Application for an RNID Translational Research Grant: Full Application

Please note that this a sample form provided for information only – the full application form must be completed and submitted through Flexi-Grant®

Lead Applicant Information

Guidance

Please complete the lead applicant section below (this will be our main contact throughout the grant evaluation process and the project should it be funded). Please note that you can only be named as the lead applicant on ONE full application (you can be named as a co-applicant or collaborator on other applications). For further guidance, refer to the Translational Research Grant call and guidelines.

Questions

Host organisation: *Please ensure that the host institution that will be responsible for approving submission of your application and the administration of any award is the one that is shown in this table.*

Lead applicant information: *Your contact details have been added to the table below as you have entered these previously. Please check the contact details associated with this application are accurate. Please note that you can only be named as the lead applicant on ONE full application (you can be named as a co-applicant or collaborator on other applications).*

Department: *Department accommodating the project*

Technology Transfer Officer: *Please provide the details of your technology transfer officer, or equivalent representative at your organisation with responsibility for exploiting or managing any IP that may emerge from the project, using the following format: Title, First Name, Surname, Email address, Position.*

Hours per week: *Detail the number of hours per week you will devote personally to this project.*

Proposed start date: *Project start date must be before the 31st of March 2026*

Project end date: Select end date.

Collaborators

Guidance

On this page you will enter details of the contributions of any collaborators on your grant application and describe the joint expertise of the assembled team.

If you do not have an extensive background in hearing loss and/or tinnitus research yourself, please ensure that experts in the field will be actively involved in the proposed project to guarantee appropriate guidance of the research.

You are required to provide, for each named collaborator, either an email from the collaborator (with full message headers), or a scanned letter of support from them (which must be on their institutional headed paper). It should be signed (if a letter) and dated within the last three months and MUST include details of their contribution to the project and reference the application by grant round and title.

Please select no if you do not have any collaborators.

Questions

Are collaborators involved?

Collaborators are individuals whose contribution is critical to the success of the project but who will not receive funding from this grant. Their involvement should be limited to supplying strains or reagents, expertise or advice in a particular experimental technique or area of science or providing other specific but limited input.

Individuals who are responsible for delivering any part of the grant-funded work, and may receive some of the grant funding, should be listed as co-applicants via the Participants tab, accessible from your application Summary page.

You can provide details for up to five collaborators within your application.

(Yes/No) > (If Yes)

Collaborator details: *Please provide the details for your first collaborator. You are required to provide a letter or email of support for each named collaborator, detailing the contribution that they will make to the project, if funded.*

Team expertise: *Please briefly detail how the applicant(s) (including co-applicants and collaborators, if applicable) have the necessary expertise and knowledge of the field to conduct the proposed research and interpret the findings or explain how they will ensure access to independent expert advice/support (200 words max).*

Project Details

Guidance

On this page you will enter information relating to your research. All reviewers and Translational Grant Panel members involved in the evaluation of Translational Research Grant applications will have signed a Reviewer Agreement with confidentiality clauses.

Projects must be defined pieces of research with clearly stated objectives, experimental plan and expected outcomes. Applications to cover solely, or mainly, equipment costs, will not be accepted.

Duration: Up to 3 years.

Eligibility: Applicants can be based in any country and may be from academic institutions and small/medium enterprises (SMEs)

Value: Up to £300K in total, funding will not exceed £100K in any one year

Questions

Project title: *Provide the full title of your proposed project (50 words max).*

Previous submission: *Is this a re-submission of a previous application to RNID? (Yes/No) > (If Yes)*

Previous project title & date of submission: *Please state.*

Keywords: *Please provide a maximum of 7 keywords that define the scope of your project.*

Lay summary: *Describe the proposed research in simple terms in a way that could be publicised to a general audience. This should include details of (500 words max):*

1. background and need for the research

2. aim of the project

3. an outline of the research methods; and

4. how people with hearing loss or tinnitus will benefit from the research.

