

## **Application and governance process for academic and industry partnership awards**

### **General Information**

These awards will enable the development of links between industrial partners and the FGx initiative. Industrial partners will be expected to provide matched funding (cash and/or in-kind). These awards can be used to support feasibility, pilot or initial studies to provide preliminary experiments to explore ideas and generate initial data which could support the development of competitive collaborative grant proposals for longer term projects. Each project will be in the range of £15-50K (and exceptionally £100k), with an expectation of equal (or greater) match from industry, and be 3-12 months in duration.

All funded projects need to align with the initiative's ongoing activities, and should build and strengthen collaborations between the FGx Initiative and industry through feasibility, pilot or initial studies, exploring ideas and generating initial data which could support the development of competitive collaborative grant proposals for longer term projects.

The standard [UKRI Terms and Conditions of Research Council Grants](#) and [MRC's Additional Terms and Conditions](#) will apply to this funding.

Projects could fall into several categories, including but not limited to:

1. Projects proposed by scientists who have signed-up to be FGx associate-researchers involving a collaboration with at least one industrial partner
2. Inter-cluster projects proposed by initiative members involving at least one industrial partner
3. Technology priming projects that support the initiative or a specific research cluster involving at least one industrial partner
4. Projects that offer to bring in specific knowledge or contributions to the initiative involving at least one industrial partner.

### **Eligibility**

Each application needs to be made jointly by at least one academic researcher and at least one company. Academics must be employed on a contract with their HEI which extends beyond the end of the funding period. To be eligible for an Industry Partnership Award, the academic applicant should be a FGx member or associate. To become an associate (at no cost or other commitments) scientists can sign-up on the FGx initiative website. We especially encourage applications involving UK based companies and SMEs. Overseas-based companies may also participate where a suitable company cannot be found in the UK and where it can be established that their involvement is necessary for the delivery of the aims of the project.

### **Timeline**

<b>9<sup>th</sup> July 2025</b>	<b>Grant call opens</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>	<b>Application deadline (midnight)</b>
<b>Mid October 2025</b>	<b>Review Panel meets</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> November 2025</b>	<b>Funding confirmed with applicants</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> January 2026</b>	<b>Earliest project start date</b>

**Application Process**

Applications will be collected through an online form hosted on the FGx initiative website. There will be an option to attach additional information (e.g. images relating to scientific proposal, budget details, letters of support/collaboration) in an appropriate file format. Applications can be submitted from 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025 until the deadline of midnight 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

**Review Process**

The [UKRI principles of assessment and decision making](#) will be used when reviewing and later deciding on the funding outcomes for each application. The key principles are: expert assessment, transparency, impartiality, appropriateness, confidentiality, integrity and ethics, equality, diversity and inclusion, separation of duties. The following steps will be followed:

**Outcome of Review Meeting**

All applications will be informed of the panel decision. Applicants can ask for any comments or feedback recorded as part of the review process. The agenda, minutes and comments section of the review forms will be retained under current MRC guidelines for documentation retention. Successful projects will be expected to complete a project agreement and set a start date within three months of the award.

**Project Agreement**

Template project agreements will be made available that can be adapted for each project. There will be different options for IP ownership to suit the requirements of different project proposals.

**Project Duration**

During the project successful applicants will be expected to provide a short quarterly update on progress for presentation at the FGx Executive Group meeting. Submission of this report will be required for funding for each quarter to be invoiced. At the end of the project a final project report is required and the applicants will be asked to present an overview of their project at the next FGx Scientific Symposium

**Draft application form for FGx initiative industry partnership award funding**

<b>1. Applicant Details:</b>			
Primary applicant		Primary applicant Email	
Organisation			
<b>2. Industry Collaborator or Applicant Details:</b>			
Primary Contact		Primary Contact Email	
Company			
Number of employees			
Company website URL			
<b>3. Project Details</b>			
Project Title			
Project duration (3-12 month)			
Scientific Proposal (max 1000 words)  Please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Background</li> <li>- Aims and objectives</li> <li>- Proposed methods</li> <li>- Data analysis plan</li> </ul>			
Describe the specific role of the company in the proposed project (max 500 words)			
Details of data-sharing plan with specific reference to the FGx Data Coordination Centre			
Summary of how this project supports the aims of FGx and how it relates to/interacts with existing activity in the initiative (max 300 words)			
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Summary of how this project supports the aims of FGx and how it relates to/interacts with existing activity in the initiative (max 300 words)			

Long-term impact of the research project and potential next steps (max 300 words)	
Details on matched funding provided by the company (stating if this is in kind/cash) (see ICF Guidance on Industry partner contributions)	
<b>4. IP Management</b>	
Proposed plan for IP management	
Have you shared the template agreement with your University IP office or legal department?	
Has your University IP office or legal department approved the template in principle?	

## Draft final report form for funded FGx industry partnership awards

The project evaluation report is essential to allow us to track the outputs of the awards made and may also contribute to decisions regarding future funding priorities. **Completing and returning this report is a condition of the project grant.**

1. Applicant Details:			
Primary applicant		Primary applicant Email	
Organisation			
What company partnered with you on this project?			
2. Project Details & Application Process			
Project Title			
Project Start & End Date			
How satisfied were you with the application process? Is there anything we can improve?	Not at all/Not very/Somewhat/Very/Extremely satisfied		
3. Project Achievements			
How successful was the project in achieving its objectives?	Greatly below/below/as expected/ above/greatly above expectations		
Please give an overview of your objectives and indicate whether they were completed or not. If certain objectives have not been achieved please detail why.			
Could anything have been done differently to achieve these objectives? Are there any plans to address the objectives that weren't met?			
How would you rate the project outputs?	Greatly below/below/as expected/ above/greatly above expectations		
Please give an overview of your projects research outputs.			
What actions have you taken to build on the research outputs of this project? For example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow on grant funding applications made/awarded</li> <li>Further collaborations with industrial partners and/or members of the FGx community</li> </ul>			

5. Collaboration	
What benefits has the project team seen from engaging with the initiative?	
6. Any Other Comments	
Is there anything else you would like us to know?	