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- Apply for funding

Apply for funding

The MND Association is a world leader in funding cutting-edge MND research and facilitating international research collaboration. Find out about the research grants we offer and how these are selected below.

Types of grants

The MND Association supports five different types of grants. Find out more about each scheme and how and when you can apply for funding below.

PhD Studentships (Biomedical and Healthcare)

Through our successful PhD studentship programme we have a track record of attracting and funding promising young scientists to develop their careers in MND research. We only fund research of the highest scientific/clinical excellence and greatest relevance to MND.

Deadline

We hope to accept further studentship applications in 2023, see planned deadlines below.

Please read our [Guidelines](#), [Terms and Conditions](#) and our [Guide to Completing the Online Summary Application Form](#). It is also recommended that you read the [MND Association Research Strategy](#) and [Research Governance Overview](#).

Duration

Awards will be offered for **three years** to allow registered students to undertake full-time research for a PhD.

Eligibility

Studentship applications are invited from prospective supervisors, based in UK and Ireland laboratories. Collaborative projects between departments are welcomed, provided the relative roles of the supervisors and departments are addressed. Supervisors should recruit and nominate the student of their choice (subject to MND Association approval). Students should hold, or expect to obtain, a first or upper second class honours degree.

Assessment and Budget

Please see our Guidelines for more information on assessment criteria and budget information.

Biomedical Research Projects



We are committed to playing a key role in ending MND. Our biomedical research programme is delivering significant and measurable advances in understanding and treating the disease. We only fund research of the highest scientific excellence and greatest relevance to MND.

Application Process and Deadlines

Applications will be **opening in September 2022** and the **deadline is 28 October 2022**.

If you are interested in applying in 2022, please read our [Guidelines](#), [Terms and Conditions](#) and our [Guide to Completing the Online Summary Application Form](#). It is also recommended that you read the [MND Association Research Strategy](#) and [Research Governance Overview](#).

If you need further information please email research.grants@mndassociation.org.

Duration

Grants will be offered for up to three years duration. Applications for less than two years should include a named researcher with the relevant expertise, familiar with the laboratory.

Eligibility

Applicants can be based outside the UK and Ireland, provided the project is unique in concept or design (i.e. no similar research is being performed in the UK) **and** involves a significant aspect of collaboration with a UK institute.

Assessment and Budget

Please see our guidelines for more information on assessment criteria and budget information.

Clinical Research Fellowships

Our **Lady Edith Wolfson Fellowship** programme, in partnership with the [Medical Research Council](#) (MRC), is attracting and developing outstanding young clinicians in MND research in order to create future scientific leaders in this field.

Central to the MND Association's [research strategy](#) is the need to develop opportunities for the scientific training of young clinicians, to strengthen the links between the laboratory and the clinic.

The MRC/MND Association Lady Edith Wolfson Fellowships aim to support clinicians wishing to pursue research into the pathogenesis and treatment of motor neurone disease. Awards under this scheme are available at three levels:

Clinical Research Training Fellowships

The next deadline date is for 2022 round three : **7 September 2022**

The deadline date for 2023 round one is **11 January 2023**

The deadline date for 2023 round two is **5 April 2023**

Clinical Scientist Fellowships

The next deadline date is for 2022 round three: **7 September 2022**

The deadline date for 2023 round one is **11 January 2023**

The deadline date for 2023 round two is **5 April 2023**



Senior Clinical Fellowships

There is usually only one annual round for this scheme.

The next deadline **5 April 2023**

Please check all deadlines on the [MRC's website](#). The application systems are usually open about two months before the deadline.

How to apply

The Lady Edith Wolfson Fellowships are administered by the MRC. Further information can be found on the [MRC website](#).

If you wish to discuss your proposed research area in advance of submission, please contact [Dr Brian Dickie](#), our Director of Research Development.

Non-Clinical Research Fellowships

Since 2015 the MND Association has awarded non-clinical fellowships to nurture the best post-doctoral researchers and develop the MND research leaders of the future.

The fellowships will be awarded at two levels, depending on the experience of the applicant: **Junior Non-Clinical fellowships** or **Senior Non-Clinical fellowships**.

