University of Manchester Wellcome ISSF Public Engagement Funding Schemes - Information for Applicants

The University has been awarded Institutional Strategic Support Funding (ISSF) from Wellcome. In addition to supporting research, there is funding and support available to develop and deliver public engagement activity and professional development. Based on evaluation of the previous ISSF grant scheme at the University of Manchester, we are launching a new programme which will be delivered via three schemes. There will be grants for: early career researchers, research groups or individuals experienced in public engagement, and professional development relating to public engagement.

**Scheme 1: Emerging Engagement grants**
- For early career researchers with limited experience of public engagement
- Up to £500 to fund a public engagement activity
- For example, to fund the creation of engaging and imaginative activities to communicate research
- No requirement to match fund
- Group training and support available which will focus on:
  - Introduction to PE
  - Idea generation
  - Planning and logistics
  - Evaluation

**Scheme 2: Established Engagement grants**
- For research groups or individuals who are experienced in public engagement
- Up to £3,000 to fund a public engagement project
- For example, to fund a large creative and/or collaborative project to engage underserved audiences with research
- Requirement to provide match funding for the full amount requested
- One-to-one, bespoke support will focus on:
  - Evaluation of impact
  - Delivering a legacy

**Scheme 3: Professional Development**
- To support professional development related to public engagement
- Up to £2,000
- For example, to fund attendance at a public engagement related conference or course, or to facilitate a knowledge exchange placement at a different institution or organisation
- No requirement to match fund
- One-to-one, bespoke support will focus on:
  - Writing applications for further PE funding
  - Support in identifying or arranging a placement in PE
  - Mentoring

The funding is available to staff and postgraduate students across the University of Manchester, for Public Engagement around the general theme of biomedical research and health. Applications must be led by an academic member of staff or postgraduate student in the Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health. Projects involving colleagues in the Faculty of Science and Engineering or the Faculty of Humanities are encouraged and will be given priority.

We would like to see imaginative and substantial projects that engage a broad range of the public in a variety of ways. For example, these could involve activities with sections of the public who are not usually reached by engagement activities, taking a novel approach with
groups who do traditionally engage, or combining science and art in unusual sites or with a striking theme. Established activities will be supported, but we would invite practitioners to use the opportunity to refresh and renew the activity in an innovative way.

**Scheme 1: Emerging Engagement Grants**

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Involvement of biomedical/health researchers to explore aspects of their work
2. Clear and realistic aims identified (reviewers will assess the depth of the engagement as well as the numbers of people reached)
3. Creative approaches that will raise public awareness and stimulate dialogue with clearly defined audiences which might include, but are not limited to, hard to reach groups, local community groups, patients, parents, children, young adults, on-line communities, under-represented groups, healthcare professionals, carers etc.
4. Reaching the target audience(s) through clearly defined objectives
5. Good value for money and clarity on how the budget will be used
6. Clear plans for evaluating impact

The **maximum award value is £500** per application. Funds must be spent within one year of the award. There will be two funding rounds per year (Autumn/Spring), with £4,750 allocated to the emerging engagement scheme per funding round.

Training and support will be available during the application process and applicants are encouraged to contact the Public Programmes Team for help and guidance with their application. Applicants must gain approval from their supervisor/manager before applying. Successful applicants will receive group training and support to enhance the output of their public engagement activity.

Applicants will be required to write a blog post about their experience and the outcome of their public engagement activity. Applicants must also take part in the evaluation process of the grant scheme.

**Scheme 2: Established Engagement Grants**

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Significant involvement of biomedical/health researchers to explore aspects of their work
2. Ambitious and realistic aims identified (reviewers will assess the depth of the engagement as well as the numbers of people reached)
3. Imaginative approaches that will raise public awareness and stimulate dialogue with clearly defined audiences which might include, but are not limited to, hard to reach groups, local community groups, patients, parents, children, young adults, on-line communities, under-represented groups, healthcare professionals, carers etc.
4. Reaching target audience through clearly defined objectives
5. Benefit to research from the engagement
6. Good value for money and clarity on how the budget will be used
7. Clear plans for evaluating impact
8. Legacy from the funding
9. Details of match funding

The **maximum award value is £3,000** per application. Funding which is awarded through the Established Engagement scheme of the ISSF PE grants scheme must be match funded. Funds must be spent within one year of the award. There will be two funding rounds per year (Autumn/Spring) with £12,000 allocated to the established engagement scheme per funding round.

