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**Funding Guide: FAQ**

This guide is designed to help you begin to design your funding application to us.

We offer several types of funding that can support a wide range of activities.

**How should I approach this?**

You should think about research funding as early in your doctoral research as possible. You should speak with your supervisory team about planning your applications to us, and schedule them so that you know you’ll be working on these funded projects at a specific time during your research.

**What kind of funding is there?**

We have funding available for a range of activities. These generally divide into two types:

*Discovery* (funding you to go and do research activities, like fieldwork or conference presentation, exhibitions, performances)

*Collaboration* (funding for outreach work, event organisation, networking, knowledge exchange)

**What do you fund?**

We will support a huge range of activities, from performances to exhibitions, from skills acquisition to large conference organisation, and from collaborative art creation to recording podcasts. The key here is to think carefully about how the funding will help you to develop your research, your career, and your wider profile.

**How do I design a project?**

The most straightforward funding doesn’t need much working on – conference attendance, for instance, will only need the detail of the conference, your attendance, and a travel budget. However, more complex applications take some time to think about. You should spend some time talking with the DTP team, your supervisors, and your peers to think about how this work will expand your doctoral project, what it will contribute, and how it will help you either in your career or your research.

For bigger applications or more complex ideas the best idea is to contact Jerome de Groot who will be able to help you expand your project.

**How do I apply?**

Our online form is easy to use. You should consult the supporting documentation for each application type.

**What are the deadlines?**

We do not have deadlines. You can send in your applications at any time.

**Should I tell my supervisor?**

Yes, you should develop your funding bid in collaboration with your supervisor. Your supervisor will be able to advise you on logistics and how to develop projects. They also need to sign off on the application so should be aware that you are asking for funding well in advance.

**Can I apply for a conference that I’m not speaking at?**

Generally, no. We mainly only fund conference attendance when you are presenting.

However, if you feel that you have a strong and fully justified case for attending a conference that you are *not* presenting at (for example, if the conference in question is focused on your niche research area or will lead to key networking/professional development opportunities), then you may get in touch with us to discuss this.

**How many conferences can I go to?**

We generally fund one conference per year per PGR.

**Can I go overseas?**

Yes, conferences and fieldwork can be undertaken overseas. You need to think carefully about logistics including accommodation, travel, and visas.

**What about Sustainable travel?**

The DTP has a Sustainability toolkit (<https://www.nwcdtp.ac.uk/home/about/the-sustainable-dtp/>). This outlines way that you might mitigate the impact of your travel. We will also happily talk about higher budgets to match more sustainable types of travel (ie taking trains rather than flying).

**Can I apply for carer support?**

Yes, you can. You will need to outline this cost in your application.

**And also childcare?**

Yes, you can. Again, you’ll need to outline it carefully in your application.

**How do I develop a budget?**

In discussion with your supervisor and possibly your local PGR office you can develop a budget.

We are looking to fund reasonable costs, that is, a sense that you have considered how to undertake your project in the most efficient way ever. This does not necessarily mean the cheapest, although we would hope that you would be as careful as possible of the overall cost of the application. If you have a large cost you should explain how and why this will be incurred.

**What is Knowledge Exchange?**

This is a type of activity that works directly with non-University audiences and communities.

**Can I apply repeatedly?**

Some of our grants are designed for you to build on, so you can apply for a small project early in your time with us and gradually build up your experience, network, and skills.

When you are ready to make an application for funding, please [**click this link**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B8tSwU5hu0qBivA1z6kad7CgA23nhT9Mi-8GjIGAUVZUN0FCSTZSVFZEQ0QzRTQ5Q1RZUUwyMzE0OC4u) to access the central funding application form. If you have any further questions or need assistance, please email nwcdtp@manchester.ac.uk .