The Academy of Medical Sciences

Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers – online application form template

(For further guidance, please see pages 23-30)

Page 1: Contact information

Applicant personal details

Name	Phone	Email	Institutional address

Current employer or Institution

yes

ORCID ID

Enter your ORCID using the following format: http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1825-0097
ORCID is a unique digital identifier for researchers. If you don't already have one, you can register here.

AMS mentor

Do you have an Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS) mentor?	Yes/No
If yes - **Please provide the name and institution of your AMS Mentor.** *Note: This information is for AMS Office use only. Your answer will be used to identify conflicts of interest when conducting peer review and will be kept confidential.*	
If no - **Would you like to find out more about the AMS mentoring programme?**	Yes/No

Page 2: Supervisors' contact details

Academic supervisor details

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Phone number	
Email	
Institution	
Postal address	

Clinical supervisor details

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Phone number	
Email	
Institution	
Postal address	

Page 3: Current position

Clinical discipline *Note: form questions will differ according to your response to this question. Please ensure you have answered it correctly before continuing your application.*	Choose from: Human medicine, Dental medicine, Veterinary medicine

Clinicians in human or dental medicine only:

Please indicate your Parent Deanery or Local Education and Training Board for clinical training purposes.	Select option from drop-down menu
Title of current position	
Source of funding for current post	Choose from: NIHR, Matched CL funded by Institution, Other If Matched/Other - Text box: Please specify the source of funding for your current post. If you are on a matched Clinical Lectureship funded by your Institution, please provide the name of the scheme.
Start date of Clinical Lectureship	
End date of Clinical Lectureship	
Does the end date of your Clinical Lectureship fall before your proposed Project end date?	Yes/No

If 'Yes', provide a letter of support from your academic supervisor/Head of Department confirming that your contract will be extended for the full project duration.	Choose your file(s) or drag and drop files here to upload File name | Date uploaded | Action *The letter should be on headed paper and will need to confirm that for the full project duration you will continue to have protected research time, appropriate supervisory arrangements, and access to necessary facilities, equipment or lab space*
Clinical specialty training *Please select your primary area of specialty training, as registered with the relevant Royal College from the provided list.*	Select option from drop-down menu
If you have a subspecialty or second specialty, please specify.	Maximum 10 words

Clinicians in veterinary medicine only:

Title of current position	
Please indicate your veterinary institution for clinical training purposes.	
Source of funding for current post	Choose from: NIHR, Matched CL funded by Institution, Other If Matched/Other – Text box: Please specify the source of funding for your current post. If you are on a matched Clinical Lectureship funded by your Institution, please provide the name of the scheme.
Current position	Choose from: SCTS (resident) and First University (probationary) appointment
Clinical specialty	Select option from drop-down menu
Affiliation with Veterinary College	Select option from drop-down menu
Start date of current position	
SCTS only: end date of current position	
Specialty Board Certification details	Choose from: In Training, Credentials completed, Board Certified, Other
If 'Other' - Specialty board certification details	*If your current status does not match the options above, for example if Speciality Board Certification is not available within your field, please specify here.*

All applicants:

Research area

Please identify your broad research area from the provided list.

Select option from drop-down menu

What is the balance of clinical to research commitments/times for your post?

Please ensure that this adds up to 100% e.g. Clinical commitments = 45%, Research commitments = 55%

Clinical commitments percentage	
Research commitments percentage	

Please detail how your time is organised/allocated throughout the week, month or year to result in the percentage above.

(150 words max)

Outline of supervisory arrangements and mentoring support

Please explain how these are best placed and suited to support your proposed work and future aspirations.

(150 words max)

Current post aims and objectives

Please explain what the broader aims and objectives for your current post are.

(150 words max)

Future career aspirations

How will this application take your career forward and help you attain independence and secure future fellowship funding and promotions?

(150 words max)

The Academy of Medical Sciences

Page 4: Career summary

Academic qualifications and training

Please provide details of your qualifications and relevant training, listing the most recent first. Please include the name of the college/university where the qualification was obtained, the subject title, the grade awarded, and the date the qualification was obtained.

