Royal Academy
of Engineering

Frontiers Seed Funding Application Guidance Notes

Deadline:
17 February 2025, 4.00pm (GMT)

Send any questions to
Frontiers@raeng.org.uk

Seed funding overview

With this funding, we aim to support collaborations established within the Frontiers Symposium to address specific challenges and contribute to Sustainable Development Goals. It is a chance for groups of two or more Symposium delegates to explore something new. The projects must be interdisciplinary, pilot-stage and challenge-based.

Award up to £20,000	Funded period up to 12 months	Projects must start on 10 March 2025

At least 2 team members must be Symposium delegates	Application deadline 17 February 2025, 4.00pm (GMT)

Project activities

The funding could support, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- Gaining preliminary data for a new project between two or more Frontiers symposium participants.
- Developing a further consortium or workshop between two or more Frontiers symposium participants, plus additional participants who did not attend the event.
- Acquiring data by supporting graduate students to work within the research groups of two or more participants.
- Developing a prototype or exploring a new partnership between two or more symposium participants.

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Application and award process

Funding opens for applications: 7 February

Applicants work in collaboration with partners and insitutions to agree details

**Deadline for submissions via grants.raeng.org.uk:
17 February, 4.00pm (BST time)**

Eligibility checks: 18 February

Please reserve some time on these dates in case we need to clarify eligibility questions

Applicants notified on the results: 28 February

Award agreements generated for successful applicants by 3 March

Please note information on financial and other details (and due diligence forms if applicable) will be requested to generate agreements
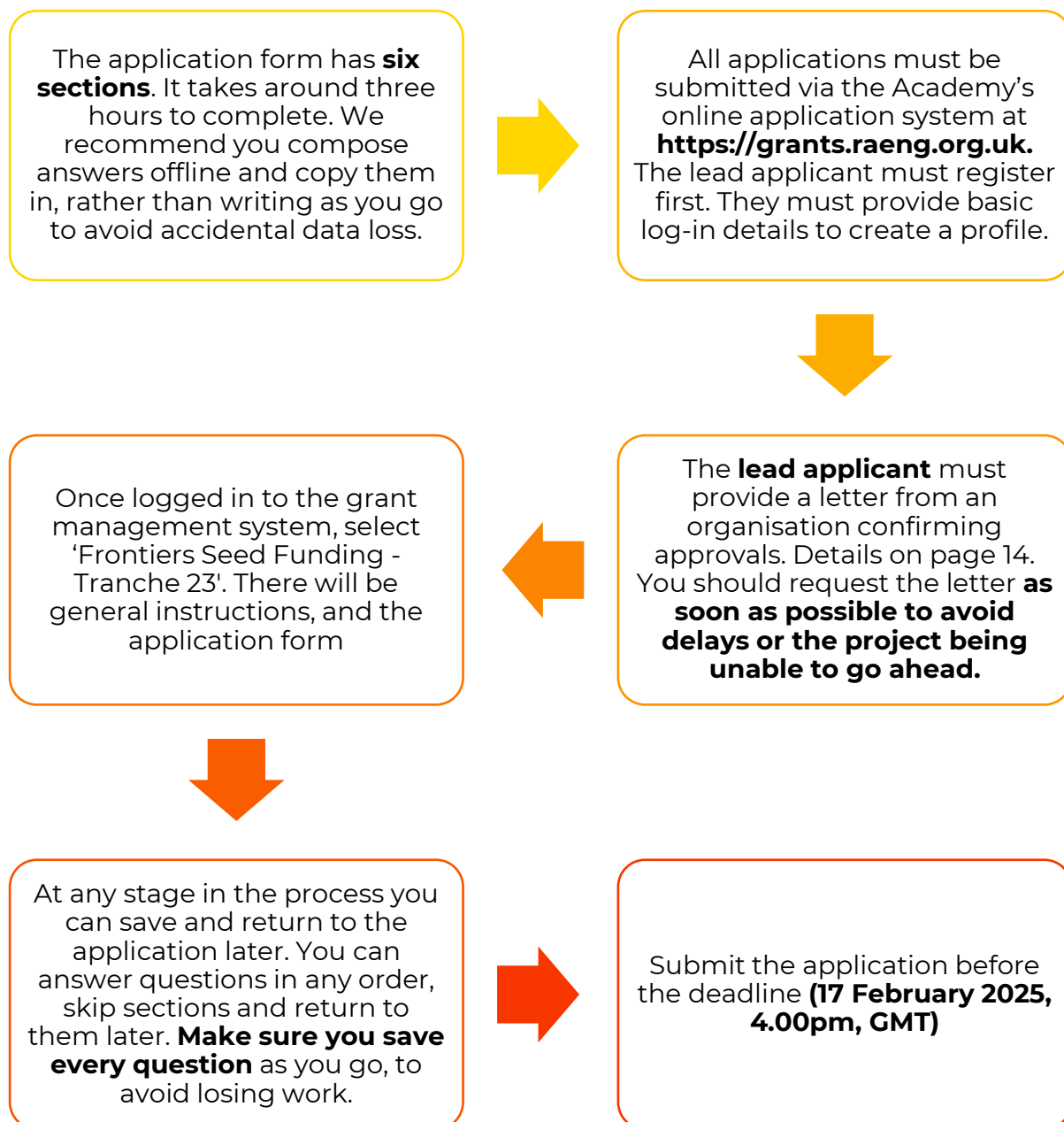
Deadline for agreement signature: 10 March

