**MAJOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION FORM**

Before starting your application, please ensure you have read the following to ensure your research proposal is a good fit for the organisational commitments of the Healthcare Infection Society (HIS) by following these links:

* [About the Healthcare Infection Society](https://his.org.uk/about/)
* [Research Strategy 2025-2030](https://www.his.org.uk/media/zctmm1bs/rig-strategy-for-web-may2025.pdf?_gl=1*ri9kq0*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTEzMjA1MTk3Ni4xNzQ3NzUzODQx*_ga_CYTMZ7W2LW*czE3NDc3NTM4NDEkbzEkZzAkdDE3NDc3NTM4NDEkajAkbDAkaDAkZGRIc0FzYWxfQkkwcVB0aFhzQ1pXcmloSlF6QlFWbVNzOHc.)
* [Grant programme overview and process](https://his.org.uk/media/aztnkbpk/grants-programme-general-info-2020.pdf)
* [Terms and Conditions for HIS Grants and Fellowships](https://his.org.uk/media/m1oa2nxc/terms-and-conditions-for-his-grants-and-fellowships.pdf)

**IMPORTANT: SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION**

**Applicants must submit a signed electronic version** of the completed application in PDF format via email, including all the accompanying documents:

* Letters of support
* Abridged CVs for applicants and Co-Investigators (maximum 2 x A4 pages)
* Ethics committee approval and Risk Assessments
* Gantt Chart
* Signed copy of the HIS Terms and Conditions form

**Please complete the** **checklist in Section 9 at the end of this application form to ensure you have included all the required documents**

Application must be submitted to: [grants@his.org.uk](mailto:grants@his.org.uk)

Subject: MRG Application Form and your full name

Applications are treated as strictly confidential and will be subject to multiple phases of review that may include external review.

**NOTES on completing this form:**

* The application form must not be altered in any way.
* Please complete all sections. If a section is not relevant, please indicate as such by inserting N/A.
* Read all the notes carefully before completing this form. If a section has a word limit, it is indicated.
* Text can include figures and references. The references will be included in the word count. If figures are required then they must be inserted within the relevant section and a figure reference, e.g. Fig-01, given within the text.
* All abbreviations and acronyms must be fully defined when first used (except for standard scientific acronyms e.g., DNA, RNA).
* **All boxes require information to be given. If a box is not applicable, please insert the phrase ‘N/A’. Do not leave any box blank.**

If you have any queries about the application process, please email [grants@his.org.uk](mailto:grants@his.org.uk)

# MAJOR RESEARCH GRANT

# SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY

## Section 1.1: Summary

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Primary Applicant: |  |
|  |  |
| Title of Research Project: Limit: 50 words |  |
|  |  |
| FULL Amount Requested (a maximum of £33,000 per annum): | £ |
| Duration of the Research Project (minimum of 1 year and maximum of 3 years): |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Please describe the theme of your research: |  |
| Please confirm if your research proposal aligns with the [HIS Research Innovation and Guidelines Strategy 2025-2030](https://www.his.org.uk/media/2769/researchstrategy02122020.pdf?_gl=1*5tuyet*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTM3MzY5MDE0Ny4xNzQ3NzQ5OTY5*_ga_CYTMZ7W2LW*czE3NDc3NTIzNTckbzIkZzEkdDE3NDc3NTI0NTIkajAkbDAkaDAkZFFnb3NoRmtmdlQ3OEFkTF82azBWaUY4dTBhY1FRR2FUSFE.) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | |

## Section 1.2: Eligibility requirement checklist for the primary applicant

We accept applications from clinicians and researchers, based in the public sector, who are in a career grade or substantive role – please see [Terms and conditions for HIS Grants and Fellowships](https://his.org.uk/media/m1oa2nxc/terms-and-conditions-for-his-grants-and-fellowships.pdf).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Do you have research experience? | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | |
| 1. If you answered no to a), does your application include an experienced researcher as a Co-Investigator? | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| 1. Do you have clinical experience in infection prevention and control? | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | |
| 1. If you answered no to c), does your application include a Co-Investigator who is either a Consultant Microbiologist (or Speciality Registrar on a microbiology pathway), a Specialist Clinical Scientist or an Infection Control Nurse? | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| 1. Where an application includes support for a studentship, is the Primary Grant Holder in a supervisory role (e.g., a potential PhD student cannot directly apply for funds)? | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |

## SECTION 2: APPLICANT DETAILS

## SECTION 2.1: PRIMARY APPLICANT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Personal Details** |  |
| Title and Full Name: |  |
| Current Position: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
|  |  |
| Full Work Address: |  |
| **For Clinical Applicants only:** |  |
| Clinical Speciality/Stage: |  |
| Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) or expected CCT date for doctors or band/years in IPC for practitioners: |  |
| **Do you intend be clinically active:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 1. **During the award** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | | | 1. **Following the award** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO |  | | |

