**NIHR Imperial Biomedical Research Centre (BRC)**

**NIHR Imperial BRC Immunology Research Fellowship Guidelines 2024**

**Applications by email to** [antonia.gould@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:antonia.gould@imperial.ac.uk) **by 5pm 28th June 2024 for consideration in the July Theme Meeting**

Applications are invited for Research Fellowships, supported by the NIHR Imperial BRC Immunology Theme. Fellowships will provide flexible salary support for excellent trainees, committed to pursuing an academic research career, where there is a clear path to ongoing academic training.

**1. Scope and Criteria**

**Proposals will be assessed against the following key criteria:**

* The academic track record of the applicant
* Are the objectives clear?
* Is the project value for money?
* Is there a well-developed plan for next-stage career funding? *(Please note that as part of our assessment we will carefully consider if an applicant is likely to get external fellowship funding)*
* Strategic alignment of the proposed research, and/or career path, with BRC Immunology theme objectives

**Additional criteria that will be considered:**

* Co-funded proposals will be welcomed (e.g. matched-funding contributions).
* Track record of the proposed Fellow and supervisor in acknowledging the BRC in prior publications.
* Cross-BRC Theme and cross-Department/Faculty engagement is encouraged.

**2. Fellowship Costings**

* Salary costs should be calculated using WorkTribe. Departments should select internal Scheme and costings will need to have been agreed in outline by the relevant Department (an e-mail signifying this will suffice). The WorkTribe record should be attached to your application with the budget broken down in financial years (Apr-Mar). Carryover of budget across financial years is not automatic.
* BRC Fellowships will not normally be funded for more than 12 months,unless there is a strong strategic case and co-funding available.
* Applications should include all necessary PPIE costs.
* Animal costs, and equipment are ineligible for support.
* Awards will not support any estate costs, indirect costs or other staff time.
* Fellows must adhere to all BRC contractual terms and conditions.
* External collaboration and the use of external samples and datasets are permitted. However, all expenditure must be incurred within the Imperial BRC (College or ICHT).

**3. Eligibility**

We welcome applications from any scientific background (e.g. non-clinical, trainee doctors, NMaHP), and across training stages (pre-doctoral, post-doctoral), and can provide support appropriate to career stage. Fellows would normally be working as part of a research group within or closely aligned to the NIHR Imperial BRC Immunology Theme.

The proposed Fellow would hold an employment contract with either Imperial College London or Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust.

*Example* fellowships might include:

* 6 to 12 months Post-Doctoral support to a non-clinical scientist to prepare and submit an Intermediate Fellowship application
* 6 to 12 months pre-doctoral support to a physician or NMaHP to collate pilot data & submit a Clinical Research Training Fellowship application
* 6 to 12 months support to a Post-Doctoral clinician, funding their research time (50% effort) with matched funds, as bridge to an NIHR Academic Clinical Lectureship

There must be a clear plan to obtain follow-on funding to continue academic training. The BRC Immunology Theme Management Committee welcome applications to co-fund training in partnership with individual research groups or departments.

**4. Application Review**

Proposals should include:

- a covering letter,

- applicant CV,

- completed application form,

- letters of support from sponsors

- WorkTribe Costing

- Evidence of any submitted fellowships (if applicable)

All to be submitted to [antonia.gould@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:antonia.gould@imperial.ac.uk)

Applications will be assessed by the Immunology Theme Management Committee at the July meeting. Sections 4, 7 and 8 of the application will be reviewed by our Community Partners so must be written in lay language. Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the criteria outlined above. Applicants can expect to be notified by August 2024.

**5. Reporting & Monitoring Requirements**

A brief final report showing outputs and deliverables achieved with this funding will be expected within 1 month of project end date.

**6. Acknowledgement of BRC Funding**

All publications arising from BRC-funded work (either fully or in-part) must [acknowledge support](https://imperialbrc.nihr.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Acknowledgments-Leaflet-current.pdf) by the NIHR Imperial BRC. Failure to do so can result in funding being withdrawn.

**7. Enquiries**

Pre-submission enquiries are encouraged. General enquiries relating to the scope and objectives of this call should be directed to the Theme Leads Matthew Pickering [matthew.pickering@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.pickering@imperial.ac.uk) and/or Nichola Cooper [n.cooper@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:n.cooper@imperial.ac.uk)