

GENERAL BREAST CANCER UK GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Background

Breast Cancer UK's mission is to prevent breast cancer through scientific research, collaboration, education and policy change.

Advances in early detection and treatment mean that fewer people are dying from breast cancer, but the number of those diagnosed with breast cancer remains high. Today, around 1 in 7 women in the UK will experience breast cancer at some point in their lives.

Formed in April 1999, we became a registered charity in August 2001. Since then, we have grown rapidly. Today, we work with funders, networks and partners across the UK and Europe to facilitate primary breast cancer prevention.

Breast Cancer UK's vision is to create a world where everyone is empowered to reduce their breast cancer risk. Our mission is to lead a movement to empower individuals, advance scientific research, and reshape policy to reduce breast cancer risk for all.

Cancer rates have increased significantly over recent decades. During this period, it has become routine to add synthetic chemicals to everyday products, from household cleaners and personal care products to the materials that come into contact with our food and drink.

Breast Cancer UK wants to reduce everyone's exposure to cancer causing and hormone disrupting chemicals that may accumulate in our bodies and seriously affect our health, including by potentially increasing the risk of breast cancer.

We prioritise funding and commissioning of research that helps to understand the impact of environmental chemicals on breast cancer risk. We believe this area of breast cancer prevention is underfunded.

Please note: our grants programme does not support research into breast cancer treatment.

More information on Breast Cancer UK can be found at www.breastcanceruk.org.uk

Applications for Grant Funding - Submission requirements

- Grants will be allocated to provide financial assistance for scientific and research activities that demonstrate a contribution to Breast Cancer UK's strategic objective to invest in research into the environmental causes of breast cancer, including the link between environmental chemicals and breast cancer risk.

- Consistent with Breast Cancer UK's view that there should be a transition away from *in vivo* animal testing, we will only consider funding for research which relies on Replacement Methods of testing. Please see our [policy on animal experimentation](#) for more details.
- Breast Cancer UK will only fund projects which are ethically approved. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that ethical issues relating to the research project are identified and brought to the attention of the relevant approval or regulatory body. Approval to undertake the research must be granted before any work, requiring approval, begins.
- Applications must be accompanied by a statement demonstrating that ethical approval has been acquired or is being sought (or a statement explaining why ethical approval is not required). Where necessary, Breast Cancer UK may ask for further details on ethical justification for the research. Further information on ethical approval can be found on the UK Research and Innovation website at <https://www.ukri.org/>.
- Breast Cancer UK welcome applications that include the use of clinical samples from breast cancer patients and matched samples from appropriate controls, provided ethical approval has been granted.
- Breast Cancer UK will prioritise grant applications that include strong active collaborations between different scientific institutions/teams/fields, present clear future planning for continuation of research and maximise planning for public awareness of their results.
- Applicants must ensure that the research supported by the grant complies with all relevant Breast Cancer UK policies as well as wider legislation and Government regulation, including that introduced while work is in progress. This requirement includes approval or license from any regulatory body that may be required before the research can commence.
- Studentships included in applications should encompass full costings including any UK tuition fees, research support fees and a stipend as described below. Breast Cancer UK does not support the costs associated with international tuition fees.
- When a studentship forms part of the grant application, the applicants must ensure the student is paid a stipend of at least the standard UKRI rate, this should be included in cost analysis.
- When completing the full cost analysis, applicants should take into account any reasonable annual cost increases that may arise throughout the duration of the project (such as inflation or annual price increments to consumables).
- Funding can be used for staffing (directly incurred), studentships (Career Development Award specifically), equipment and consumables, but not for any overhead costs (such as estates or indirect).
- The Applicant is expected to adopt the Universal Ethical Code for Scientists and to ensure that the principles of Good Scientific Practice are upheld.

- Applicants must demonstrate how their project supports the broader aims and objectives of Breast Cancer UK.
- Applications will be assessed on the information provided which should clearly meet the Grants criteria as outlined below. Please use the template provided.
- Breast Cancer UK reserves the right to reject, fully fund or partially fund any applications for grant funding.
- Where Breast Cancer UK offers career coaching as an additional item to an award, this is external to Breast Cancer UK. Successful grant applicants who are offered coaching as part of their award should seek coaching that they feel most appropriate for their stage of career, however Breast Cancer UK requires that the coach is accredited and is a regulated professional (they should be members of the International Coaching Federation).
- All successful applicants (whether fully funded or partially funded) must abide by the [terms and conditions](#) provided by Breast Cancer UK.
- Applicants can apply to both funding streams should they wish to.
- In submitting a proposal for funding, please ensure that:
 - You make a compelling case for your proposed research.
 - The proposal is clear, concise and readily understood by others outside your immediate scientific field.
 - The proposal includes aims clearly defined at the start, headings and subheadings as appropriate, background information, experimental design, outcomes and timescales.
 - You provide relevant and accurate quotes in the costings analysis where appropriate.
 - You minimise the use of abbreviations, acronyms and technical jargon.
 - When acronyms or abbreviations are used you define them when they are first used.
 - When the application is linked to other projects, you provide detail of what work is already funded and be clear about what exactly you are seeking funding for.
 - Appropriate references are included.
 - You clearly state the relationship and tasks of each collaborating co-applicant/institution/team.