If you have previously been known professionally by a different name and would like to share this with Academy staff and reviewers, please state it here.

Time out of research

If applicable, please detail any notable periods of time you were out of research.

(150 words max)

Impact of COVID-19

This question is an opportunity for you to inform reviewers and panel members of the impact of COVID-19 on your:

- Research
- Publications
- Funding
- Research time
- Institutional support
- Other

There is a word limit of 500 words for this impact statement.

As part of your statement, applicants are asked not to:

1. Name any third-party individuals,
2. Identify the relationship with any third parties,
3. Otherwise include anything which might identify the third party.

The Academy encourages applicants to use phrases such as 'a close relative had COVID-19 and required significant support in order to recover' or 'I had to carry out caring responsibilities in addition to my research and admin workload, which had an impact on the amount of time I could dedicate to my research'.

(500 words max)

The Academy of Medical Sciences

Research degrees

Please specify which of the two you hold.	Choose from: MD and PhD If MD - please confirm the duration of your research training.
Thesis title and a brief summary of your MD or PhD (150 words max)	
Further information on MD or PhD	
Date awarded	
Institution	
Source of PhD/MD funding	

Other research experience

Please give details of any research experience, other than your PhD or MD. This can include research highlights, for example PPI activities, courses or workshops facilitated and attended, teaching and mentoring activities, advisory group participation, commitments including editing, reviewing, refereeing, positions of responsibility within your department, institution or organisation, managing national and/or international networks etc., if not listed elsewhere on your application.

(150 words max)

Publications arising from your MD or PhD and other research undertaken

Please include only published papers and those in press. Give all authors, title and journal as shown below and add an asterisk next to your name.

Bomken S*, Buechler L, Rehe K, Ponthan F, Elder A, Blair H, Bacon CM, Vormoor J, Heidenreich O. Lentiviral marking of patient-derived acute lymphoblastic leukaemia cells allows *in vivo* tracking of disease progression. Leukaemia 2013;27:718-721

Original research papers in peer-reviewed journals	
Review articles and contributions to books	

Provide details of up to three of your publications, which you consider the most significant or relevant to the application and your career to date

Please explain your selection and highlight your role within each study.

In addition to using the format described in the above question when citing publications, please also provide a statement describing the contribution of each author in the study following the CRediT Taxonomy of author contributions. All of the authors listed on the paper should be mentioned in this section at least once.

Selected publication 1:	
Selected publication 2:	
Selected publication 3:	

Funding history

Please list all the current and previous research funding awarded to you in the last five years, listing the most recent first. If applicable, please detail how these grants relate to this proposal. Please also include any pending funding applications and confirm whether there are any overlaps with this proposal. Please clearly state whether the outcomes of these applications have yet to be released and indicate when you expect to receive them (if known).

State the name of the awarding body, name(s) of grant holder(s), title of project, amounts awarded, your role in the project, and start and end dates of support. For any active grants, please indicate the number of hours per week that are spent on each project.

If you have not held a grant previously and have no pending funding applications, please write "not applicable" or "N/A".

Other research outputs, such as datasets, software, influence on policy and practice, educational products, commercial/entrepreneurial/industrial products, creative research activities (for example, public engagement, outreach, knowledge exchange)

(150 words max)

Registration numbers (Clinicians in human or dental medicine only)

GMC or GDC Registration	
NTN/NTNA number	
Estimated CCT date *	
If the CCT date indicated above will occur <u>before</u> your proposed starter grant end date, you must provide details of the plans that will be put in place to ensure you are afforded sufficient research time post-CCT to complete this grant. If the CCT date will occur after your proposed starter grant end date, please indicate 'not applicable'. Applicants from Primary Care and Dentistry should indicate 'not applicable'. (150 words max)	

**** Note: this scheme is targeted at those commencing research early in their Clinical Lectureship, therefore:***

- You are not eligible to apply if you have already attained your CCT (unless you are a Clinical Lecturer in Primary Care and Dentistry).
- Please note that your CCT date must fall after your proposed project start date.
- If part of your proposed project falls after your CCT date, or you have had your clinical lectureship extended, please describe the plans that will be put in place to ensure you are afforded sufficient research time post-CCT to complete this grant. Your academic supervisor and Head of department need to be in a position to support such statements if asked by the Academy.

