

National Institute on Aging: co-funding scheme

UK-US collaborative funding in the biology of ageing

Call status: Closed

NIA application deadline (cycle III): 12 November 2013

Background

In 2009, BBSRC and National Institute on Aging (NIA) funded six grants via the Joint Collaborative Research on the Biology of Ageing Initiative (see related links) whereby NIA funded the US partners (total \$3M) and BBSRC funded the UK partners (total £2.6M).

To continue to encourage UK-US collaborations, BBSRC and NIA have established a co-funding scheme whereby BBSRC will support the UK component of joint UK-US projects submitted to the NIA grant funding system. Currently, up to £2M is available for this scheme.

Scope

The funders wish to encourage high quality, innovative collaborative research to advance the understanding in the biology ageing in the following specific topic areas only:

- **Age-related effects of diet on bacteria and gut health** - Discovering how interactions between nutrition, the gut microbiota and host tissues influence health in later life
- **Ageing bladder and bowel** - The underpinning biology and physiology of the ageing bladder and bowel, and the maintenance of homeostasis and function throughout the lifecourse
- **Age-related changes in circadian rhythms and sleep** - How the ageing process affects circadian/biological rhythms and sleep, and implications for health and wellbeing in later life.

The UK component must fall within our remit. We will **not** fund research directed at human pathology and disease. The US component should address NIA's remit.

How to apply

- Potential UK applicants are strongly advised to contact BBSRC prior to the application and submission process using the brief expression of interest form (see webpage)
- The UK component of UK-US collaborative projects will be assessed through the NIA peer review process and funded by BBSRC
- **Applications must be submitted to the NIH** (including a cover letter asking for assignment to NIA). Applicants should respond to Funding Opportunity Announcement Number PA-11-260: Research Project Grant (Parent R01). For more information visit the NIH website (see external links)
- The US partner must be the primary investigator (US nomenclature) and the UK partner should be set out as a subcontract
- A lead investigator (US nomenclature) for the UK component must be designated (Note: this would be equivalent to a UK principal investigator). Further UK investigators (co-investigators) may be identified and costed on the subcontract. The institution of the lead investigator will be responsible for receiving and distributing BBSRC funding
- We will supply the applicants with a letter of support **which must be included in the application**. The letter of support will state that in the event the application is successful, BBSRC will fund the UK

component of the collaboration (identified in the subcontract), subject to budget (see supplementary guidance on webpage).

Additional information for UK partners

- UK applicants **must be eligible for BBSRC research funding** and the standard BBSRC responsive mode eligibility rules apply. Full details of eligibility conditions can be found in our grants guide (see related links)
- **The UK component must fall within our remit** and for the purpose of this co-funding scheme, only applications that address one or more of the specific topic areas stated above will be considered at this time
- The UK research component should be integrated in the overall research plan
- For the purpose of this co-funding scheme, projects must be up to 3 years in duration
- Applicants are strongly advised to have contacted BBSRC prior to the application and submission process to ensure eligibility and remit criteria have been met
- To obtain a letter of support from BBSRC, the UK lead investigator will need to generate a standard proposal proforma using the Je-S system, but this should **not** be submitted electronically to BBSRC at this stage (see supplementary guidance above).
- The completed PDF documents (Je-S proforma and CVs) should then be **sent electronically to Coll.Age@bbsrc.ac.uk at least 10 working days before the application deadline**
- The UK lead investigator must send an electronic copy of the full submitted NIA application form to BBSRC (Coll.Age@bbsrc.ac.uk)

Key dates

	Cycle II	Cycle III
Deadline for submission of Je-S proforma to BBSRC	22 May 2013, 5pm	5 September 2013, 5pm
Deadline for submission of standard R01 applications to NIA	5 June 2013	12 November 2013
NIA scientific merit review	October/November 2013	February/March 2014
NIA Advisory Council round	January 2014	May 2014
Earliest project start date	April 2014	July 2014

Contact

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