Project begins and initiation report submitted by 10 March

Eligibility criteria – who can apply for funding?

This funding is to promote a new collaboration between Frontiers symposium participants. The following criteria apply to teams and projects:

☐ The team should have at least **two members** (including the lead applicant) who **attended the Symposium** in February 2025.

☐ The team must include at least **one member based in the UK or an ODA Partner Country**. Once this eligibility is met, the team may include people from other countries. A team member from any country can lead the project.

☐ The team should be a **newly formed** partnership. Its members should not have worked on the proposed project together before.

☐ The project must address challenges in one or more of the **ODA Partner Countries**:

- **Africa**: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.
- **Asia**: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Yemen.
- **Caribbean and Latin America**: Haiti, Brazil.
- **Middle East**: Türkiye, Egypt, Jordan.
- **Pacific**: Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

☐ The project must be **interdisciplinary, pilot-stage and challenge-based**.

☐ The project must progress towards one or more of the **SDGs**

☐ Projects must not harm **gender equality**, and where possible promote it (even when impacting gender equality is not the primary research or innovation objective). This will be considered in the application review.

☐ The lead applicant must be affiliated with an **organisation** that can administer the funding on their behalf.

How to apply

The application form has **six sections**. It takes around three hours to complete. We recommend you compose answers offline and copy them in, rather than writing as you go to avoid accidental data loss.

All applications must be submitted via the Academy's online application system at **https://grants.raeng.org.uk.** The lead applicant must register first. They must provide basic log-in details to create a profile.

The **lead applicant** must provide a letter from an organisation confirming approvals. Details on page 14. You should request the letter **as soon as possible to avoid delays or the project being unable to go ahead.**

Once logged in to the grant management system, select 'Frontiers Seed Funding - Tranche 23'. There will be general instructions, and the application form

At any stage in the process you can save and return to the application later. You can answer questions in any order, skip sections and return to them later. **Make sure you save every question** as you go, to avoid losing work.

Submit the application before the deadline **(17 February 2025, 4.00pm, GMT)**

Project budget

Projects may be awarded up to £20,000 per award. The total project budget may exceed the maximum funding participants can request under this scheme. The participating institutions or other sources must meet additional costs. If this is the case, the contribution of each institution/source should be stated.