Clinicians in veterinary medicine only:

MRCVS Registration number	
Protected research time *Please provide details below of the plans that will be put in place to ensure you are afforded sufficient research time to complete this grant.* (150 words max)	

Page 5: Research proposal

Proposal title

Please provide the full title of your project.

Project duration

Note: The expectation is that applicants will conduct their research over the course of two years. However, the Panel may consider - if justified - a shorter duration, but no less than one year. The earliest possible project start date will be March of the following year (for rounds closing in September) and September of the same year (for rounds closing in March); for example, if the round closes to applications in March 2024, the earliest start date is 1 September 2024. If it closes in September 2024, the earliest start date is 1 March 2025.

Proposed project start date	
Proposed project end date	

Scientific summary

Please provide a scientific summary of your proposed project, suitable for an expert reader. This should be a summary of your research proposal, briefly outlining the background and summarising the aims and objectives of your project.

(250 words max)

The Academy of Medical Sciences

Lay summary

Provide a lay summary of your proposal. This should be understood by a layperson. Explain why you have chosen to study this subject area and what it is about your proposal that you find particularly exciting, interesting or important. Please also explain the potential impact or wider benefits to society of your research. You can find top tips for writing a lay summary in this article.

(250 words max)

Research proposal

Your research proposal should provide a general description of the proposed research to be carried out. This should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Clear specification of the context and research objectives of the proposed study,
- Why the research is important,
- A brief description of any background work undertaken so far (limit: up to 1/3 of your response),
- Plan of investigation, including a detailed description of the methodology and design,
- An indication of the milestones and timescales.

Please use numbers to refer to your references, which you can provide in the following question. If applicable, preliminary data, figures, and tables can be uploaded and attached to your proposal separately below.

(1000 words max)

References

Please list any scientific references mentioned in your proposal.

Tables and figures

Please upload any tables or figures to support your proposal. Be aware you cannot upload images in TIFF format.	Choose your file(s) *or drag and drop files here to upload* File name | Date uploaded | Action

Resubmissions

Have you applied to this scheme before?	Yes/No
If 'yes' **- In which round did you submit your first application?**	Select option from drop-down menu
Please detail how you have developed the proposal since the previous submission (500 words max).	

Keywords

Please provide up to six keywords that might be helpful in classifying your research:

Reviewers

Please suggest up to three potential reviewers for your application.

Reviewers should not be based at your current or previous institution(s), nor at those of your collaborator(s). Co-authors in previous publications should also be excluded. Your suggestions will be hidden from reviewers and Panel members. You will be asked to confirm that you have not collaborated or co-published with the indicated individuals Please note that although we will consider all nominated reviewers, it is not guaranteed that we will contact them for comments.

Name	**Institution**	**Email address**	**I have not collaborated or published with them**
			☐
			☐
			☐

Reviewers to be excluded

You may indicate up to two potential reviewers that you wish to be excluded from the peer review selection process. This information will be hidden from other reviewers and Panel members.

Name	**Institution**

What aspects of the research do you regard as innovative?

(150 words max)

Research environment

Describe the laboratory facilities and any technical support that will be available to you.

(150 words max)

Collaborations

Describe any collaborations that are involved in this project. Please list all collaborators, their affiliations and their role(s).

(250 words max)

Importance of Starter Grant to you

How would this grant strengthen your longer-term research aims/plans? What are your plans for future/continued funding?

