

Innovation Project Grants – FAQs

Remit

- **My research idea falls outside the two main themes identified by the Beta Cell Scientific Advisory Panel, can I still apply?**

We are open to ideas that fall outside the two main themes, although the research must fall within the overarching area of beta cell therapy research. We encourage you to capture how your research is high-risk, novel and innovative when compared to current endeavours in the field. We want to invest in disruptive ideas that have the potential to be transformative if successful, so please ensure you capture your rationale for why the approach is worth pursuing.

- **Do I need to provide preliminary data for my research idea?**

It is not a condition to provide preliminary data to support your research idea.

- **Are there areas that are outside remit?**

As part of this call, the following areas are out of remit, and applications submitted in these areas will be rejected before review:

- Identify/stratify those at risk of developing T1D
- Prevent or improve the diagnosis of T1D
- Address the complications of T1D
- Fund capital buildings, refurbishment, or other infrastructure costs

Eligibility

- **I'm a senior postdoctoral researcher, how many years postdoc do I need to be to apply as a Principal Applicant?**

There are no eligibility rules based on years of postdoctoral experience. However, applicants must be on track to run an independent research group and have made significant contributions to your area of research.

- **Can I include international researchers as Co-Applicants and Collaborators on the project?**

The Innovation Project Grants are not restricted to the UK, and we encourage you to build collaborations internationally where it will strengthen your project. We do require that the Host must be a registered Institute or Hospital in the UK, and majority of the work should be undertaken in the UK.

- For projects with Joint Lead Applicants, does the budget and responsibilities on the project need to be equally split?

For applications with Joint Lead Applicant the expectation is that the two leads will work in partnership to design the project and deliver the project if funded. They are jointly leading the team assembled. However, this does not mean that the budget must be split equally between the Joint Lead Applicants, as we appreciate costs will vary depending on the work to be conducted.

- What is the difference between a Principal/Joint Lead Applicant, Co-Applicants and Collaborators?

Principal/Joint Lead Applicant: Individual to who the grant is assigned and who will be the individual principally responsible for leading and managing the research, and whose name is set out in the award letter.

Co-Applicant: Individual who is involved in the development of the funding application and, if funded, has some responsibility for the management and/or delivery of the research.

Collaborator: Individual who will provide specific expertise on particular aspects of the research, but who do not share in the responsibility for the delivery of the research.

- Can I apply for the Innovation Project Grant if I have already been awarded a grant as part of the Type 1 Diabetes Grant Challenge?

There are no restrictions on applying if you have been funded through the Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge (or any other Diabetes UK grant). However, we would require reassurance that you are able to deliver the aims of the of the Innovation Project Grant, if funded, and delivery the currently funded research will not be jeopardised.

If you are a Type 1 Diabetes Grand Challenge Senior Research Fellow, we require clarity on the time you plan to spend on the Innovation Project Grant. In line with the Senior Research Fellowship, clinical fellows can undertake up to two clinical sessions per week and non-clinical fellows can undertake up to six hours per week for non-fellowship activities, such as teaching and other research projects.

Financial support

- I'm a senior postdoctoral researcher, can I request a full/partial salary on the Innovation Project Grant?

If you are already in receipt of a full-time salary from the institute or hospital where you are employed, you are not be eligible to apply for salary on the Innovation Project Grant. However, if your salary is dependent on grant funding, we require a letter from the Host Institute providing confirmation of this, and you are asked to include another Applicant on the project who holds a tenured post at the Host Institute. Please note their role is to guide and mentor, rather than leading and undertaking the research.

- Can I include the salary of a postdoctoral researcher on the project, who is already working on another project funded by Diabetes UK or another funder?

We welcome postdoctoral researchers to work across different projects. However, please make note:

- The funder should confirm postdoctoral researcher's involvement in the Innovation Project Grant is permitted, and that this would not detriment the delivery of the aims of the currently funded research.
- They would not be receiving more than 1FTE salary across all the projects they are funded through.
- The Principal Applicant is confident that the allocated %FTE on the Innovation Project Grant is sufficient to deliver the aims of the project proposed, and within the duration indicated.

- Does Diabetes UK pay Full Economic Costs (FECs), also known as indirect costs?

Diabetes UK only fund directly incurred costs and are therefore unable to cover FECs.

- Is a contribution from the host institute expected?

A contribution towards the cost of the Innovation Project Grant by the host institution is not mandatory but would be welcomed, and applicants are asked to detail this in the application. This may include in-kind contributions. Where an expensive piece of equipment is requested, a contribution towards the cost of the equipment that is proportionate to the total should be provided by the Host Institute.

Questions

- Who can I speak to if I have any questions about the Innovation Project Grants?

Diabetes UK are happy to arrange a call with you to answer any questions that you might have. Please email SMFGrandChallenge@diabetes.org.uk to arrange this.