

Priorities for supporting research grants at UHBristol

This trust supports research which can demonstrate a link to improving the care we provide to patients. We have a duty to ensure that the research carried out in our trust is of the highest quality.

NIHR grants

Our highest priority is given to supporting research grants awarded to UHBristol by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and NIHR portfolio studies in which we participate as a recruiting site. These grants all undergo a rigorous standardised peer review process and are awarded in open competition. The research costs in NIHR grants are fully funded and additionally attract research capability funding, which allows us to invest in new and existing areas of research and develop them further with the potential to draw in further NIHR grant funding as well as supporting our sponsorship costs.

NIHR partner grants including large charities and research councils

We also support peer reviewed grants awarded in open competition to our staff by NIHR partner organisations, including large charities and research councils, which are eligible for the NIHR portfolio. We also support studies run through our NIHR Biomedical Research Units and CLAHRC. Non-NIHR awarded grants do not attract research capability funding, but direct costs of NHS research will be fully met. Usually we will recommend that you consider submitting large charity and research council funded grants through a partner university in preference, since their infrastructure is best able to support these types of applications.

Small local grants

We support studies funded by our smaller hospital charities, in particular Above and Beyond, which funds a small grants scheme. Applications for both Above and Beyond and UHBristol Research Capability Funding are awarded in open competition by the UHBristol Research Funding Committee, and these pump priming grants are peer reviewed by members of the committee before they are awarded. We would expect that all research costs are met by small grant funding. Grants awarded through the David Telling Trust need to undergo peer-review before we can Sponsor the project; costs need to be fully covered and appropriate methodological advice given.

Methodological support is available for all of the above named funding streams via the Research Design Service and can be accessed via our Research Grants Manager.

Student Research

As a University Hospital we are committed to developing our staff and support student research where it is appropriately sponsored, designed and supervised. Research costs should be fully met and methodological advice must be provided by the project supervisor or within the research team.

Commercial Grants

Grants awarded by industry in support of a particular project should be fully costed, including sponsorship costs, research costs, support costs and treatment costs. It is essential to discuss the protocol and associated costs for any grants of this type with R&I before agreeing them with the funder.

'Own account' research

This type of research may be supported if it is fully funded and can demonstrate a clear pathway to a change in service or a high quality grant application in the future. We would always seek peer review before agreeing to support this research. Researchers should ensure they are able to secure appropriate methodological and statistical support, as this is not provided by the trust.