(150 words max)

Page 6: Animal use

Use of Animals

It is important for us to know if any animals will be used in your research project and, if so, that you comply with the Academy's Policy and Position on the use of animals in research. The Academy is committed to being open about when, how and why animals are used in the projects we fund. In addition, we aim to ensure that every effort is made to replace, refine and reduce animals in research. For more information, please see www.nc3rs.org.uk

Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 and subsequent amendments. Welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation must be applied and maintained, wherever the work is conducted.
If your proposed research involves animal experiments, we encourage you to consult the NC3Rs Experimental Design Assistant (EDA) to help you design your study. This complements the ARRIVE guidelines (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) for reporting animal research. Our awardees are required to follow these guidelines when conducting research using animals to improve the design, analysis and reporting of animal research, maximising information published and minimising unnecessary studies. Further useful guidelines and practical information in the use of animals can also be obtained from the 3Rs resources library.
You are also encouraged to refer to the PREPARE guidelines when planning your animal experiments.

This section gives applicants the opportunity to explain the use of animals involved in their project proposals and measures in place to ensure openness about their use. Where non-human primates, cats, dogs or equines are used, anonymised information will be sent to the NC3Rs for review.

Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue?	Yes/No

If 'Yes':

Does your proposal comply with the Academy's Policy and Position statement on the use of animals in research?	Yes/No
Does your proposal include procedures to be carried out on animals in the UK under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act?	Yes/No
Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissues outside of the UK?	Yes/No
If 'Yes' - **Will the proposed experiments be performed to standards in accordance with the principles of UK legislation?**	Yes/No
Furthermore, will the housing and care of animals be in accordance with the principles of UK legislation?	Yes/No
Are the appropriate national and institutional approvals in place? Please provide details. (200 words max)	
Please select the species to be used overseas from the species below.	Choose from: Cattle, Goat, Pig, Rabbit, Rodent, Sheep, Xenopus, Other Subsequent questions will vary depending on option selected
Have the following necessary approvals been given by the Home Office (in relation to personal, project and established licenses) and Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body?	Yes/No/Not required
If your project involves the use of animals, what would be the severity of the procedures?	Choose from: Mild, Moderate, Severe,

Please provide details of any moderate or severe procedures. (300 words max)	
Why is animal use necessary; are there any other possible approaches? (300 words max)	
Please provide details of the animal species to be used.	
Please provide details of the number(s) of animals to be used.	
Why is the species/model to be used the most appropriate? (300 words max)	

Experimental design

Please describe the experimental design, including any plans to reduce bias such as blinding or randomisation if appropriate.

A justification of the proposed sample size must be given along with details of the planned statistical analyses. Power calculations must be included in this section if appropriate. We would recommend that you consider use of the NC3Rs Experimental Design Assistant when developing your proposal.

(500 words max)

Experimental Design Assistant Report

(Optional) Please upload your Experimental Design Assistant (EDA) report in support of your proposal.

Choose your file(s)
or drag and drop files here to upload

File name	Date uploaded	Action

Do your experiments involve the use of non-human primates?

Yes/No

Do your experiments involve the use of cats, dogs and/or equines?

Yes/No

Do your experiments involve the use of wild animals?

Yes/No

Note**: your answer to the questions above will modify the questions you are asked to answer regarding your research; please ensure that you have answered it correctly before proceeding. **If you select any of the above animal types, please be aware that your form will be reviewed by the NC3Rs.

If your proposed research uses non-human primates, you must also answer the following:

Do the facilities and practices and the proposed research comply with the principles set out in the NC3Rs Guidelines 'Primate accommodation, care and use'?	Yes/No
Please explain why and why not. (300 words max)	
From where will the non-human primates be sourced? Name the supplier and give their location. (300 words max)	
Will it be necessary to transport the non-human primates (i.e. from breeding facilities and within the research establishment)?	Yes/No
Please indicate approximate journey times and the measures that will be taken to minimise the potential stress during transport. (300 words max)	
Please provide details of the housing of the animals, e.g. enclosure size, space allocation per animal, and the environmental enrichment provided. (300 words max)	
Will single housing of the non-human primates be necessary at any time?	Yes/No
Please provide details in terms of the justification for single housing, its duration, and what additional resources will be provided to the animals to minimise the impact on animal welfare. (300 words max)	
Describe the experimental procedures involved and how any pain, suffering or distress and/or lasting harm will be minimised. (300 words max)	
Have the procedures been recently reviewed by the Named Veterinary Surgeon (NVS), Named Animal Care and Welfare Officer (NACWO) and Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body (AWERB)?	Yes/No
Will any of the experimental procedures involve food and/or water control?	Yes/No
Justify why this is necessary and outline what alternatives have been considered.	

