



International Collaboration Fund 2024 Funding Guidelines

Scope

The **International Research Fund** is intended to promote connectivity between Scotland and European research partners with the aim of strengthening existing, and seeding future, research relationships and creating paths to European research funding.

Funding can be sought for the following:

1. Visits and exchanges between Scotland and a European partner(s)
2. Preparatory activities for Horizon Europe opportunities

Proposed activities and visits will be expected to take place between **16th November 2024 and 31st of March 2025**.

Researchers can be from **any discipline or department** within a Scottish University or Research Institute.

For bilateral exchanges, funding can be used to support inbound travel for researchers from EU Member States, EEA and EFTA countries and outbound travel for researchers from Scottish Universities and Research Institutes.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate an alignment to **Horizon Europe funding and training** opportunities and the development of the upcoming FP10.

You can apply for up to **£5,000** for visits and exchanges and up to **£2,000** for preparatory activities. Awards will cover the full cost of the visit, including travel, accommodation, subsistence, and reasonable additional costs arising from Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) considerations.



Eligibility

- The lead applicant must be actively undertaking research within a Scottish University or Research Institute i.e., postdoctorate researcher, research fellow or principal investigator
- PhD students can be part of the international visit if supported by their Principal Investigator
- Exchanges must take place between Scotland and an EU Member State, EEA or EFTA country
- Projects may build on, or be extensions to, existing activity or may be new developments
- For visits and exchanges a maximum of £5,000 can be applied for and visits can be a maximum of 3 months, we expect the amount requested to reflect the duration
- For preparatory activities a maximum of £2,000 can be applied for. We encourage multiple institutes and European partners to be involved
- We strongly recommend the lead applicant is registered on the Horizon Europe Portal
- We strongly recommend the proposal links to a defined funding call or mission
- We strongly recommend that applications include collaborators from universities or institutes external to your own, whether in Scotland, the rUK or rEurope
- Eligible costs are restricted to economy travel with subsistence and accommodation rates limited to the values detailed below*

* As a guide for justified costs for travel:

- Air travel should be limited to economy
- Accommodation should be no more than £160 per night (for extended trips rented accommodation should be sought)
- Subsistence should not exceed £60 per day



Conditions:

- The activity must take place by the **31st March 2025**
- An end of project report must be submitted to Research Innovation Scotland by **30th June 2025**
- Requests for further information on outputs/career progression etc. from the exchange at later dates may be requested by Research Innovation Scotland, and must be provided from the recipient
- Research Innovation Scotland reserves the right to claw back funds should the grant not be used in accordance with these T&Cs
- Any unspent funds, must be returned to Research Innovation Scotland

Exclusions:

- Funding must not be used for attendance at conferences, training seminars or similar. You may attend a conference in the country you are visiting but expenses associated with the conference (internal travel, subsistence, conference fees) cannot be claimed
- Funds cannot be used to cover salaries or research costs
- Visa costs for incoming or outgoing exchanges/placements will not be covered

Judging Criteria:

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of academics from across disciplines and final decisions made by a panel of Research Innovation Scotland partners.

Applications will be judged on the below criteria:

- Alignment to Horizon Europe funding and training opportunities
- Quality of science and potential impact of findings
- Opportunities identified to leverage further funding
- Inclusion of cross-university and international collaborators
- Feasibility of project with reasonable milestones
- Opportunity for career progression/benefit to researchers



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoinachaidh na h-Alba

Submitting Your Application

Please submit your application (a **single PDF**) to jill.inkster@glasgow.ac.uk at SULSA by **Monday 21st October 2024**.

Notification of Outcome

Successful applications will be notified by email before **Wednesday 30th October 2024**.

Payment of Funds

If successful, funds will be transferred to your Institution. Funds must be spent by 31st March 2025.

Reporting

A short report (2 pages A4) must be submitted to Research Innovation Scotland within three months of the exchange (by 30th June 2025). You must provide the Research Innovation Scotland administration with project updates and outcomes when requested for reporting purposes. If this project leads to a published article, or leverages grant funding, please contact the Research Innovation Scotland administration to make them aware.

The Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance (SULSA) is administering this fund on behalf of Research Innovation Scotland. Funding is available to all areas of research.

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