Eligible expenses include the following:

- Staff costs for lead applicants, co-applicants and collaborators.
- Small stipends, typically not exceeding 5% of the total grant, can cover expenses that enable people to engage in the project. This might include, for example, local community groups, indigenous people, women, young people, or students. It should not usually cover costs for project team members, which should be included as staff costs.
- Travel and subsistence. Subsistence costs should reflect the normal rates applied at the host institution/s. All other costs should be based on the best value option. Exchanges can include breaks between visits, which should not be considered when calculating the requested funding.
- Consumables, including project-specific costs of small equipment, computer software licenses or publication costs. No single item may cost more than £10,000.
- 'Other costs', which include conferences and seminar fees.
- Necessary service provisions related to the project, such as translation or IT services.
- The host institution(s) can include up to 10% of the grant as a contribution to project management, administrative and other running costs. The award funds can be dispersed to different project partners as appropriate for the project activities.

There is no set limit on how much you can claim between the directly incurred cost headings.

Sometimes, the proposed costs may need to deviate from these parameters. If this applies to you, please discuss eligibility with the Academy team, who can approve your plans on a case-by-case basis.

The following costs are not eligible:

- Funding activities outside of the project objectives and scope.
- Funding activities contrary to the values of the Royal Academy of Engineering.
- Loans, further grants or revolving funds.
- Infrastructure, buildings, large physical assets and vehicles over the value of £10,000.
- Facilities, such as air conditioning units, office buildings, furniture, etc.
- The funding cannot cover any indirect costs or overheads related to staff costs.

Things to consider

Lead Applicant person specification:

The lead applicant should be at an early or mid-career stage, usually up to 20 years postdoc. As a guide, they will not typically have reached professorship. Consideration is always given to those who have taken a non-standard career path or career break.

More established researchers can be involved in the project but will usually take an advisory position. We expect the lead applicant to be the researcher who will undertake most of the project work.

Interdisciplinarity

Interdisciplinary research is defined as "a mode of research by teams or individuals that integrates information, data, techniques, tools, perspectives, concepts, and/or theories from two or more disciplines or bodies of specialised knowledge to advance fundamental understanding or to solve problems whose solutions are beyond the scope of a single discipline or area of research practice."[1] The Symposium can help you find collaborators from different disciplines by filtering by discipline on the networking page. Alternatively, speak to one of the Frontiers team for support.

Some things to consider when designing your project:
- Take time to learn the language of other disciplines, don't assume that your collaborators understand the language of your field.
- Take note of all the collaborators different expectations and motivations for the project, as well as how each collaborator would define 'success'.

Diversity policy and monitoring

The Royal Academy of Engineering is committed to diversity and inclusion and welcomes applications from all underrepresented groups across engineering. It is the Academy's policy to ensure that no applicant is disadvantaged or receives less favourable treatment because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

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[1] Committee on Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research, Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (2004). *Facilitating interdisciplinary research*. National Academies. Washington: National Academy Press, p. 2

Before you commence your application, you will be asked a few diversity monitoring questions to help the Academy monitor and assess our diversity and inclusion policy. It will only be used for statistical purposes with access restricted to staff involved in processing and monitoring the data. No information will be published or used in any way that identifies individuals. The Academy will retain personal information as per our Data Retention Policy in line with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018.

The information will be treated as strictly confidential, nonattributable and will not be seen by anyone involved in any selection processes. You will need to complete the diversity monitoring section before you can see the grant application form, but can choose "prefer not to say" as responses.

In addition, in this round, we ask all applicants to consider the impact of their proposed activities on people of different genders. This could include any measures you have put in place to ensure equal opportunities, any expected impacts on different groups, or any outcomes or outputs you will measure disaggregated by gender. Please consider this all the way through your project planning, especially in the scoping stages, so that it is embedded from the beginning.

Equitable partnerships

The Academy is committed to promoting equitable practices in the design, delivery and dissemination of research and innovation projects. Some things to consider when designing and collaborating on your project:

- Ensure transparency by establishing a partnership agreement within the initial three months of your project.
- Account for the time required to build international partnerships, especially remotely, and build a generous timeline into your project.
- Think about whether your project includes a diverse set of perspectives.
- Think about how to embed equality into the division of labour in the project.

For further resources on equitable partnerships please visit the UKCDR Equitable partnerships resource hub and refer to the Global Code of Conduct for Research in Resource Poor Settings.