(300 words max)	
Will the NC3Rs recommendations on refining food/fluid control **be met?**	Yes/No
Please explain where not and why. (300 words max)	
Will any of the experimental procedures involve restraint?	Yes/No
What alternatives have been considered? (300 words max)	
Describe the nature of the restraint, its duration and frequency, and what will be done to avoid distress. (300 words max)	
What prior experience and training in non-human primate use, care and welfare do staff members named in the application have? (300 words max)	
What provision is made for continuing professional development in these areas? (300 words max)	
Will any of the staff involved require specific training for any of the procedures concerned?	Yes/No
Please provide details of the training needed and where it will be undertaken. (300 words max)	
Do you envisage any advances arising from the research that might lead to replacement, refinement or reduction of the use of non-human primates?	Yes/No
What might they be, and how do you propose to disseminate such findings? (300 words max)	

If your proposed research uses cats, dogs, pigs and/or equines, you must also answer the following:

From where will the animals be sourced? Name the supplier and give their location. (300 words max)	
Will it be necessary to transport the animals?	Yes/No
Please indicate approximate journey times and the measure that will be taken to minimise the potential stress during transport. (300 words max)	
Where animals are to be imported, what journey times have been agreed with the Home Office? (300 words max)	

Describe the conditions for the animals at the breeding establishment and how the potential stress during transport will be minimised. (300 words max)	
Please provide details of the housing for the animals, for example, enclosure size, stocking density, environmental enrichment, access to exercise areas/pasture for grazing (equines). (300 words max)	
Will single housing of the animals be necessary at any time?	Yes/No
Please provide details in terms of the justification for single housing, its duration, and what additional resources will be provided to the animals to minimise the impact of the single housing. (300 words max)	
Describe the experimental procedures involved and how any pain, suffering, distress and/or lasting harm will be minimised. (300 words max)	
Have the procedures been recently reviewed by the Named Veterinary Surgeon (NVS), Named Animal Care and Welfare Officer (NACWO) and Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body (AWERB)? (300 words max)	
Will any of the experimental procedures involve restraint?	Yes/No
What alternatives have been considered? (300 words max)	
Describe the nature of the restraint, its duration and frequency, and what will be done to avoid distress? (300 words max)	
What prior experience and training in animal use, care and welfare do staff members named in the application have? (300 words max)	
What provision is made for continuing professional development in these areas? (300 words max)	
Will any of the staff involved require specific training for any of the procedures concerned?	Yes/No
Please provide details of the training needed and where it will be undertaken. (300 words max)	

Do you envisage any advances arising from the research that might lead to replacement, refinement or reduction of the use of animals?	Yes/No
What might these be, and how do you propose to disseminate such findings? (300 words max)	

If your proposed research uses wild animals, you must also answer the following:

Please provide details regarding the capture of usage of the wild animals. For example, how will the animals be trapped, and will a veterinarian be present for the duration of the trapping period?

(300 words max)

Page 7: Human tissues or subjects

Use of human tissue or Subjects
If your proposal features the use of human tissues or subjects, on this page you will need to confirm that the study has been approved and enclose details of the approval.

Research involving human participants is governed by principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki, the Nuremberg Code, and the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), all of which set out requirements with regard to the rights and safety of research participants and standards for research design and conduct.

The Academy requires researchers to have the relevant regulatory and ethical approvals in place before the relevant research begins, although you may apply for funding before this. In the event of an award being made, commencement of any research involving human participants will be subject to these approvals being in place and sent to the Academy.