# SECTION 2.2: CO-INVESTIGATORS (PLEASE COPY AND PASTE THIS TABLE AS REQUIRED)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Personal Details**  Co-Investigator 1 |  |
| Title and Full Name: |  |
| Current Position: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
|  |  |
| Full Work Address: |  |
| **For Clinical Co-Investigator only:** |  |
| Clinical Speciality/Stage: |  |
| CCT or expected CCT date or band/years in IPC for practitioners: |  |
| **Do you intend be clinically active:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 1. **During the award** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | | | 1. **Following the award** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | | |
| **Personal Details**  Co-Investigator 2 |  |
| Title and Full name: |  |
| Current Position: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
|  |  |
| Full Work Address: |  |
| **For Clinical Co-Investigator only:** |  |
| Clinical Speciality /Stage |  |
| CCT or expected CCT date or band/years in IPC for practitioners: |  |
| **Do you intend be clinically active:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 1. **During the award** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | | | 1. **Following the award** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | YES | NO | | |

# SECTION 3: THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Section 3 concerns the details of the proposed research project. Relevant references must be included where necessary. Text can include figures and references, although the references will be included in the word count. References can be abbreviated, e.g. Smith *et al.*, JHI, 2017, 97:232-243. If figures are required then they must be inserted at the relevant place and a figure reference, e.g. Fig-1, given within the text.

[Please note that research proposals should align with the priority research themes outlined in the 2025-2030 Research, Innovation and Guidelines Strategy](https://www.his.org.uk/media/zctmm1bs/rig-strategy-for-web-may2025.pdf?_gl=1*y3brsb*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTEzMjA1MTk3Ni4xNzQ3NzUzODQx*_ga_CYTMZ7W2LW*czE3NDc3NTM4NDEkbzEkZzAkdDE3NDc3NTM4NDEkajAkbDAkaDAkZGRIc0FzYWxfQkkwcVB0aFhzQ1pXcmloSlF6QlFWbVNzOHc.)

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.1: Scientific abstract |
|  |
| Please provide a concise overview of your grant proposal that summarises the background, objectives, methods, and expected outcomes of your project.  Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.2: Keywords |
|  |
| Please list 3-5 keywords that best characterise your project |
|  |
| Section 3.3: Lay person summary |
|  |
| Please provide a summary of the project and expected outcomes that can be given to and understood by a lay person.  **This text will be used by HIS for its external promotional activities.** Do not include any information in this section that you would not wish to be made public, e.g., development of proprietary technology, methods, or products. Please note that this information will be attributed to you and not to HIS.  Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |
| Section 3.4: Background to the research proposal |
|  |
| Describe how the proposed research relates to the present body of scientific/clinical knowledge on the subject, including previous and current work carried out by you and/or others.  Limit: 750 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.5: Aims and objectives of the research proposal |
|  |
| List the aims and objectives of the research and how these align with the HIS research remit.  Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.6: Plan of investigation |
|  |
| For each objective describe the work proposed and how it will be carried out including design, materials and methods and data analysis (please use power calculations if the proposal will include patient groups). You must provide sufficient detail to allow referees to judge the value of the proposal, including novel specific techniques. Include details of how you plan to involve patients and the public in your research.  Limit: 750 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

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| --- |
| Section 3.7: Expected outcomes |
|  |
| Describe the expected outputs/outcomes of each objective and include in detail how the outputs/outcomes will be measured. Explain how these outcomes will benefit the field of infection prevention and control.  Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

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| Section 3.8: Research impact |
|  |
| Describe how you will maximise the impact of your research outputs to improve infection prevention and control in healthcare settings and to benefit the wider research community.  Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

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| Section 3.9: Research milestones |
|  |
| Please provide a timeline of when you plan to meet each of your project objectives.  Please include a Gantt chart or equivalent showing when different work packages for the project will start/finish and where the key checkpoints/milestones are. The Gantt chart should be sent as a separate attachment to the application  Limit: 200 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |
| Section 3.10: Dissemination |
|  |
| Please explain how you propose to disseminate your findings to:   1. The clinical and research community 2. Other users in research policy, political or other professional environments 3. Wider society   Limit: 500 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.11: Collaborator agreement |
|  |
| Where there will be collaboration with other clinicians, scientists, departments, or hospitals, please include a copy of the written agreement of these parties to the research proposal and the terms and conditions of the grant in the appendices. Please provide a list of collaborators here.  Limit: 200 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 3.12: Potential reviewers |
|  |
| After review by the HIS Research Committee, shortlisted applications will be sent out for external review. Please suggest at least two suitable potential reviewers for your application. These ideally will be members of HIS. They should not be directly involved in the project proposal or have the same affiliation as the applicant. You should not have published or collaborated with a potential reviewer in the past three years. Please specify a reason if you want to exclude a certain person from reviewing. |
|  |

