



International Partnering Awards (IPA) Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility

Q. I have no BBSRC research funding; can I apply for an IPA?

A. No, the IPA call is only open to current BBSRC research grant holders and researchers employed at institutes of BBSRC who are in receipt of BBSRC funding.

In addition to the above criteria applicants should note that the associated BBSRC grant must have started before the application deadline and must have at least 6 months remaining from the start of the award. Further detail may be found in the relevant IPA guidance document (www.bbsrc.ac.uk/internationalschemes).

Q. I am an overseas researcher; can I apply for an IPA?

A. No, as this call is only open to current BBSRC funded researchers, an eligible applicant would need to apply.

Portfolio analyser may be useful for finding potential eligible partners:
<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/pa/grants/QuickSearch.aspx>.

Q. I am a Co-Investigator; can I apply for an IPA?

A. Applications may be accepted from BBSRC Co-Is on large research grants (Strategic Lola or equivalent only) at the discretion of the International Relations Unit.

Q. I am a PI on a BBSRC funded studentship award; can I apply for an IPA?

A. No, holding a BBSRC studentship award or BBSRC funding within an academic department does not confer eligibility for an IPA.

Please see Partnering Award guidance notes for full details on eligibility.

Funding/Remit

Q. What is the maximum level of funding that can be applied for?

A. Funding limits vary between countries (from £20k to £50k); see the specific country Annex to the Guidance notes for full details.

Q. What is the maximum duration of the IPA grant I can apply for?

A. Duration limits vary between countries (from 12 to 48 months); see the specific country Annex to the Guidance notes for full details.

Q. What can I spend IPA funding on?

A. Partnering Award funds can be used for travel, subsistence and other networking or collaborative activities, such as workshops or exchanges.

Partnering award funds can also be used for students however an application will not be accepted where this is the primary aim of the project.

Q. What can I not spend IPA funding on?

A. Funds cannot be used to cover research costs, consumables, and items of equipment, salary costs and conference attendance.

Q. Will BBSRC pay travel and subsistence costs incurred by the overseas partners?

A. This funding can be used to support travel and subsistence costs for an overseas partner to visit the UK.

Proposal preparation and submission

Q. When are the IPA Deadlines?

A. The Partnering Award scheme runs every year; the call usually open in mid-September and closes in mid-November.

The 2017 call opens Monday 11 September 2017 and closes at 4pm on Thursday 16 November 2017.

Please see the BBSRC website for up to date announcements:
<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/internationalfunding/>.

Q. Can I request an extension of time to submit a proposal?

A. No, applications received after the submission deadline will not be accepted. Please submit early to your research office to allow them sufficient time to submit the application.

Q. How do I submit an IPA application?

A. All applications must be made through the Research Councils Joint Electronic Submission System (JeS). Please see Partnering Award guidance notes for full details on the JeS application.

To note, if applying to the Taiwan Partnering Awards Call, the Taiwanese Partners are required to submit a corresponding application to the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). Taiwan applicants should consult MOST for up to date details of their application procedure.

Q. What documents should I attach in my JeS IPA application?

A. A 3 page Case for Support and a Gantt chart or diagrammatic action plan (maximum 1 side of A4) must be uploaded as an attachment in JeS.

Letters of Support and Proposal Covering Letter are optional.

Q. Where in JeS do I input details of the overseas Partner?

A. You will need to input details of the overseas Partner in the 'Project Partner' section of the JeS form. They should not be included in the Co-Investigator section.

Q. Where in JeS do I input details of my related BBSRC grant?

A. You will need to input details of your related BBSRC grant with which the proposal is associated in the 'Related Grants' section of the JeS form. If the grant is not available in this section please complete the requested information at the start of the 'Case for Support'.

Q. What do I do if I need to check the JeS process?

A. Please see Partnering Award guidance notes for full details on the JeS application. If you need any further guidance, please contact the JeS helpdesk: JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk /+44 (0) 1793 44 4164.

Q. When will we hear the application outcome?

A. Outcomes will be announced in Feb/March 2018 and successful grants should expect to start after 1st April 2018.

Post Award

Q. I would like to request an Extension for my IPA?

A. All requests for extensions must be made once the required duration of the extension is known and before the grant ends. All extension requests must be made through your JeS account, via the 'Grant Maintenance' facility. The request will then come to BBSRC and we will provide a response as soon as possible. If you need any guidance in using the 'Grant Maintenance' facility to submit your extension request, please contact the JeS helpdesk: JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk /+44 (0) 1793 44 4164.

Q. What are the Reporting Requirements for my IPA?

A. All Grant Holders must use researchfish® to record key findings and specific outputs from their grants. Grant Holders can enter information into researchfish® at any time throughout the year and submit during the annual Submission Period.

For International Partnering Awards BBSRC expects the following sections in researchfish® to be completed as a minimum requirement:

- Key findings
- Collaborations and partnerships
- Secondments and placements
- Further funding
- Publications
- Narrative Impact
- Animal Use

For further information and updates please see:
<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/researchoutcomes/>.

- Q. My question is not answered above or in the guidance notes on the BBSRC website. What should I do?**
- A.** For eligibility and administrative queries, please contact Sania Afzal (Email: sania.afzal@bbsrc.ac.uk; Tel: +44 (0)1793 413364)