Does your study involve the use of human tissue or subjects?	Yes/No
If 'Yes' - Have you been granted approval for your proposed study?	Yes/No
If 'Yes' - Please give details of the approval. (150 words max)	
If 'No' - Please give details on when you expect to obtain approval and any impacts on the work proposed (150 words max)	

Page 8: Output management, sharing and subsidy control

To maintain research integrity, institutions and researchers must ensure research outputs are preserved so that results can be verified, and data reused in the future. The Academy expects all Starter Grant award holders to maximise the availability of research outputs.

You should consider your approach for managing and sharing research outputs at the research proposal stage. The Academy will review those plans as part of the funding decision.

We do not have a set format for data management and sharing plans. You can structure your plan in a manner most appropriate to the proposed research. The information submitted in plans should focus specifically on how the outputs will be managed and shared, detailing the repositories where data will be deposited. However, in considering your approach for outputs management and sharing, you should consider the following questions as briefly and unambiguously as possible.

1. What outputs will your research generate and what outputs will have value to other researchers?
2. Where and when will you make the outputs available?
3. If the research output is of high public interest, how will it be made accessible not only for those in the same or linked field, but also to a wider public audience?
4. Specify whether any limits will be placed on the outputs to be shared, for example, for the purposes of safeguarding commercial interests, personal information, safety or security of the data.
5. How will data and metadata be stored, backed up and preserved, to ensure their long-term value?
6. What resources (including financial and time) will you require to deliver your plan?
7. Does your Institution have a data repository that is available to you?

Please provide an outputs management plan

Please read the scheme guidance notes and outline your plans for the management of your research outputs in a way that will achieve the greatest health benefit, maximising the availability of research data, software and materials with as few restrictions as possible.

(300 words max)

Subsidy control

The UK subsidy control regime began on 4 January 2023. As part of this regime, the Academy is required to report to the UK Government on how award funding is being used when applications collaborating with commercial enterprises are awarded. The regime determines the lawfulness of monetary awards made using public sector resources when given to businesses and other organisations that are engaged in economic activity.

Do any of the activities proposed in this application involve applied research?	Yes/No

Basic Research - Basic (also known as fundamental) research is experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundation of phenomena and observable facts, without any particular application or use in view. Applied research - Where the research will have a particular application or use in mind.	
If 'Yes' - Please provide details of the applied research. (100 words max)	
Are you collaborating with a commercial enterprise as part of the proposed work?	Yes/No
If 'Yes' - Will the results from this research plan, that do not give rise to intellectual property, be made available to be widely disseminated in accordance with the Academy's award terms and conditions?	Yes/No
Will any intellectual property rights arising from the research be allocated to the organisations involved in a manner which reflects their contributions?	Yes/No
If 'No' - If the commercial enterprise is retaining the intellectual property rights, will the non-enterprise participants receive compensation equivalent to the market price for their contributions?	Yes/No

Use of generative AI

Please provide a summary of any generative AI tools used in the development of your application.

Please see our AI policy for applicants, reviewers and Panel members here

Please note: this summary won't be used as part of the decision-making process and will not be shared with peer reviewers or funding Panel.

Have you used generative AI in the planning, development or writing of this application?	Yes/No
If 'Yes' - Please provide detail on your use of generative AI in this application. **Please ensure that you highlight where generative AI was used and**	

which AI tool was used in this process. (200 words max)	

Page 9: Your budget request

Budget
Note: The Starter Grants scheme is only able to provide a ***maximum £30,000 grant*** over two years. The ***minimum available is £15,000***.

Funds can be used for direct research running costs, including but not limited to laboratory consumables, equipment, animal costs, access to data sets, essential software and licences, and technical support. The grant cannot cover your personal salary costs or provide funding for research assistants, PhD students or post-doctoral staff. Funds can, however, be used to contribute towards necessary technical support that is already available at the host institution.

Please provide clear details within the budget table for each item, using the 'Edit Item' button to name the item requested. **It is important that each item is clearly named**. You can remove any budget items that are not required using the 'Remove Item' button.

