**BBSRC Flexible Talent Mobility Account**

**Internal Funding Call 2017-2019**

The University of Cambridge has been awarded Flexible Talent Mobility Account (FTMA) by BBSRC. The FTMA is targeted at talented early-career (postdoctoral or equivalent) researchers who have the potential to be the next generation of leaders within UK academic and industrial research; it is intended to support the exchange of personnel, perspectives and knowledge, skills and expertise between the academic and industrial sectors.

The majority of this funding is to be administered via open calls for placements aligned with the FTMA scope.

This documents details the guidance and forms required to apply for a placement grant. Applicants for FTMA funding will be asked to present a case for support that includes clear objectives and outputs from the proposed work, as well as identifying further routes for development and leverage of awarded funding.

Activities proposed must also align with one or more of the following objectives of the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy (LSIS):

* Science – Continued support for the sciences base, maintaining strength and international competitiveness.
* Growth – An environment that encourages companies to start and grow, building on strengths across the UK, including expansion of manufacturing in the sector.
* Skills – Ensuring that the sector has access to a pool of talented people to support its aims through a strong skills strategy.

Applications will be scored based on their relevance to the FTMA and LSIS objectives, potential sustainability through further funding leverage, and the involvement of an industrial partner.

Applications are open now, and will close 5pm, Friday 12th January. The panel will meet to decide which applications to fund on Tuesday 23rd January, and the result will be communicated to applicants as soon as possible. **Projects must be completed and all funds spent by Wednesday 27th February 2019.** Unfortunately we have no control over this tight deadline.

A full report including images will be required one month after the completion of the project, a copy of the final report form is included at the end of this document.

Applications from postdoctoral researchers who are non-UK citizens are welcomed, as 25% of the FTMA has been allocated from The Rutherford Fund and, therefore, will be used to engage with non-UK scientists.

If you have any questions regarding the FTMA, please contact Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, (7)64799.

**Background**

BBSRC recognises the importance of supporting early career researchers who have the potential to be the next generation of leaders within UK academic and industrial research. Under the auspices of the National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIF) and Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF), BBSRC has been allocated funding to invest in ‘Innovation Fellowships’, which will provide part of this support to early career researchers. As part of a portfolio of investments being made by the BBSRC, The University of Cambridge has been awarded Flexible Talent Mobility Account (FTMA).

FTMAs will support the exchange of personnel, perspectives and knowledge, skills and expertise between the academic and industrial sectors in a way that is in alignment with the Industrial Strategy. A proportion of the funding available (25%) has been ring-fenced as part of the Rutherford Fund, which was announced in 2017 as a way to support non-British citizens to move to, or remain in, the UK.

Usage of the FTMA is to be highly flexible, but activities undertaken must support the mobility of early career academic and industrialist researchers to new environments, including between sectors and between countries. The activities should aim to pump-prime the establishment of new academia-industry interactions or further develop existing ones.

Please note that reporting the outcomes and impacts of the FTMA will form a critical contribution to the evidence basis for future strategy and budgetary discussions relating to the ISCF.

**Guidelines**

FTMA grants may be used to support placements between academic and industry for postdoctoral (or equivalent level) researchers in a flexible manner, within the following guidelines:

* Outward applications can be submitted by postdoctoral researchers and newly-graduated Ph.D. students.
* Inward applications can be submitted by PIs who wish to host an industrial researcher of postdoctoral-equivalent level in their research group.
* The placement must be with an industrial partner; spin-out companies from the University of Cambridge will be considered, but should be discussed prior to submission of an application. Please contact Vibhuti Patel: vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, (7)64799.
* The placement must have well-defined outcomes related to a research problem and/or development of the early career researcher involved.
* Applications are welcome for placements which facilitate the development of partnerships to foster longer-term collaborations.
* A minimum of 3 months total time is recommended, but the structure can be tailored as long as clear justification is provided, e.g. one continual period, two split periods, or one day per week for several months.
* Funding can be requested for direct costs ONLY, e.g. contribution to salary of the researcher undertaking the placement, reasonable travel and subsistence costs, consumables or other direct expenses.

FTMA grants **cannot** be used to support:

* Generic translation activities or infrastructure.
* Patent filing or similar costs associated directly to registering intellectual property rights.
* Non-specific public engagement activities and science communication, however specific activities designed to have specific impact upon a specific public may be acceptable.

Activities proposed must also align with one or more of the following objectives of the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy (LSIS):

* Science – Continued support for the sciences base, maintaining strength and international competitiveness.
* Growth – An environment that encourages companies to start and grow, building on strengths across the UK, including expansion of manufacturing in the sector.
* Skills – Ensuring that the sector has access to a pool of talented people to support its aims through a strong skills strategy.

**Funding Arrangements**

The funding should support short term projects, which must be completed with funding spent by Wednesday 27th February 2019. The funding dates are detailed below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Opening date** | **Closing date** | **Spending completed**  | **Final report due** |
| Friday 8th December 2017 | Friday 12th January 2018 | Wednesday 27th February 2019 | Friday 22nd March 2019 |

Potential applicants are advised to contact Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, (7)64799 before submitting their application if they have any questions. Unfortunately, the spending deadlines are out of our control.

**Who can apply?**

All [BBSRC-remit](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/research/science-remit/) researchers at the University of Cambridge. We are looking for proposals that support the exchange of personnel, perspectives, knowledge, skills and expertise between the academic and industrial sectors via a placement undertaken by a postdoctoral (or equivalent level) researcher. Applications are welcome from academics who wish to host an industrial researcher at the equivalent of postdoctoral level.