Learn from previous Frontiers awardees!

The Frontiers programme has developed resources in collaboration with programme alumni, that cover diverse topics relating to how projects work best. Visit the Frontiers resource library to learn from those who went before you, from

tips and tricks that enable remote research, how to get your project off the ground, and how to work across sectors, disciplines and cultures.

National Security

The Academy is the UK's National Academy for engineering and technology and seeks to increase the potential positive benefit that innovations can have for society, whilst reducing the risks of harm. Hence, in all our activities, we seek to minimise the risk that technology developed as part of work that we support could be misused by a foreign state to build a capacity to target UK interests in a hostile fashion or to control or repress their population. There is a risk that for some grant activities, failure to protect IP and a lack of due diligence into collaborators could result in sensitive technology being transferred to and misused by a hostile or repressive foreign state. As such all applicants should ensure they are familiar with the Academy's [Policy on National Security-Related Risks](#).

Research involving human participants or tissue

Research, development and innovation involving human participants, human material or personal data can contribute to a better understanding of human health and disease as well as the technological efficacy of new and evolving innovations. The Academy will fund research, development and innovation involving the use of human participants, human material or personal data which complies with our Humans in RD&I Policy. If your proposal includes the use of human participants, human materials or personal data, you will be asked to provide details of your work at the application stage.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at the point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins and a clear plan to achieve this at the application stage.

Animals in research

The Academy acknowledges that, at present, the use of animals remains the only way for some research areas to progress. Research involving animals is regulated by comprehensive and strict legislation in the UK and must be conducted with a high regard for animal welfare. The Academy will fund work involving the use of animals in the UK which complies with our [Animals in RD&I Policy](#). If your proposal includes the use of animals, you will be asked to provide details at the application stage.

If your proposal involves the use of animals and takes place outside of the UK, the Academy will generally not fund this work. Please contact the Academy before proceeding with your application.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins and a clear plan to achieve this at application stage.

Using Artificial Intelligence to draft your application

The Academy has aligned with other UK funders around the use of generative AI tools in funding applications through the Research Funders Policy Group joint statement.

Regarding the use of AI, applicants are fully responsible for all the content presented in their grant applications. The grant process does not penalise the use of generative AI tools, but it is imperative to ensure that the application reflects the applicant's own voice and ideas. It is not acceptable to solely rely on generative AI tools to write the entire grant application from start to finish. While these tools may be used to assist in various aspects, the application must primarily represent the applicant's own work.

Applicants must provide clear acknowledgement if they have used generative AI tools in the process of writing their grant applications. This includes disclosing the name of the tool used and describing how it was utilised. The following style should be employed for referencing:

"I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials for background research, styling, proofreading, etc."
        Or,
"I acknowledge the use of [insert AI system(s), version number and link] to generate materials that were included within my final assessment in modified form."

Subsidy Control

The UK subsidy control regime began on 4 January 2023. As part of this regime, the Academy is required to report to the UK Government on how award funding is being used when applications collaborating with commercial enterprises are awarded. The regime determines the lawfulness of monetary awards made using public sector resources when given to businesses and other organisations that are engaged in economic activity.

Grant agreement

If you are successful, your funding will be awarded under the RD&I Terms and Conditions found on the [Academy's website](#).

This agreement has been developed to ensure funding aligns with our Academy values, is used for the purposes for which it was awarded, and is managed in compliance with our own funders' agreements, UK legislation and funding best practice.

Application form

This section lays out all the questions you can expect to find in the application form. Please note that your responses to **questions in green** will be reviewed to ensure that your application is eligible. To avoid unnecessary disappointment please make sure your application is eligible before you progress. Questions marked with a * in the form are mandatory, which is typically the majority of the questions.

