on an application in a new area **or** with a new research team.

Can applicants resubmit proposals that were unsuccessful in past NCRC funding calls to the Paediatric Research Project Grant 2019 call?

The NCRC may be willing to consider resubmissions, provided that the applicants have taken on board all feedback received from the NCRC (both international peer reviewer comments, and, where relevant, SAC comments) and modified their proposals as appropriate. *If you wish to resubmit an application, please contact us as soon as possible for advice on how to proceed.*

Please note that it is our policy that if an application that has undergone international peer review is resubmitted, the applicant(s) must provide a cover letter responding to the specific concerns raised by the peer reviewers of the unsuccessful application. This letter should include details of any changes that have been made to the proposal in response to the peer reviewers' comments and should be submitted as a Word Document together with the revised application.

Does each application have to have an academic and a clinical applicant?

Applications must show strength in both clinical and scientific research, as reflected in recent grant awards and/or peer reviewed publications. This is best achieved by an applicant team consisting of at least one scientist affiliated with an Irish Research Institution/Higher Education Institution, and one paediatric clinician, nurse or allied health professional affiliated with an Irish Public Hospital. While the NCRC acknowledges that there are many clinicians, nurses and allied health professionals that are also experienced researchers, the aim of this scheme is to encourage and support collaborations between scientists and research active clinicians.

Please note that if the proposed project comprises a clinical research study involving patients, a Consultant, covered by the State Claims Agency's Clinical Indemnity Scheme, must be a PI or Co-PI on the project, and must accept responsibility for those patients.

If successful, will the research team have to base themselves in the NCRC upon accepting the award?

While the preferred option is for NCRC funded research to take place, either wholly or substantively, in the NCRC labs located on the grounds of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, projects based elsewhere will be considered.

Does the NCRC still provide statistical support to applicants?

Yes. Applicants may apply to the NCRC for limited statistical/design support prior to submission; please contact the NCRC (grants@ncrc.ie) if this is required. Please note that statistical support should be sought at least 1 month prior to submission of the application, as it may not be possible to accommodate requests for support closer to the deadline.

How is the gross salary of research staff calculated? Should I plan to include incremental increases in salary over the course of the award?

The NCRC provides researcher salaries in line with the IUA scales. The most up-to-date IUA recommended salary scales for researchers (revised January 2018) can be found here <http://www.iua.ie/research-innovation/researcher-salary-scales/>. Applicants should plan to include incremental increases in salary for research staff over the course of the award as per the IUA guidelines.

Does the NCRC pay pension contributions?

Yes. Please note that the employer's pension contribution must be in line with the nominated Research Institution/Higher Education Institution's policies and must be included in the salary costing. Please contact your Research Institution/Higher Education Institution directly for information on the pension scheme for researchers.

Does the NCRC pay student fees?

Yes, EU postgraduate fees may be requested. Please note that applicants must contact their nominated Research Institution/Higher Education Institution and ensure that the exact fees are requested for each year of the project.

Can the NCRC host employment contracts for research staff hired under successful awards?

No. From 2017 onwards, the Research Institution/Higher Education Institution associated with the application must administer all aspects of the award, including employment contracts.

Can the Lead Applicant or Co-Applicant request a salary?

No, the NCRC does not cover Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-PI salaries.

Does the NCRC cover overheads?

No, the NCRC does not cover overhead or administrative costs.

When will the outcome be announced?

All major grants are internationally peer reviewed, and applicants will receive the decision on their funding approximately 6 months after the submission date.

If successful, when must the project commence?

Successful project must start within 3 months of the award being granted.