Budget Heading	Cost	Year 1	Year 2	Total
Materials/ consumables				0.00
Equipment				0.00
Animals				0.00
Technical support				0.00
Grand total		**Year 1 total cost:** £0.00	**Year 2 total cost:** £0.00	**Total:** £0.00

Justify any high-cost (>£5,000) budgetary items and any technical support requested.
Please note that the grant cannot cover the applicant's personal salary costs or provide funding for research assistants, PhD students or postdoctoral staff. However, using part of the funds to buy the time of an existing member of staff (e.g., pooled technical research staff) is permitted.

(300 words max)

Page 10: Marketing feedback

Marketing feedback information
We are requesting this information to help us monitor the effectiveness of our marketing activities. This information is not used in the application review process.

How did you first hear about the Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers scheme?	Choose from: eFlyer, website, Academy newsletter, Event, word of mouth, Social media, Other
Where do you normally find out about grant scheme calls?	

Contacting you about career development opportunities.

We will endeavour to let you know about interesting and useful opportunities, such as funding calls, conferences, networking opportunities, other events and relevant activities, that are offered by the Academy or other organisations which we consider to be of interest to you. We will do this through personal correspondence from time to time in accordance with our Grants Privacy Policy.

Page 11 - Applicant declaration

Please read the data protection statement, explicit consent, and the undertakings on this page carefully and ensure that you fully understand the obligations you are making before signing the declaration.

For a detailed summary of the purposes for which we use your personal information, the legal bases on which we rely, your rights in relation to your personal information, who we share your personal information with and details about transfers of your personal information outside of the UK, please see our grants privacy notice which can be found at https://acmedsci.ac.uk/privacy-policy.

Page 14 - Head of Department declaration

Your Head of Department will be asked to confirm their support and compliance with the various concordats and grant policies of which the Academy is a signatory or a supporter. They can be found here.

In relation to the Concordat to support the career development of researchers, they will be asked to confirm ,on behalf the administering organisation, that the applicant funded on this award will be supported with career development planning and will be afforded a minimum of 10 days pro rata per year to engage in professional development activities, should this application be successful.

This Concordat sets out seven key principles on the expectations and responsibilities of researchers, their managers, employers and funders. It aims to increase the attractiveness and sustainability of research careers in the UK and to improve the quantity, quality and impact of research for the benefit of UK society and the economy.

Pages 12, 13 and 15 - Other declarations

Your **Clinical Supervisor**, **Academic Supervisor,** and **Finance Officer** will need to review your application, read the data protection statement and undertakings, and approve your application by signing the declaration on this page. **You will not be able to submit your application without their approval**.

Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers – Further guidance notes

This document guides you through completing the online application form for the Starter Grants for Clinical Lecturers funding programme. Some notes on completing the form are also integrated into the form itself. The guidance notes below are supplementary to those.

Electronic signatures
Before submitting your application, you need to have four accompanying declarations confirming the validity of the application. These declarations will be from your Head of Department, Clinical Supervisor, Academic Supervisor and Finance Officer. To invite someone, simply locate the relevant position within the 'Declarations' table and click 'Invite'. *Instructions for the supervisors/HoD/Finance officer: the signatory should review the application, then click on the 'Edit' button related to the section assigned to them. Once they have reviewed the Data Protection Statement, the Undertakings, and confirmed their acceptance, they should click on the 'Finish contribution' button and submit by clicking on the 'Submit' button.*

Word limits
Please note that the answers for certain questions have a maximum word limit. If text exceeding this length is pasted into the space provided, the text will be truncated accordingly.

Page 1 - Contact information

On this page you will be asked to provide contact details for yourself and your host institution. Additionally, you will need to provide an ORCID ID number and the details of your AMS mentor, if you have one.

ORCID ID Number
We ask you to provide your ORCID ID (Open Researcher and Contributor identifier; http://orcid.org/). ORCID is an open, non-profit effort to create and maintain a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to these identifiers. The ORCID registry is available free of charge to researchers who, after obtaining an ORCID ID, may use it to manage their record of activities and search for other researchers in the registry. The Academy recognises the benefits of this effort and requires that applicants obtain an ORCID ID.

AMS Mentoring Programme
If you have an AMS mentor, please provide their name and institution. This information is for AMS Office use only (it will be used to identify conflicts of interest during peer review); your answer will be kept confidential and will not be considered at any stage of the assessment process.