1. Applicants and Institution Details

Question	Information
1.1. Please provide contact details of the lead, co-applicant(s)[2] and collaborators[3]	We will use these details to contact the lead applicant and collaborators. Make sure that you have permission to share these details. Check that the lead applicant fits the eligibility criteria.
1.2. Team members (lead, co-applicant, collaborators) details	Provide details of all team members participating in the project, highlighting their expertise, discipline and project role or contribution (maximum 100 words per person). Make sure that the team fits the eligibility criteria.
1.3. Lead applicant expectations	This question is for the lead applicant only. Please provide details of how you expect the grant will impact you: this may include your research capacity and/or building your skills and networks (maximum 150 words).
	This question is for the lead applicant only. Which stage of your career best describes your current position and experience?
1.4. CVs of the applicants and collaborators	Upload a CV for each named project team member. Each CV should be a maximum of three pages long and submitted as a pdf. Please do not include any sensitive information in your CV.

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[2] Co-applicant – attended the most recent Frontiers event
[3] Collaborator – did not attend the Frontiers event

1.5. Lead organisation/ institution/ university declaration

The declaration confirms that the application is acceptable in principle to the lead organisation/ research institution/ university and has received all internal authorisations. It must be on headed paper, signed by an authorised signatory (for example, from the Research Grants Office or equivalent team) from the lead applicant's organisation. Digital signatures are allowed. We do not require a hard copy. Upload the letter via the online form.

The required terms are listed below. You may select organisation, research institution, or university. The rest of the statement must use the exact phrasing as stated.

Please copy this text directly into the declaration:
The applicant will be employed by the [organisation/ research institution/ university] for the duration of the award. **OR** *The [organisation/research institution/university] commits to maintain a relationship with the lead awardee such that it will administer the grant funds on their behalf.*

The applicant and any co-applicant(s) will be given full access to the facilities, equipment, personnel, and funding as required by the application.

The costs submitted in the application are correct and sufficient to complete the award as envisaged. Any shortfall in funding will be met by the [organisation/ research institution/ university].

2. Project summary

Question	Information
2.1. Project title	The essence of the project should be captured in the title and should be as informative as possible. Where applicable it should include the country or region that the project will primarily focus on. Ensure it is understandable to a non-specialist (maximum 10 words).

2.2. Project abstract

Include the problem statement, project purpose and expected results. It should provide an overview of how the team will work in a collaborative and interdisciplinary way. Ensure it is understandable to a non-specialist (maximum 300 words).

2.3. Total project cost

This is the total value that is requested from the Academy and may be up to £20,000.

2.4. Start and end date

Enter the start and end date of the proposed project. It must start on 10 March 2025 and finish on/before 10 March 2026.

2.5. Is this a new collaboration?

Please confirm this is a new collaboration, as pre-existing collaborations are not eligible.

2.6. Sustainable Development Goal(s)

Select the primary Sustainable Development Goal that your project will address. If applicable, you may select a second and third goal. Explain how your project will address the Sustainable Development Goal(s) you have chosen and why it is needed (maximum 400 words).

2.7. Identify the primary focus country (where the main impacts will accrue)

You must identify **one** country to be the focus of the project. This should be where the impacts of your project will mainly accrue.

This must be one of the ODA Partner Countries:
Africa: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.
Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic,

Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and Yemen.
Caribbean and Latin America: Haiti, Brazil.
Middle East: Türkiye, Egypt, Jordan.
Pacific: Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

Question	Information
2.8. Please list any other countries or regions your project will focus on	This should be a list, not an explanation. You can also indicate a region, or, in rare cases, the project may aim at global impacts (maximum 10 words).

3. Project details

Question	Information
3.1. The project objectives	Please describe your project's objective/objectives: the changes the project hopes to achieve or contribute to within its lifetime (maximum 200 words). For more information on setting objectives, please use **this resource.**
3.2. The project activities, outputs, outcome, and impact	This section outlines the logic of planned activities and their impacts. For more information, please refer to **this resource.**

Activity	Output	Outcome	Impact
Activities of the project	The tangible products or services the project will produce. Please keep in mind that each activity might have one or several outputs.	The short-term and medium-term effects of outputs. The changes the project achieves within its lifetime. Please remember that several activities and outputs can contribute to one significant outcome, and outputs can also contribute to several outcomes.	The long-term effect or change the project aims to create. The project might have one or several impacts.

