

Application and governance process for FGx small-scale project funds

General Information

These awards will be open to academics based at universities and research institutes across the UK, providing us with an opportunity to exploit emerging opportunities and enabling additional research teams to join the wider initiative. Each project will be in the range of £15-50K (and exceptionally £100k) 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 awardees 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
2. Inter cluster projects proposed by initiative members
3. Technology priming projects that support the initiative or a specific research cluster
4. Projects that offer to bring in specific knowledge or contributions to the initiative

Eligibility

To be eligible for Small Project Funding 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. Academics must be employed on a contract with their HEI which extends beyond the end of the funding period.

Conditions of awards

Funded projects will be expected to sign-up to data-sharing standards established by the FGx DCC (including sharing of protocols on protocols.io, experimental meta-data, raw data and code). They will also be invited to present their results at the FGx Scientific Symposium and write a short project overview for the FGx initiative website.

Timeline

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

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 the time the call is announced until the deadline set for each call. A draft application form can be found at the end of this appendix.

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.