

Dear all

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Keep up-to-date with **COVID-19 funding calls and resources**

NIHR | Research Design
Service London

Our friends at RDS London have put together a really useful webpage, which is updated frequently with the latest funding calls and resources for researchers looking at COVID-19.

Visit the website [here](#).

RDS WM post award support-we are here to help

If you are conducting a research project for which you received funding from an open, national, peer-reviewed funding scheme and are currently experiencing problems - e.g. due to COVID 19 and the impact lockdown has had on many studies - the RDS can assist you with problems you may be having relating to issues of research design. We can provide assistance whether or not you had RDS support when submitting your study for funding. Do feel free to contact us, either to your local hub or by sending a general support request via our [website](#)

Please note, however, that if you need advice that is *not* to do with research design – e.g. relating to research governance, funding, and logistical issues – this is probably best sought elsewhere, e.g. a Research and Development Department in your organization or the [NIHR Clinical Research Network \(CRN\)](#).

Latest NIHR funding calls

Research for Social Care - Competition 3

Details: The NIHR Research for Social Care (RfSC) call is an annual competition specifically for social care proposals, run by NIHR's Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) programme. The aim of the annual RfSC call is to fund topics and research methodologies that increase the effectiveness of social care services, provide value for money and benefit service users and carers.

Applications are invited for research proposals that generate evidence to improve, expand and strengthen the way adult social care is delivered for users of care services, carers and the public. RfSC will fund research which generates evidence to improve, expand and strengthen the way adult social care is delivered for users of care services, carers, and the public.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 20th January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Programme Grants for Applied Research - Competition 34

Details: NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research (PGfAR) funds collaborative, multidisciplinary programmes of applied research to solve health and social care challenges. Programme Development Grants (PDG) are available to carry out targeted preparatory work to strengthen a future full PGfAR and to enhance the outcomes of existing PGfAR awards. Applications are invited for Stage 1 research proposals to develop individual programmes of research. Research funded through a Programme Grant typically consists of an interrelated group of high quality projects focused on a coherent theme and hence require multidisciplinary approaches, including clinical, health economics, statistics, qualitative and behavioural sciences, to ensure that research objectives can be met. The amount awarded and the length of the funding period will depend on the nature of the proposed work, in particular whether or not the proposal includes a substantial powered trial.

Deadline for proposals: 1pm on 25th November 2020

Find out more [here](#)

NIHR call into Cystic Fibrosis

Details: The NIHR has launched a new call for research proposals involving people with Cystic Fibrosis (CF). The call aims to support robustly designed studies with the potential to improve health outcomes for patients, the public and social care services. We are particularly interested in studies focused around the burden of care and treatment and how they could be simplified, the diagnosis and management of non-tuberculous mycobacteria, the potential benefits of exercise and possible alternative options to physiotherapy.

The call is currently open under the following NIHR programmes:

- **20/102 Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation Programme – Cystic Fibrosis**
 - **Deadline:** 1pm on 1st December 2020
- **20/99 Health Technology Assessment Programme – Cystic Fibrosis**
 - **Deadline:** 1pm on 6th January 2020
- **20/101 Health Services and Delivery Research Programme – Cystic Fibrosis**
 - **Deadline:** 1pm on 4th February 2021

Find out more [here](#)

RDS West Midlands can offer free expert support and advice on all aspects of designing and developing applications for NIHR funding and other peer reviewed funding bodies– please complete our online Request for Support form to gain access to our advice.

NIHR Funding deadlines calendar

For an overview of the year's NIHR calls and ongoing opportunities, please view the online calendar: <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/researchers/funding-opportunities/>

Funding calls from other bodies

The Colt Foundation: Research, Development and Analysis Fund

Details: The Colt Foundation funds high quality research in environmental and occupation health with a particular interest in research projects that are likely to inform policy and working practices and thereby improve the health and wellbeing of workers and the wider population.

The Research, Development and Analysis Fund looks for interesting questions/issues that fit the Nuffield Foundation's mission and is relevant to the questions in their three domains. There should be a clear articulation of what you intend to do, why it matters, and what difference it will make. Applications for research, development and analysis grants are usually between £10,000 and £500,000. Most of the grants awarded are between £50,000 and £300,000 and are between six months and three years in duration, but they will occasionally consider proposals with a larger budget or longer timescale.

Deadline for proposals: March 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Latest Professorship/Fellowship opportunities

NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowships in Medicine 2021

Details: The NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship (ACF) is a clinical specialty training post in medicine that incorporates academic training. The NIHR has allocated funding for 235 ACFs for recruitment in 2021/22, through the Integrated Academic Training (IAT) Programme.

The post has a standard duration of 3 years (up to 4 years for GPs). As an NIHR ACF you will have access to Masters-level research training to develop academic skills and spend 25% of your time in research or educationalist training. In 2021, 94 of the 235 ACFs have programmes of research aligned with NIHR IAT Priority Research Themes. The research areas for the remaining NIHR ACF posts will be based on local expertise and the applicant's individual interests.

Deadline for proposals: 31st March 2022

Find out more [here](#)

CRUK Advanced Clinician Scientist Fellowship

Details: The Advanced Clinician Scientist Fellowship supports excellent clinician scientists to develop independence and leadership in their field of academic research.

Deadline for proposals: 3rd November 2020

Find out more [here](#)

Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851: Research Fellowships

Details: The Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 awards some 35 postgraduate Fellowships and Scholarships a year, for advanced study and research in science, engineering, the built environment and design.

1851 Research Fellowships are intended to give early career scientists or engineers of exceptional promise the opportunity to conduct a research project of their own instigation; an ultimate objective is to contribute to the knowledge base required for a healthy and innovative national culture. Around eight awards are made each year.

Deadline for proposals: 20th January 2021

Find out more [here](#)

Blogs and Articles

NIHR blog: Taking a non-traditional route into social care research

Stacey Rand is a social care researcher at the Personal Social Services Research Unit at the University of Kent. Here she talks about her route into the field and how NIHR's Research for Social Care call has supported her work.

Find out more [here](#)

Training and events

Support available from Clinical Research Network West Midlands

As you may be aware, the NIHR CRN portfolio, which was paused since the start of the pandemic to allow full focus on COVID-19 research, has recently restarted. Support and advice is available from the CRN WM Study Support Service Team for any study that is potentially eligible or applying for CRN Support. This includes providing cost attribution advice to support researchers in completing their grant applications and authorising the Schedule of Events Cost Attribution Tool (SoECAT), navigating the approvals process,

accessing training provided by the Network, identifying and supporting the management of excess treatment costs, and can highlight further support within the Network to support study set up and delivery to time and target. Please note that prioritisation of support will be for nationally prioritised COVID-19 Urgent Public Health Research studies.

For more information please contact: studysupport.crnwestmidlands@nihr.ac.uk.

Website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/west-midlands/>

Applying for NIHR funding? Access free advice and support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research Design Service West Midlands

Our multi-disciplinary team can offer advice on the key ingredients in a successful health or social care research proposal, including:

- Statistics and health economics
- Qualitative methodology
- Support on involving patients and public in research, identified by the NIHR as a critical component in funding applications
- Peer review of draft grant applications before submission.

Find out more about how RDS West Midlands could help you and your team at <http://www.rds-wm.nihr.ac.uk/>

***We have sent you this email because we believe it may be of interest to you, if you do not wish to receive future emails from us please email me by return at k.biddle@bham.ac.uk and I will remove you from my contact list.**