Question	Information
3.3. Timeline of activities	Please indicate when each activity will occur (maximum 800 words).

3.4. Measuring success

Describe how you will monitor the project and measure success (maximum 400 words).

3.5. How have you considered gender equality in the project or activity design?

In line with the UK Government's Gender Equality in Research and Innovation Policy, all successful applications to this scheme must demonstrate consideration of the activities on gender. All funded activities will, and at a minimum, ensure that no harm is done to gender equity.

To this end, please outline any specific gender considerations and implications for your proposed project. This could include any measures you have put in place to ensure equal opportunities, any expected impacts on people of different genders, or any outcomes or outputs that you will measure disaggregated by gender (maximum 400 words).

3.6. Project's scalability and sustainability beyond the funding period

If applicable, describe how you see the sustainability and scalability of the project/initiative being ensured beyond the initial funding period. This may include resource management, stakeholder engagement, and expanding to other regions or communities. (maximum 300 words).

3.7. Animals in Research, Development and Innovation

The Academy acknowledges that, at present, the use of animals remains the only way for some areas of research to progress. Research involving animals is regulated by comprehensive and strict legislation in the UK and must be conducted with a high regard for animal welfare. The Academy will fund work involving the use of animals in the UK which complies with our Animals in Research, Innovation and Development Policy. Please respond to the following.

If your proposal involves the use of animals and takes place outside of the UK, the Academy will generally not fund this work. Please contact the Academy before proceeding with your application.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins and a clear plan to achieve this at application stage.

3.7.1. Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue as defined by the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986?
a. No – end of questions

b. Yes, and my work is taking place within the UK
    i.   Why is animal use necessary; are there any other possible approaches?
    ii.   Does your proposal involve the use of non-human primates (NHPs), cats, dogs or equines, which are specially protected species under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986
    iii.   Please provide details of the animal species and number(s) to be used:
    iv.   Why is the species/model to be used the most appropriate?
    v.   Please explain how you have considered the NC3Rs in the design of your proposal? You will also have the opportunity to upload any supporting evidence.
    vi.   Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.
    vii.   (Optional) Please upload any support documentation below. We recommend the use of the Experimental Design Assistant to help with the design of your experiment which you can upload here.

c. Yes, and my work is taking place outside the UK
    i.   Please confirm the country where the animal work will be conducted
    ii.   Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures

iii. Why is animal use necessary; are there any other possible approaches?

iv. Does your proposal involve the use of non-human primates (NHPs), cats, dogs or equines, which are specially protected species under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986

v. Please provide details of the animal species and number(s) to be used:

vi. Why is the species/model to be used the most appropriate?

vii. Please explain how you have considered the NC3Rs in the design of your proposal? You will also have the opportunity to upload any supporting evidence.

viii. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.

ix. (Optional) Please upload any support documentation below. We recommend the use of the Experimental Design Assistant to help with the design of your work which you can upload here.

3.8. Human Participants in Research, Development, and Innovation

Research, development and innovation involving human participants, human material or personal data can contribute to a better understanding of human health and disease as well as the technological efficacy of new and evolving innovations. The Academy will fund research, development and innovation involving the use of human participants, human material or personal data which complies with our Human Participants in Research, Innovation and Development Policy.

Please note: applicable regulatory approval and licenses are not required to be in place at point of application, but all necessary approvals must be in place before the work begins and a clear plan to achieve this at application stage.

3.8.1. Does your proposal involve human participants according to the WHO definition?

a. NO – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK
  i.   Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.
  ii.   Please explain you will protect the dignity, rights, safety and wellbeing of all participants, particularly when involving vulnerable groups?

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK.
  i.   Please confirm the country where the work will be conducted.
  ii.   Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures if the work is to be conducted outside the UK.
  iii. Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.
  iv.   Please explain how you will protect the dignity, rights, safety and wellbeing of all participants, particularly when involving vulnerable groups?

