

NU INTERNAL FUNDING
NEWCASTLE WELLCOME TRUST TRANSLATIONAL PARTNERSHIP
EARLY TRANSLATIONAL FUNDING
APPLICATION GUIDELINES 2020

PLEASE READ THE WHOLE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE APPLYING

1. INTRODUCTION

The Newcastle Wellcome Trust Translational Partnership (WTTP) aims to increase Newcastle University's translational activity by providing researchers with mentorship, support and expertise to advance the translation of scientific discoveries towards real world impact. The Partnership focuses on supporting researchers in the early stages of translational research to overcome initial barriers.

In addition to providing funding for a project, researchers on projects will be invited to participate in a Translational Explorer Portfolio, a bespoke package of training, shadowing and placements designed to develop the researcher skills and knowledge in translational research.

2. ELIGIBILITY, SCOPE AND FUNDING LIMITS

Eligibility: Applications are invited from Newcastle University staff and honorary staff members that have been a **named applicant on a recent Wellcome Trust grant** (excluding the Humanities and Social Science funding scheme). PDRAs that are currently employed on Wellcome Trust funded grants are eligible to lead applications with the permission and supervision of the PI on the grant.

Scope: Funding is available to support projects to overcome barriers that exist early in the translation pathway and thereby enable access to the next stage of research and funding. The intention is NOT to fund an entire project to adoption in a clinical or commercial setting. WTTP will support a broad range of activities aimed at enabling translational research.

Examples of eligible activity include, but are not limited to:

- Laboratory studies to gather feasibility data.
- Analysis of data, application of statistics to develop translational opportunities.
- Market research, intellectual property reviews, freedom to operate or regulatory guidance.
- Skills development via secondments, placements, people exchanges, or specialist training.
- Development of policy and implementation of best practices.

Whilst the scheme welcomes collaboration with industry where appropriate, applications should not seek to undertake research prescribed by/on behalf of a company.

Duration: Up to 6 months

Start Date: Projects are expected to start between January and March 2021.

Value: Up to £10k

3. APPLICATION AND ASSESSMENT PROCESS

There is a one-stage application process. Applicants should complete the application form and submit it to WTTranslationalPartnership@newcastle.ac.uk by **4pm, 2nd November 2020**.

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Interested applicants may discuss their application with Dr Dale Athey, Senior Translator in Residence and Dr Emma Campbell, Translational Research Funding Development Manager prior to submitting, by emailing WTTranslationalPartnership@newcastle.ac.uk to arrange a suitable time.

Applications will be reviewed and recommended for funding by the WTP Operations Group. Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

Project Aims	Do the aims of the project align with the WTP strategy and are they achievable?
Project Detail	Are the plans realistic and are the appropriate resources identified? Is it clear what success looks like? Are there risks in the project? Is the right team in place?
Translational Opportunity	Will the project move the team closer to translation? What is the potential commercial or clinical impact of the project?
Benefit from the WTP	Will the applicant benefit from the wider offering of the WTP? Are barriers and gaps identified?

Projects that are recommended for funding will be notified by 4th December 2020. Applicants will then be asked to complete the standard University Project Initiation Form and have the proposal fully costed by their relevant Research Officer, prior to receiving formal notification of the award.

4. POST-AWARD MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW

Following confirmation of a project's funding award, if appropriate a project set-up meeting will be arranged to review the details of the experiments to be conducted, the stated outcomes, and the milestone go/no go decisions for successful progression through the project. The meeting will be attended by the investigative team, the Translator in Residence, Translational Funding Development Manager and the BDM, and others as deemed necessary.

All required approvals must be in place before funded projects can start.

Researchers on the programme will be invited to participate in a Translational Explorer Portfolio, a bespoke training opportunity that offers mentoring, access to training, shadowing and placements to enhance the researcher's knowledge and experience of translational research around their research project.

5. EVALUATION/REPORTING

All awardees must provide information at specific points during the project and for several years after its completion (as required by Wellcome Trust). Reporting requirements include:

- A progress report during the project as required.
- A project completion report.
- Annual updates on outputs, follow-on funding applications (submitted/awarded), publications, patents (applications/published), impact activities, industrial collaborations, and spin-out companies that are directly related to the project. (*N.B This information is required by the Wellcome Trust to be included in the award's annual report as well as for renewal of funding application*).
- Written case studies (as requested internally and/or by the Wellcome Trust).

If awardees do not contribute to the reporting requirements, they will not be eligible to apply for WTP Funding in future award years.

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6. ENQUIRIES

If you have any questions about the scheme, please direct these in the first instance to Emma Campbell, Translational Research Funding Development Manager, on WTTranslationalPartnership@newcastle.ac.uk.

APPLICATION FLOWCHART