Please be advised that if your project is selected for funding, the lay summary you provide may be used publicly on our website as a description of the project and may also be used for fundraising purposes. As such, please do not include any confidential information.

You must also ensure that the lay summary is written in language which can be easily understood by a non-scientist. Please read our Guidance for writing a lay summary to help with this.

Scientific abstract: *Please provide a scientific summary of the key objectives of your proposed project. It is important that this summary contains sufficient information to*

provide a clear understanding of the overall vision of the project. The scientific abstract will be used by external reviewers to determine whether they have the expertise to review your application and therefore should NOT contain any confidential information (250 words max).

Research Questions:

1. *What is your research question? (100 words max)*
2. *Why is it important? (200 words max)*
3. *How will you use the project's findings? (250 words max)*

Innovation: *In answering the three questions in this Innovation section, please provide a clear description of the innovative aspects of your proposal in relation to the existing solutions for the clinical unmet need being addressed.*

1. *What is the clinical unmet need that the project seeks to address and its target population? (200 words max)*
2. *What are the competing solutions and their stages of development? (200 words max)*
3. *What is the competitive advantage of the proposed approach? (200 words max)*

Research proposal

Your proposal must include:

1. *A summary of the relevant background research. Detail relevant prior experimental/technical evidence and explain how these previous results underpin the proposed study.*
2. *The current status of the project (including achievements as well as obstacles encountered). We advise including all information relevant to the proposed research in the application as preliminary data, and ensuring the wider supporting evidence is fully accessible via e.g. preprinting.*
3. *Details of research methods and outcome measures*
4. *An explicit timetable for each stage of the research project, indicating anticipated progress milestones and contingencies to address potential obstacles*
5. *A plan for dissemination*
6. *If the application is a resubmission – details of how the project plan has been amended*

The main proposal should be no more than 5,000 words (excluding references). Minimum font size 11pt, Arial or Times New Roman, single spaced.

Compound chemical properties: *Is your proposal focused on the development of a pharmacological small-molecule compound? (Yes/No) > (If Yes)*

Please download the compound characterisation form, complete and upload.

Funding Requested

Guidance

On this page you will be required to enter details of the budget for your proposed research project. Please specify the type of funding ("item") requested and the anticipated cost for each year. A detailed explanation and justification of the requested costs should be provided in the Budget justification section below and cross-referenced with your Research Proposal.

Eligible costs

Staff salary - Research staff who will be employed specifically to work on the project. This can be any type of research staff e.g. post-doc, graduate research assistant, technician etc. except for PhD students. Please indicate the position title, full-time equivalent (if less than 1) and salary pay point. You should request here the total cost to the grant of each of these positions. The budget justification must detail why a staff member of a specific level of experience is requested, referencing the experimental plan and the skill level needed. If a person is named, please explain why they were chosen.

Research consumables - These costs cover routine research consumables and reagents needed for the project. Examples include glassware, plasticware, tissue culture, molecular biology, immunohistochemistry, earphone inserts etc

Do not include unusual, high-cost, or non-consumable items in the consumables section – these should be listed in the 'Other' section.

Animal costs - Costs for the purchase, importation, housing and maintenance of animals can be included in your budget.

Publicity & dissemination - Travel and registration costs for conference attendance or other dissemination activities. Please note that funds to cover publication charges should not be requested here - please see our Open Access Publication Policy for further details of our requirements for open access publishing and defraying any required costs.

Equipment - Funds can be requested for small pieces of specialist or unusual equipment that is essential for the project. This includes specialist computer equipment or software that is required for the collection or analysis of data (the need for extra memory storage or processing power must be justified). Equipment should usually be purchased at the start of the project.

Other - Research costs for specific items or services can be requested here. These usually fall into:

- High-cost items or experiments, such as microarrays

- Fees for external or internal services, such as antibody production, DNA sequencing, the use of core equipment or statistical support

Please not that we are unable to fund patent costs.

Questions

Financial Support: *The table below has been pre-populated with items under each budget heading, please edit each subheading accordingly by clicking on the pencil icon.*

You can remove unused rows using the Remove Item button and add additional rows using the Add a New Item button.