3.8.2. Does your proposal involve the use of human tissue or other human materials?

a. NO – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK
  i.   Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.
  ii.   Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of human tissue and comply with all relevant legislation.

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK.

    i.   Please confirm the country where the work will be conducted.
    ii.   Please provide details of the local legislation and ethical review procedures if the work is to be conducted outside the UK.
    iii.   Please provide information on your plan and the timeline to acquire all relevant ethical approval and licenses.
    iv.   Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of human tissue and comply with all relevant legislation.

3.8.3. Does your proposal involve the use of personal data?

a. No – end of question

b. Yes – and my work is taking place within the UK
    i.   Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of personal data and comply with all relevant legislation.

c. Yes - and my work is taking place outside of the UK.
    i.   Please confirm the country where the work will be conducted.
    ii.   Please provide details of the local legislation and/or ethical review procedures if the work is to be conducted outside the UK.
    iii.   Please explain how you will safeguard the collection and/or storage of personal data and comply with all relevant legislation.

3.9. Pictures and diagrams (optional)

Upload any pictures and/or diagrams related to your project as a single file.

4. Budget

4.1. Provide a breakdown of the funding requested using the table in the application form. Give a narrative description of what resources are requested and why.

Category	Cost	Description/Further details
Travel, subsistence, accommodation and visa fees	£	
Staff costs	£	
Consumables and equipment	£	
Administrative fees charged by the lead organisation	£	
Other costs	£	
Total	£	

Please provide a cost breakdown in the pound sterling, GBP, and use this converter if you are outside of the UK: https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/

Please note that this scheme's funding is not calculated based on full economic costs. For eligible cost guidance, please refer to page 7.

The totals may exceed the maximum funding you can request under this scheme. If so, the participating institutions or other sources must meet the additional costs. Please state the contribution each institution/source will make. **At the end of the project, any unspent funding awarded will be repayable to the Academy.**

4.2. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your budget? This may include expected in-kind support, additional funding, projected costs per goal/milestone, etc. (maximum 400 words)

5. Applicant declaration

At the end of the application form, you will be asked to confirm, via a simple tick-box declaration, that the information is accurate, the ideas are your own, that you have credited/cited any sources, including AI tools you may have used, and that you understand the application will be shared with reviewers as part of the process.

6. Academy Marketing

You will be asked to select, from a list, how you heard about this scheme. In this context please answer based on how you heard about the Frontiers Symposium and the Seed funding.

Submission

Once you have completed all sections and pressed save on all the pages, a "submit" button will appear on the summary page. This button is greyed out until all sections are complete. If you have completed and saved all sections but the button is still greyed out, please ask all your collaborators to save and complete all sections and sign out of the system. Contact the Frontiers team with any issues or questions about the form.

Assessment of applications

Applicants will be evaluated by a panel including Academy Fellows and experts from relevant disciplines. Each application will be checked for eligibility before being assessed by a minimum of two panel members, one of whom will have technical expertise in the application, and the other will be a general reviewer. The final outcome is decided by a Sift Panel made up of reviewers and Fellows. **All applications will be assessed against the following criteria:**

