

Research Fund Seed Grants FAQ 2025/26

Question	Answer
Why is vascular not a primary focus of this funding?	The charity primary objective is advancing care for heart and lung patients, therefore including all research in stroke, renovascular, hypertension, peripheral vascular disease, venous insufficiency, ophthalmology would not be core to our mission.
Would we accept bids for vascular projects?	Yes if the project primarily focuses on health outcomes for cardio or respiratory disease patients.
Am I eligible to do research as part of a doctorate?	This application round is for completely new projects. This can't be part of an existent PhD studentship or fellowship.
Will applications be accepted before IRAS applications?	To complete the IRAS application, you need to have secured the funding. That's the requirement when you submit research approvals. We therefore don't expect you to submit to IRAS before you have secured funding through us. Our timeline is to announce which projects will be awarded funding by the end of October. The project delivery window will start in January/February 2025 to give three months to secure any relevant approvals.
Can the funding be used to fund a full-time post?	Yes, so long as their time is solely used on the research project, and the budget allows for it (maximum £40k grant available)
How can we contact the HLCC GC research office?	Please contact: research.grants@rbht.nhs.uk
Also, are you allowed to give participants vouchers for their time?	Yes, funds can be used to give participants vouchers.
I wasn't quite clear from the form if one needed to have a bigger funding grant already secured at the time of application?	You do not need to have a named funder secured at the time of application, but all projects must have a plan for larger funding. A clear fundraising plan must be submitted for a project to be considered and applications will be scored on this.
Who should the sponsor be?	The project sponsor could be the Trust or an academic institution. Think about who are you going to submit your further funding application to, and choose the most appropriate, as some funders will only fund academic institutions.
May I submit a proposed budget for review with the HLCC CG research development team before	Yes, or with the relevant department, if not employed at the HLCC Clinical Group.

completion of sponsorship review?	
Can this fund cover the cost of a contractor?	Yes, so long as all the funded time is being used to deliver the research project.
Can this funding be used to hire new staff part time rather than getting ringfenced time for someone who is already employed by the Trust	This grant can cover staffing costs, and it is fine to use funding to hire new part time staff, for the duration of the grant.
Is there a limit on the number of collaborators we can include?	The form has a limit of four but has the option for you to list more names below if there are more than four and will be in touch for more details.