Funding will not exceed £100,000 in any given year and will not exceed £300,000 in total.

Please note that as a charity, it is our policy not to fund any indirect costs or the salaries of permanent employees.

Budget justification: *Please provide a detailed explanation and justification of the requested costs, and ensure it is cross-referenced with your Research Proposal.*

Other Support and Submissions

Questions

Other support: *This section requests details of any other applications in progress to support this project, or work that is closely related to it. Is this or a similar application being, or likely to be, submitted to another organisation for funding (including by co-applicants)? (Yes/No) > (If Yes)*

Organisation: *Please provide the name of the organisation. If there are multiple organisations, please number each and do so with the subsequent questions so the details for each match.*

Date of decision: *What is the expected date of decision? Enter a date in the following format (Month, YYYY)*

Value of funding: *What value of funding is requested?*

Pathway to commercialisation

Questions

IP Position and Freedom to Operate: *What relevant IP currently exists or is anticipated to arise from this project? Please identify any relevant prior art, including patent numbers and titles if applicable*.

Please identify any freedom to operate problems that currently exist or could arise in the future, and how you propose to overcome these.

Development and commercialisation: *Describe how you intend to progress the development and commercialization of your therapeutic after the completion of your Translational Grant. What are the next key steps and how will these be funded? (200 words max)*

Use of Animals in Research

Guidance

On this page you will be required to enter details of any animal work to be carried out as part of your proposed research project (if applicable).

All RNID project proposals must comply with the guidance Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Bioscience Research and with UK legislation (the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (ASPA), amended 2012).

Research conducted outside the UK must be carried out to a standard that is equivalent to that set out in UK legislation as well as being compliant with all local legislation and ethical review procedures.

You may find the following guidance useful when completing the questions in this section: the NC3Rs' Experimental Design Assistant and webinar on using both sexes in animal experiments.

N.B. If your application proposes the use of non-human primates, cats, dogs or equines, please let us know at trg@rnid.org.uk before submitting your application, as a short annex of additional questions must be completed for proposals involving these species.

If this is not applicable, please tick 'No' below and proceed to the next page.

Questions

Animal research: *Does your project involve the use of animals or animal tissue? (Yes/No) > (If Yes)*

Animal procedure severity: *What will be the severity of the procedures? (Please tick all that apply)*

Non-recovery: Procedures which are performed entirely under general anaesthesia from which the animal shall not recover consciousness shall be classified as 'non-recovery'.

Mild: Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience short-term mild pain, suffering or distress, as well as procedures with no significant

impairment of the well-being or general condition of the animals shall be classified as 'mild'.

Moderate: Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience short-term moderate pain, suffering or distress, or long-lasting mild pain, suffering or distress as well as procedures that are likely to cause moderate impairment of the well-being or general condition of the animals shall be classified as 'moderate'.

Severe: Procedures on animals as a result of which the animals are likely to experience severe pain, suffering or distress, or long-lasting moderate pain, suffering or distress as well as procedures that are likely to cause severe impairment of the well-being or general condition of the animals shall be classified as 'severe'.

Procedure details: *Please provide details of any moderate or severe procedures. If your procedures are non-recovery or mild, enter N/A.*

Genetic modification: *Does your research involve work with genetically modified animals? (Yes/No)*

Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body approval: *Has the necessary approval been given by the Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body? (Yes/No)*

Species, methods and sample size calculations: *Please give the following details (750 words max):*

a) *The species of animals to be used, justifying why this species is best for this project*
b) *The total number of animals to be used, justifying this number, and providing details of any sample size calculations or any other statistical advice you have sought.*
c) *Why non-animal alternatives are not possible in this project, and how you have considered the principles of the three Rs (replacement, refinement, and reduction of the use of animals in research) when designing your experiments.*
d) *Methods of anaesthesia and/or euthanasia to be used*

Animal research location: *Where will the animal work you are proposing take place? (inside the UK/outside of the UK)*