## Section 3.13: Consideration of EDI, PPIE, and Sustainability

|  |
| --- |
| Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE), and Sustainability form part of the HIS Research Strategy. While not a requirement for this funding call, applicants are encouraged to reflect on EDI, PPIE, and Sustainability in their proposed research.  If you have considered or incorporated any of these aspects, please provide brief details below.  Limit: 200 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

# SECTION 4: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

You must provide sufficient information in each of the relevant sections below to show how the proposed project will adhere to the MRC’s guidance on good practice for research involving human participants.

If ethical approval has not yet been given, please note that the award of any grant will be contingent on the necessary ethical approval having been obtained.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Section 4.1: Human participants or tissue | |
|  | |
| **Does this project involve the use of human participants or human tissue?** | Yes  No |
| Please provide any further information below: | |
|  | |
| Section 4.2: Research setting | |
|  | |
| Based on direct patient contact, indicate whether the research involves a particular medical setting such as primary care or secondary care. Where the project is to be conducted across multiple healthcare settings or institutions, please provide details about how this will be managed. | |
|  | |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 4.3: Approvals |
|  |
| **Approvals – Please attach this documentation to your application:** |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Have the following necessary approvals been given by: | | | | | The Regional Multicentre Research Ethics Committee (MREC) or Local Research Ethics Committee (LREC)? | Yes | No | Not required | | | The Health Research Authority (England only)? | Yes | No | Not required | | | Local governance committees | Yes | No | Not required | | | Local R&D Office | Yes | No | Not required | | | Local Health and Safety committee | Yes | No | Not required | | | Local GMSC/HSE as needed | Yes | No | Not required | | |
| Provide justification below. |
|  |

# SECTION 5: PROJECT RISK EVALUATION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

|  |
| --- |
| Section 5.1: Risk evaluation |
|  |
| Include a risk evaluation to assess what difficulties are most likely to be encountered during this project and how they will be prevented or minimised. Bullet points can be used.  Limit: 200 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 5.2: Data management plan |
|  |
| Please detail the facilities and infrastructure available to manage data storage and data sharing. You should indicate:   1. Which data will be collected or used during the research project 2. How the data will be managed on a day-to-day basis 3. How it will be analysed, including details of statistical analysis 4. How relevant data will be stored for the long term and made available for reuse by others on completion of the research and publication of findings.   Limit: 400 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| Section 5.3: Data management of big data sets |
|  |
| If your project will generate big data sets, such as genomic sequencing data, please indicate how you will store the data, what computer programmes will be used for the analysis and whether you will be using a bioinformatician to analyse these data. Please indicate your costings for this in Section 7.  Limit: 400 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

# SECTION 6: TRAINING AND MENTORING FOR THE PRIMARY RESEARCHER

|  |
| --- |
| Section 6.1: Training required |
|  |
| Please identify the training needs of the primary researcher, including any short courses required to complete the research, including costings and justification.  Limit: 400 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

## Section 6.2: Supervision

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If the primary researcher is a Research Student, please summarise the level of supervision and mentoring that they will receive during their studentship. Details of first and second supervisor should be completed in section 6.3 and 6.4.  Limit: 200 words (Text box will expand to fit) | |
|  | |
| Section 6.3: Details of First Supervisor | |
| Title: |  |
| Full name: |  |
| Current Position: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Telephone: |  |
| Section 6.4: Details of Second Supervisor | |
| Title: |  |
| Full name: |  |
| Current Position: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Telephone: |  |

# SECTION 7: FINANCIAL COSTING

## Section 7.1: Directly incurred costs

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Researcher name:** |  | | |
| Position/Grade: |  | National Insurance: |  |
| Basic salary: |  | % time on grant (FTE): |  |
| Superannuation: |  | Start date: |  |
| Total cost on grant: |  |

If Primary Researcher is a **Research Student** For full details of financial provisions available for Research Studentships, please refer to our Terms and Conditions document Appendix A1: Regulations for Research Studentships.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  |
| Stipend: |  |
| Registration fees: |  |
| Total cost on grant: |  |

## Section 7.2: Directly allocated costs (please copy this table as required)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Researcher name:** |  | | |
| Position/Grade: |  | National Insurance: |  |
| Basic salary: |  | % time on grant (FTE): |  |
| Superannuation: |  | Start date: |  |
| Total cost on grant: |  |