Deadline

We hope to accept further applications in 2023, see planned deadlines below.

Please read our [Guidelines](#), [Terms and Conditions](#) and our [Guide to Completing the Online Summary Application Form](#). It is also recommended that you read the [MND Association Research Strategy](#) and [Research Governance Overview](#).

Duration

Grants will be offered for up to three or four years duration.

- **Junior Non-Clinical** – awards will be offered for 2 – 3 years
- **Senior Non-Clinical** – awards will be offered for 3 – 4 years

Eligibility

Fellowship awards may only be held at an institute in the UK and Ireland. At the time of application the prospective fellow may be based elsewhere

- **Junior Non-Clinical** – applicants must have 2 – 6 years post-doctoral experience at the time of commencement of the award. Exceptional final year PhD students may apply but should consult the Association prior to submitting a summary application.
- **Senior Non-Clinical** – applicants must have 4 – 10 years post-doctoral experience at the time of commencement of the award.

Assessment and Budget



Please see our guidelines for more information on assessment criteria and budget information.

Healthcare Research

The MND Association has a longstanding record in commissioning and funding healthcare research. Our goal is that healthcare research we fund will lead to better symptom management and quality of life for people with MND, their families and carers and help strengthen the case for public funding of high-quality MND care.

We hope to accept further Healthcare applications in 2023, see planned deadlines below.

Researchers should be able to demonstrate their proposed study will inform and expand the NICE Guideline: [Motor Neurone Disease: Assessment and Management](#) through identification of knowledge gaps and/or generation of more robust base, strengthening the case for statutory funding of high-quality MND care.

Please read our [Project Grant Guidelines](#) and [PhD Studentship Guidelines, Terms and Conditions](#) and our Guide to [Completing the Online Summary Application Form](#). It is also recommended that you read the MND Association Research Strategy and [Research Governance Overview](#) with [Supporting Document](#).

We also have a longstanding record of supporting studies in co-operation with other agencies, such as [Marie Curie](#) to fund research into improved care for those living with MND. We will be keen to discuss opportunities for jointly funded initiatives at any time.

Enquiries about Healthcare research can be directed to the Research Grants Team at research.grants@mndassociation.org.

Grant deadlines

See below for upcoming grant opening and deadline dates.

Grant type	Applications accepted Deadline for applications	
Biomedical Research projects	mid-September 2022	28 October 2022
Biomedical PhD Studentships	mid-March 2023	28 April 2023
Non-Clinical Research Fellowships	mid-March 2023	28 April 2023
Healthcare Project Grants and Studentships	mid-March 2023	28 April 2023
MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowships	22 July 2022	7 September 2022
MRC Clinical Scientist Fellowships	22 July 2022	7 September 2022
MRC Senior Clinical Fellowships	10 February 2023	5 April 2023

How do we fund research?

Funding for **biomedical research** is awarded by way of three types of grant: Biomedical project grants, PhD studentships and Non-Clinical Fellowships. All interested applicants are first required to submit a **summary application**, and successful candidates are then invited to submit a **full application**. This is reviewed by external peer reviewers and internally by the Biomedical Research Advisory Panel ([BRAP](#)). The highest scoring applications are then recommended to the Board of Trustees for a final decision. For a more detailed explanation of the process read our [Biomedical Research Governance Overview](#).



Applications for **Healthcare Project Grants** are also subject to external peer review and discussion by the Healthcare Research Advisory Panel ([HRAP](#)) and Board of Trustees. Please also see the [Healthcare Governance Overview](#) and [Supporting Document](#) for more information.

Statements and policies on research

Research funded by the MND Association is guided by our terms and conditions. Terms and conditions of each type of grant can be found within their dedicated section.

We also have a number of statements on research including research involving animals, stem cells, unproven treatments and our research knowledge strategy.

[Find out more about our research policies](#)

Open access

Grantees of awards are mandated to make their peer reviewed papers directly arising from the grant available through open access. We work with [Europe PMC](#) in making our research papers available open-access. To apply for open-access funding, please see below.

[Read more about open access](#)

For more information please email us at research.grants@mndassociation.org or phone on **01604 611873**.

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