

# NIHR Research Capability Funding (RCF): 2023-24 focused call

## Background and Guidance

Researchers at OUH and OU are invited to apply for RCF funding to help develop competitive grant applications for any of the following NIHR programmes, provided the final grant funding agreement will be held by OUH. RCF from this call will only be available to fund activities up to 31 March 2024, although it can be used to prepare for grant applications being submitted up to 31 July 2024.

* [Programme Grants for Applied Research](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/programme-grants-for-applied-research.htm) (PGfAR)
* [Research for Patient Benefit](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/research-for-patient-benefit.htm) (RfPB)
* [Health Technology Assessment](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/health-technology-assessment.htm) (HTA)
* [Health and Social Care Delivery Research](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/health-and-social-care-delivery-research.htm) (HSCDR)
* [Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/efficacy-and-mechanism-evaluation.htm) (EME)
* [Invention for Innovation](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/invention-for-innovation.htm) (i4i)
* [Policy Research Programme](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/funding-programmes/policy-research.htm) (PRP)

The purpose of this focused call is to enable researchers to fund backfill activities and provide additional time for development of NIHR grant applications. This investment is intended to facilitate success in securing NIHR research grants, which will also attract increased RCF funding to OUH in future years. The NIHR recognises this process as a ‘virtuous circle’.

Application forms will be reviewed by the RCF Panel, which will include senior researchers from OU as well as OUH who have a track record of successfully securing and delivering grants under the above programmes. The Panel will rank the applications in several domains and awards will be made to those which have the highest overall scores. Applications from any clinical areas will be considered, provided they are eligible for one of the specified grant programmes. The RCF funding requested should be in the range £20-£50k and the applicant must ensure that the activities can be initiated in time for them to be completed by 31 March 2024, because the RCF award to OUH cannot be carried forward to the next financial year.

Applicants must complete the specific form for this call (below) and submit this by email to ouh.rcf@nhs.net before the **deadline of 12 noon on Friday 29 September 2023**.

The RCF panel’s decision, which will be final, will be confirmed in writing to applicants by Monday 16 October and funding for successful applications will be available with immediate effect.

Please note that RCF will also continue to be available to support costs for staff working on NIHR projects incurred during parental and long-term sick leave up to 31 March 2024; applications can be submitted at any time using the separate form available [here](https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/research/researchers/research-capability-funding.aspx).

#  Research Capability Funding (RCF)

## Application form for 2023-24 focused call

This form is for the 2023-24 focused RCF call only. The purpose of this call is to facilitate greater success in securing NIHR research grants, which will be also eligible to attract RCF to OUH in future years.

Before completing the form, please read the guidance notes above.

This application form must be completed by the individual researcher who wishes to apply to OUH for RCF to fund their time (and/or that of colleagues) to develop a competitive bid (Stage 1 or Stage 2) they will be submitting for one of the seven NIHR programmes listed in the guidance notes. Completed applications must be countersigned by the applicant’s Clinical Director (OUH) or Head of Department (OU) and submitted by email to ouh.rcf@nhs.net by **12 noon on Friday 29 September 2023**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

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| **SECTION A: Applicant details** |
| **Name**  | **Address** |
|   |  |
| **Email address** | **Telephone number** |
|  |  |
| **Substantive employer:** **(select one)**  |  [ ]  Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust [ ]  University of Oxford  |
| **Type of contract held with OUH:****(select one)**  |  [ ]  Substantive [ ]  Honorary  [ ]  Other (please specify) |

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| **SECTION B: Details of intended grant application** |
| **Project (working) title** |  |
| **Grant programme****(select one)**  | [ ]  PGfAR [ ]  RfPB [ ]  HTA [ ]  HSCDR[ ]  EME [ ]  i4i [ ]  PRP  |
| **Submission deadline** | date /month /year [ ]  Actual [ ]  Estimated  |
| **Application stage** **(select one)**  | [ ]  Stage 1 [ ]  Stage 2 [ ]  Not applicable |
| **Link to grant call webpage (if available)** |  |
| **Summarise relationship to other completed or ongoing research (in less than 100 words)** |  |
| **Confirm that grant funding agreement will be held by OUH** | [ ]  Yes |
| **Expected total value of grant application (£)****(select one)**  | [ ]  less than 250,000 [ ]  250,000-500,000 [ ]  500,000-1,000,000 [ ]  1,000,000-2,000,000 [ ]  over 2,000,000[ ]  Not known  |
| **What will be the consequences if this request for RCF is not successful** |  |

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| **SECTION C: Details of post or posts to be supported – copy and paste this section as required if more than 1 post** |
| **Title of post** |
|  |
| **Name of postholder** |
|  |
| **Substantive employer (select one)**  |
| [ ]  Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust[ ]  University of Oxford |
| **OUH Division/Directorate or OU Department**  |
|  |
| **How post is currently funded** |
|  |
| **Total RCF support requested (£), including salary on-costs** |
|  |
| **Post band/grade** | **Full time equivalent support requested** |
|  |  |
| **Expected start date(day/month/year)** | **Duration of funding (must not extend beyond 31/03/2024)** |
|  |  |
| **Activities to be undertaken by postholder to develop competitive grant application** |
| [ ]  literature searches[ ]  patient and public involvement[ ]  determining recruitment feasibility [ ]  provision of specialist support (e.g. statistical support) in preparing the grant[ ]  assembling and writing grant application[ ]  administrative support to release applicant’s time to be spent on preparing grant application [ ]  other; please specify |

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| **SECTION D: OUH Clinical Director /OU Head of Department support****To be completed after Sections A-C** |
| **Signature:** **Print name:****Position:** |
| **Please confirm support, with justification** |
|  |

**Applicant Signature:**

**Print Name:**

**Date:**

**Please send the completed form to** **ouh.rcf@nhs.net** **by 12 noon on Friday 29 September 2023**