## Section 7.3: Other expenses

Please indicate below any other items requested for this research. Full justification for these items must also be given below. Failure to adequately justify the need for these expenses could result in HIS not approving the request even if the project (overall) is approved. HIS does not award Full Economic Costs (FEC), and such costs cannot be claimed for in this section. These costs also form a part of the maximum £99,000 that can be requested for the research project.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions for further information.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Description of item** | **£** |
| 1 |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |
|  | **Total:** |  |

## Section 7.4: Summary of financial requirements

**HIS does not provide full economic cost (FEC) for its grant awards (see Terms and Conditions).**

Total costs must not exceed £99,000 over a three-year period. Any amount above this will require special and specific justification and will only be approved in exceptional circumstances.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sub-Sections** | **£** |
| Staffing costs [Section 7.1, 7.2] |  |
| Other Expenses [Section 7.3] |  |
| **TOTAL:** |  |

## Section 7.5 Justification for level of support

|  |
| --- |
| Justify the resources required to undertake the research project, taking into account the nature and complexity of the proposal.  Limit: 1000 words (Text box will expand to fit) |
|  |

## 

## Section 7.6: Support from other sources

Please note that HIS does not co-fund research projects with other funding bodies. Further details can be found in our Terms and Conditions.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Is the research associated with this application currently being funded (or part-funded)? | | | Yes  No |
| If yes, indicate funding body/bodies: | |  | |
| Amount, duration, and end date of support: |  | | |
|  | | | |
| Is this research proposal currently being submitted elsewhere? | | | Yes  No |
| If yes, indicate funding body/bodies: | |  | |
| Expected date(s) of decision: | |  | |
|  | | | |
| Has this or a similar research project been submitted during the last year? | | | Yes  No |
| If yes, indicate funding body/bodies: | |  | |
| With what outcome(s)? | |  | |

# SECTION 8: ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS

## Section 8.1: The following declaration is to be signed by the primary grant applicant:

*I have read and understood the Terms and Conditions relating to this funding proposal and agree that if my application is successful, I will abide by them.*

*I shall be actively engaged in, and/or in day-to-day control of, this project.*

*Please double click on the X to insert an image of signature.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature of applicant: |  |

Please use a digitised signature in the above signature field to confirm acceptance of the Terms and Conditions.

## Section 8.2: Signatures of Co-Investigators

*I have read and understood the Terms and Conditions relating to this funding proposal and agree that if my application is successful, I will abide by them.*

*I shall be actively engaged in this project. (Please copy these boxes as required)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature of Co-Investigator 1: |  |
| Signature of Co-Investigator 2: |  |

## Section 8.3: Heads of Department and Administrative Authority

This application must be submitted with the support of the Head of Department or Director of Research and the officer responsible for its administration [e.g. finance officer] from each institution. Each should sign the following declaration:

*I confirm that I have read this application and that, if granted, the work will be accommodated and administered in this Department/Institution in accordance with the HIS Terms and Conditions.*

*I confirm that any additional (non-HIS-funded) resources necessary to support this research are available within the Department/Institution and I understand that HIS does not award FEC.*

*The staff grade and salaries quoted are correct and in accordance with the normal practice of this Institution.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Signature of the Head of Department/Director of Research |  | Signature of the Administrative Authority: |
| Name: | Name: |
| Title: | Title: |
| Address: | Address: |
| Date: | Date: |

Please use a digitised signature in the above signature field to confirm acceptance of the Terms and Conditions. (Please copy these boxes as required).

**Contact for any queries:**

Email: [grants@his.org.uk](mailto:grants@his.org.uk)

## SECTION 9: CHECKLIST

**NOTE: The electronic copy of the application form MUST be received by the deadline.**

After completing the application form, complete the checklist below to ensure everything that is applicable is included with the application.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item** |  |
| Application form fully completed and saved as a PDF | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Confirm that Section 8: Acceptance of Conditions has been signed by all | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Attached abridged CV for applicant and Co-Investigators (maximum 2 x A4 pages) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Letters of agreement from all Co-Investigators (if applicable) attached | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Letters of agreement from all collaborators (if applicable) attached | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Gantt chart attached | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |
| Ethical committee’s letter of approval and risk assessments (if applicable) attached | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | YES | NO | N/A | |

Indicate if there are any additional documents that you are submitting with this application form (not including those stated above) and give relevant names of the supporting documents.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Additional Items** | | |
| Number of additional (not listed above) documents submitted: | |  |
| Filenames/Reference: |  | |

Return your completed application to: [grants@his.org.uk](mailto:grants@his.org.uk)

All information contained within this application form will be treated by HIS as strictly confidential but note that we may rely on external referees to assess your application. Applications are sent to reviewers in strictest confidence.

Note that if your application is successful, information provided in Section 3.3 will be used for HIS purposes as stated.