Use of animals outside the UK: *For proposals involving the use of animals outside the UK, does the proposed research comply with the guidance "Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Bioscience Research"?*

Animal welfare details: *For proposals involving the use of animals **outside the UK**, please briefly describe how animal welfare and animal research practices are monitored or inspected at your research institute to ensure compliance with all local and national regulations.*

Use of rodents in animal research outside the UK: *Does your research outside the UK involve the use of rodents? (Yes/No)*

Use of rodents: *Please download the additional questions on the use of rodents overseas and upload a completed version.*

Use of Human Patients and Tissue

Guidance

On this page you will be required to enter details of any work involving human volunteers or human tissue in your proposed research project (if applicable).

If this is not applicable, please tick 'No' below and proceed to the next page.

Questions

Human research: *Does your research involve work with human participants or human tissue? (Yes/No) > (If Yes)*

Ethical approval status: *Are the appropriate ethics approvals in place from the relevant authority in your country? (Yes/No) > (If No)*

Ethical approval details: *Please briefly detail (200 words max):*

A. *Your plan for obtaining necessary approval in order to conduct the study*
B. *How you will ensure that the time needed to obtain this will fit in with the project timeframe*

Please describe how you have taken factors such as age, sex, gender or ethnicity into account when designing your research project.
Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of characteristics which may be relevant (250 words max).

If you have not taken these factors into account when designing your project, please explain why this doesn't apply or is not feasible for your study.

You may find the following guidance useful: INCLUDE guidance on improving inclusion of under-served groups in clinical research

Please describe the proposed sex balance of human participants or samples/data relating to humans in your study.
If you do not plan to involve both male and female human participants (or samples/data from humans or animals) in your research, explain why (250 words max)

Please note that this question refers to biological sex.

Declaration

Guidance

On this page you will be required to confirm your commitment to the project and that the details provided in your application are a fair and accurate representation of the proposed project. It is very important that all co-applicants and collaborators named on the application have read the Data Protection Statement and are happy to be included.

Questions

Application: *I have read the RNID Translational Grant Call & Guidelines and, if the application is successful, agree to work closely with RNID staff as appropriate. As the lead scientific applicant I shall be actively engaged in and in day-to-day control of the project [tick box].*

Head of department: *My Head of Department (or equivalent if you are based at a company) has read this application and confirms that, if granted, the work will be accommodated and administered in the department/company [tick box].*

Licences and approvals: *All necessary licences and approvals have been or are being sought [tick box].*

Fair Processing Notice: *I have read the Fair Processing Notice of this application form about how RNID will use my personal data, and I give consent for my personal data to be used in this way, including for my data to be shared with reviewers based outside the EU if necessary [tick box].*

Co-applicants & collaborators: *I confirm that all named co-applicants and collaborators have read the completed application form and have given their consent to be included in the application [tick box].*

Collaborators Fair Processing Notice: *I confirm that all named collaborators have read the Fair Processing Notice about how RNID will use their personal data and have indicated to me that they give consent for their personal data to be used in this way, including for their data to be shared with reviewers based outside the EU if necessary [tick box].*

Administrative Authority Declaration

Guidance

On this page you will be required to approve submission of this application as the Administrative Authority, on behalf of the Host Institution.

As well as indicating below your approval of the application and that you agree to the Terms and Conditions, please update your contact details, in the menu on the left,

to include your position, and to link yourself with the Host Institution (under Organisation).

Questions

Administrative Authority declaration

- I confirm that the application has been submitted with the agreement and support of the Host Institution and, if awarded, the Host Institution will administer the grant which will be used only to support the work for which it was intended in the manner proposed.
- I confirm that I have read the Terms and Conditions on behalf of the Host Institution.
- I confirm that the Host Institution will endeavour to maintain support for the Head of Department's research team during the period of the grant.
- I also confirm there are no existing matters which would be a breach of any of the Terms and Conditions which have not been brought to your attention in writing.

Please provide full name, position, email address and telephone number.