**Eligible Costs**

The costs awarded for each project may vary depending on the work proposed for the project but should generally not exceed **£15,000 (direct costs only).**

FTMA grants will be made on the basis of individual project needs. The funding is intended to be flexible but covers direct costs only such as staff costs (full- or part-time), travel and subsistence, consumables and any other direct expenses

In all cases funds cannot be used for patent costs, estates costs, indirect costs or capital items of equipment. Please contact Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, (7)64799, if the industry partner is a spin-off company of the University of Cambridge.

All applications must be fully costed in an X5. Please liaise with your departmental finance team to obtain an X5 costing for your proposal. The funding for these awards must be spent by **27th February 2019.**

**FTMA grant application process**

The application is via application form – included in this document pack.

In addition to the application form, please provide:

* [A budget and signature form](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/rso/internal/pda/iaa_budget_and_signature_page.docx)
* A PDF of the Je-S output from X5
* A letter of support from the company partner (if applicable)

Please collate all documents into a PDF and submit as one document.

An appropriate agreement may need to be put in place before the project begins.

Applicants must ensure they are aware of any internal Departmental deadlines for approval by their Head of Department before submission.

FTMA grant applications should be emailed to Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, **by 5pm on Friday 12th January 2018.**

**Assessment process**

Funding will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applications will be considered by a cross-disciplinary panel with membership drawn from the University, Cambridge Enterprise and industry, as appropriate. Suitable confidentiality agreements will be put in place for external panel members.

**Assessment criteria**

Applications will be considered against the following criteria:

* Relevance to FTMA objectives
* Relevance to objectives of the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy
* Potential benefits to industrial partner
* Potential development benefits to the postdoctoral researcher
* Plan for further translational activity as a result of the placement

**Award Conditions and Final Report**

Funding will be dispersed using the usual financial regulations and systems. Funds must be spent in accordance with the [terms and conditions of the BBSRC](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/site/terms-and-conditions/).

Those receiving awards will be required to work with the Research Operations Office and Cambridge Enterprise to ensure appropriate protection of IP, if relevant.

As a condition of the grant, a final report must be submitted to Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, by **Friday 22nd March 2019.** A copy of the final report form is included at the end of this document. We will also request image(s) of the projects to use in reporting outcomes of the FTMA to BBSRC and others.

Any questions regarding the scheme should be directed to Dr Vibhuti Patel, vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk, (7)67499.

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Placement Grant Application Form

|  |
| --- |
| Lead (University of Cambridge) Applicant |
| Name |  | Department |  |
| Email address |  | Phone number |  |
| Details (Title and RG number) of current BBSRC funding – or provide evidence of BBSRC remit  |  |
| Name(s) of any person(s) to be included as staff costs |  |
| Date of application |  |
| Collaborator  |
| Name |  | Company |  |
| Email address |  | Phone number |  |
| Address |  |
| Name(s) of any person(s) to be included as staff costs |  |
| Collaborator #2 (Please add additional boxes for further collaborators) |
| Name |  | Company |  |
| Email address |  | Phone number |  |
| Address  |  |
| Name(s) of any person(s) to be included as staff costs |  |
| Project |
| Title (publically available) |  |
| Start date |  | End date |  |
| **Placement summary (500 words)** *Please include the objectives of the placement and brief summary of the activities to be undertaken, and how these relate to the FTMA and Industrial Strategy objectives* |
| **Placement Outcomes (500 words)** *Please detail expected outputs, outcomes and impact of the placement, and how these will be monitored and measured. What will success look like?* |
| **Placement Costs (500 words)** *Please include the breakdown of projected expenditure (staff costs/equipment/ consumables/ travel/other costs), please include details of any anticipated sources of leverage and future funding here.* |
| **Other information (200 words excluding references).** *Please include any other information that may be relevant. A maximum of 3 references can be included.*  |

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Placement Grant Budget and Signature Form

* *This grant application requires the preparation of an X5 with Full Economic Costing (fEC). Please contact your DA/Research Finance Officer for help with your costing.*
* *Please submit a PDF copy of the Je-S output from X5 with your application*
* *Please note, this funding is for* ***direct costs only***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project title** |  |
| **Proposed start date** |  |
| **Duration:** |  |
| **X5 number** |  |
| **Type** | **Description** | **Costs (direct costs only)** |
| Equipment |  | £ |
| Consumables |  | £ |
| Travel |  | £ |
| Other (please specify) |  | £ |
| **Total** | **£** |

|  |
| --- |
| **SIGNATURES** |
| **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** I declare that the information given on this form is complete and correct. |
| Name (print) | Signature | Date |
| **HEAD OF DEPARTMENT:** I confirm that I have read and support the application. I agree to the research being carried out in my department, and will provide the necessary accommodation and facilities. |
| Name (print) | Signature | Date |
| **DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY:** I confirm that the application has been submitted with the agreement of the host institution and, if awarded, would administer the grant. |
| Name (print) | Signature | Date |

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Placement Grant Final Report Form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project title |  |
| Lead University Applicant |  |
| Project dates |  |
| **Summary.** What was done? How was the FTMA grant money spent? |
| **Outcomes and Impact.** What was achieved? How has this helped you/the company/other stakeholders? |
| **Future.** What happens next? Is there any support you need to take the next step? |

Please send this completed form to vibhuti.patel@admin.cam.ac.uk by 22nd March 2019. Please also send **at least one image** from the project, for use in reporting and communications.