

Imaging BioProNetwork

Proof of Concept Award (PoCA) – Guidance for Application

Outline:

Funding is available to ImagingBioPro network members only, please [join](#) before applying. The goals of funding are:

- stimulate new collaborations between network members
- integrate research activity across traditional research disciplines

We are strongly focused on facilitating preliminary work to support full funding applications. All awards will be short term and used to establish new collaborations and carry out the scoping work, which will lead to future full research proposals.

We focus on projects which integrate advances in engineering and physical science technologies with the necessary life science understanding, and also encourage integration with industrial partners (see the [Technology Touching Life](#) (TTL) UKRI initiative under which we operate).

Key Features:

- Funding value total ~£21k/PoCA and includes:
 - up to 2-month PDRA salary (at UCL rate: £17.5k, including overheads)
 - up to £1500 for research consumables
 - up to £2000 for travel and subsistence
- Funding is paid at 80% FEC, which goes to the PIs' institution to manage as appropriate (under normal UKRI terms and conditions). Costings must be approved by the PIs' academic institution.
- Applications must be interdisciplinary, involving **at least** two disciplines (one from the home and one from the host institute), and have clearly defined deliverables and impact.
- The applicant researcher(s) should work in the host laboratory, different to their current place of work (exceptions considered during pandemic).
- Early Career Researcher (ECR) engagement is strongly encouraged. PDRAs can be named as PI or CoI provided that they have a contract of employment with the academic institution for the duration of the grant prior to application.
- The PI must be from a UK academic institution, which can be either the 'home' or 'host' institute for the PoCA.
- PhD student involvement must follow [UKRI guidelines](#), limiting the hours they can work. Their salary cannot be requested in project costings.

- Project must be completed, reported and invoiced by 31st January 2022.

Funding Criteria:

Applications will be assessed based on their fit to the following criteria:

- Scientific excellence
- Inter-disciplinary
- Fit to [Technologies Touching Life remit](#)
- Involvement of early career researchers
- At least one academic partner or a UKRI funded partner (ie. Large facilities).
- Clear future impacts
- Likelihood to lead to further funding

Terms and Conditions:

All funded projects must agree to abide by the full terms and conditions of award as detailed in this document. **Please note, all projects must:**

- Comply with UKRI data sharing policy and upload non-IP sensitive data to Network web portal in accordance with [UKRI data policy](#).
- Complete an initial report on project outcomes (within 2 months of completing the project) and 1year follow-up report
- Respond to requests to support the ResearchFish submission for the network
- Present at the subsequent IBP network meeting/workshop
- Acknowledge the MRC/EPSRC/BBSRC ImagingBioPro grant (MR/R025673/1) in all publications arising from these exchanges (i.e.: stating “This work was funded in part by the MRC/EPSRC/BBSRC ImagingBioPro grant MR/R025673/1).

Application Submission:

Completed applications should be emailed to Imagingbiopro@gmail.com by 14th May 2021 (check website to see if an extension has been set). Please use the subject header: “PoCA2 Application <Name> <Institution>”

For any network related queries, please email: Imagingbiopro@gmail.com