The project's quality
Reviewers will assess the proposed project's quality and its objectives' feasibility, applicants' approach to monitoring and evaluation.
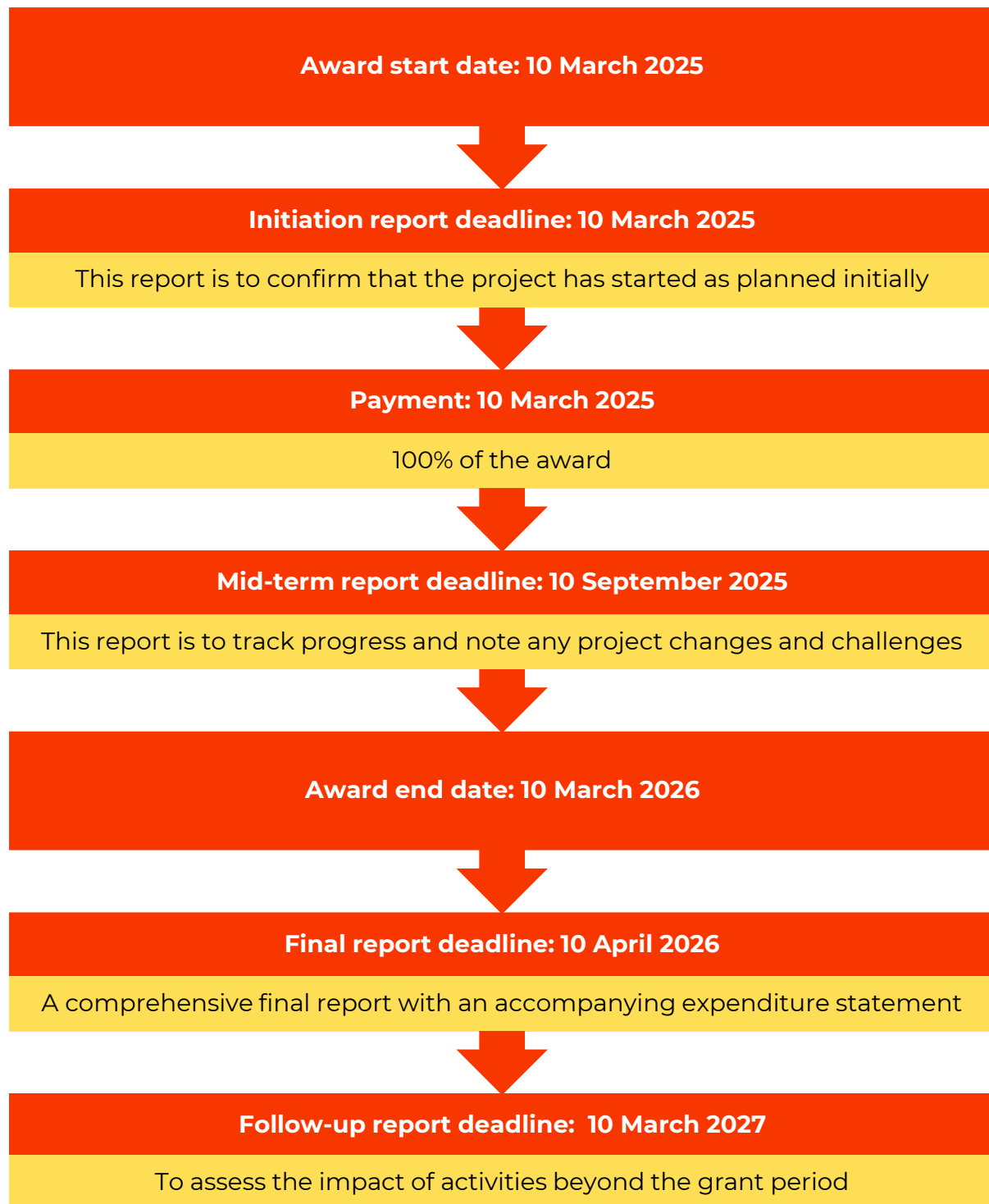
The outcome and impact
Reviewers will assess the extent to which outcomes and impact are reasonable, tangible, feasible, and sufficiently ambitious.

Budget suitability
Reviewers will assess how suitable, realistic and clear the budget is. Whether the project demonstrates value for money

Project implementation and monitoring

Award start date: 10 March 2025

Initiation report deadline: 10 March 2025

This report is to confirm that the project has started as planned initially

Payment: 10 March 2025

100% of the award

Mid-term report deadline: 10 September 2025

This report is to track progress and note any project changes and challenges

Award end date: 10 March 2026

Final report deadline: 10 April 2026

A comprehensive final report with an accompanying expenditure statement

Follow-up report deadline: 10 March 2027

To assess the impact of activities beyond the grant period

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FAQs and further questions

If you have questions about the application or assessment process, please email Frontiers@raeng.org.uk.

Visit our FAQs page to check answers for the frequently asked questions on Frontiers seed funding.