Support will be available during the application process and applicants are encouraged to contact the Public Programmes Team for help and guidance with their application. Where applicable, applicants must gain approval from their supervisor/manager before applying. Successful applicants will receive bespoke individual support from a member of the public programmes team to help enhance the evaluation and legacy of their public engagement activity.

Applicants will be required to write a blog post about the impact and legacy of their public engagement activity. Applicants must also take part in the evaluation process of the grant scheme.

**Scheme 3: Professional Development Grants**

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Clear understanding of how the professional development opportunity relates to public engagement
2. Clear and realistic aims for the professional development opportunity
3. Good value for money and clarity on how the budget will be used
4. Clear plans for evaluating the impact of the professional development opportunity
5. Clear plans of how the skills/knowledge gained will be utilised to benefit the applicants work/career
6. Details of how the application will support the University of Manchester’s wider public engagement and/or social responsibility work

The **maximum award value is £2,000** per application. Funds must be spent within one year of the award. There will be two funding rounds per year (Autumn/Spring) with £2,000 allocated to the professional development scheme per funding round. Therefore, submissions for smaller amounts are also welcome.

Support will be available during the application process and applicants are encouraged to contact the Public Programmes Team for help and guidance with their application. Where applicable, applicants must gain approval from their supervisor/manager before applying. Successful applicants will receive bespoke individual support from a member of the public programmes team to help maximise the scope and impact of their professional development.

Applicants will be required to write blog post about the impact of their professional development. Applicants must also take part in the evaluation process of the grant scheme.
For all schemes:
Applicants are strongly encouraged to communicate their ideas with the Public Programmes Team and/or members of the ISSF Public Engagement Grants Advisory Group (PEGAG). Please address your initial communications to the Public Programmes Team: publicprogrammes@mft.nhs.uk

Assessment procedure and post award process
The deadline for submissions is Friday 17th November 2017 (23:59). Applications will be assessed by the ISSF PEGAG Committee and the ISSF Oversight Committee. The outcome will be announced by 8th December 2017. Successful awardees must spend the allocated funding within one year of the award.

Awardees will be required to submit a progress report in the form of a blog post at the end of the public engagement activity to inform the University of Manchester annual report to the Wellcome Trust. Awardees must also actively participate in an evaluation process for the grant scheme. The Public Programmes team will advise on how ISSF and Wellcome should be acknowledged through your public engagement activities, including using the Wellcome logo. All publications benefitting from ISSF funding will be required to acknowledge ISSF funding in the publication. The outcome of all ISSF calls will be published on the intranet at: http://staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/bmh/research/funding-and-applications/funding-opportunities/wellcome-trust/public-engagement/

Submitting an application:

Applicants should strictly adhere to the details listed below and refer to the assessment criteria of the relevant grant scheme

Deadline: 17th November 2017 (outcome announced by 8th December 2017)

Application format: maximum 1 page of A4; Ariel 10 pt, 2cm margins. Please note that additional pages to the outline will not be considered and may result in applications not being reviewed.

Application content (must contain the following sub-headings):

- Applicant names and Faculty/School
- Supervisor / Manager’s name and confirmation of their approval (if applicable)
- Indicate which grant scheme you are applying for
- Indicate whether previous ISSF funding has been received by the applicant or for the related PE activity
- Brief overview of applicants public engagement experience
- Details of planned public engagement activity / professional development
- Date or timescale of the planned public engagement activity / professional development
ISSF Public Engagement Grant Scheme call for applications

- Amount requested and justification of the request
- Plans for evaluation of the activity / professional development
- Plans for legacy of the activity / professional development (if applicable)
- Plans for match funding (if applicable)

**Submission:** applications should be submitted to: publicprogrammes@mft.nhs.uk

**Enquiries**
Please direct any enquiries:
Public Programmes Team Tel: 0161 276 3215 publicprogrammes@mft.nhs.uk

This version supercedes any previous call