

Industry Partnership Development Bursary

Application Deadline: The FGx Industry Partnership Development Bursary is open for applications now. Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis until the funding pot has been used.

Award Value: Up to £1500 per award

Overview

The FGx Industry Partnership Development Bursary supports academics working in human functional genomics to build meaningful, sustainable partnerships with industry.

This scheme provides flexible funding to enable researchers to initiate or strengthen collaborations with industry partners across biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, digital health, clinical genomics, data science, and related sectors.

The bursary aims to:

- Accelerate translation of functional genomics research into real-world impact
- Foster academia–industry collaboration
- Support knowledge exchange and co-development
- Increase competitiveness for joint funding applications

Scope of Support

Funding may be used for:

- UK travel to visit industry partners
- Accommodation and subsistence associated with partnership-building activities
- Attendance at industry-focused conferences, trade meetings, or partnering events
- Registration fees for industry-specific events
- Short secondments or exploratory visits (where appropriate and justified)

The bursary cannot be used for:

- Direct research costs (e.g., consumables, equipment, salaries)
- Overheads
- Retrospective claims for activities already completed

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Hold an academic position (including postdoctoral researchers, fellows, lecturers, or professors) at an eligible institution
- Be actively engaged in research within human functional genomics (e.g., gene regulation, multi-omics integration, CRISPR screening, single-cell genomics, functional variant interpretation, computational genomics, translational genomics)
- Demonstrate a clear plan to engage with industry
- Complete an impact and outcomes form
- Engage in periodic monitoring requests to track and measure impact

Early and mid-career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply.

Expected Outcomes

Applications should demonstrate how the bursary will:

- Initiate or strengthen a partnership with a defined industry partner
- Lead to tangible outcomes (e.g., joint grant application, co-supervised studentship, collaborative research agreement, pilot project, licensing discussions, consultancy, or knowledge exchange programme)
- Enhance the translational impact of the applicant's functional genomics research

Awardees will be required to submit a short impact and outcomes report within 3 months of completing funded activities.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed on:

1. Clarity and feasibility of the proposed industry engagement
2. Strategic alignment between the research and industry partner
3. Potential for long-term collaboration or impact
4. Value for money
5. Benefit to the applicant's career development

How to Apply

Submit the completed application form (below) and a short CV (2 pages maximum) to:

fgxfunding@exeter.ac.uk