Page 2 - Supervisors' contact details

In this section, you will be asked to provide the contact details of your Academic and Clinical Supervisors.

Page 3 - Current position

In this section, you will be asked to specify your clinical discipline and specialty, as well as to describe your current job role. Please note that the form questions will differ

according to your clinical discipline, i.e. depending on your choice of clinical discipline in the first question, some questions will be different for clinicians in human/dental medicine and clinicians in veterinary medicine.

Please read the eligibility criteria below carefully. We would encourage you to get in contact with us at clinicallecturers@acmedsci.ac.uk if you would like to discuss your eligibility forthe scheme.

If you are a clinician in human or dental medicine:

You must be a clinical lecturer (research-active) to be eligible for a starter grant. Senior clinical lecturers are ineligible as this scheme is targeted at early-career researchers.

If you are a clinician in veterinary medicine:

You must be either:

1. A research-active Veterinary Specialist in Training (Resident/Senior Clinical Training Scholar) within an approved Specialist Training Programme with secured and protected research time throughout the proposed project.

Or:

2. A research-active Veterinary Clinician or Veterinary Pathologist with Veterinary Specialist Board qualification or eligibility and within the three-year (probationary) period of your first University appointment and with secured and protected research time throughout the proposed project. If your position is that of a Senior Lecturer but you are still within the three-year probationary period then you are still eligible for this scheme.

For veterinary applicants - please note we are currently reviewing our eligibility criteria for veterinary applicants. We would encourage you to get in contact with us at clinicallecturers@acmedsci.ac.uk if you would like to discuss your eligibility for the scheme.

Start date of Clinical Lectureship / Current Position
You must be in post by the date the Panel meets to consider your application. The Panel meetings occur in December and June each year – please contact us to discuss your individual circumstances and confirm the date of the Panel meeting.

End date of Clinical Lectureship / Current Position
If the end date of your Clinical Lectureship is before your proposed project end date , your academic supervisor and Head of Department need to be able to provide reassurance that you will have access to supervisory support, and to the necessary facilities and equipment for the entire duration of the project.

You will need to provide a letter of support from your Academic Supervisor/Head of Department confirming that your contract will be extended to cover the full project duration.

The letter should be on headed paper and will need to confirm that for the full project duration, you will continue to have:

- Protected research time
- Appropriate supervisory arrangements
- Access to necessary facilities, equipment or lab space

What is the balance of clinical to research commitments/time for your post?
Clinicians are expected to have a 50:50 split of clinical and research time. The Panel recognises that clinical lecturers from Scotland and Wales might be restricted to an

80:20 split between clinical and research time; however, they are encouraged to negotiate an increase of their protected research time. Similarly, veterinary clinicians are expected to have substantial protected research time.

Current post aims and objectives
This question aims to draw out your broader aims and objectives during the course of your current post.

Future career aspirations
This question aims to draw out your career aspirations beyond your current post. Your career trajectory is of particular interest to the Panel.

Page 4 - Career summary

In this section, you will be asked to provide an overview of your relevant qualifications, research experience and current position.

Academic qualifications and training (such as Degrees and Diplomas)
If you are unsure of the precise date on which a qualification was awarded, please select the first day of the relevant month.

Research Degrees
Having been awarded a PhD or MD is an eligibility requirement. You should have been awarded your PhD/MD before the application submission deadline. Please review the scheme FAQ document for full details on this requirement. If your MD has been obtained in another country, please confirm that it was a research-based MD, rather than clinical training. Please contact us if you would like to discuss whether the status of your PhD/MD will affect your eligibility.

Publications arising from your PhD or MD and other research undertaken
In this section, you should list all research papers in peer-reviewed journals, reviews and contributions to books. You may list publications that are still in press, but please do not include any abstracts or conference proceedings.

Please use the below format when citing publications and use an asterisk (*) to highlight your name:

Bomken S*, Buechler L, Rehe K, Ponthan F, Elder A, Blair H, Bacon CM, Vormoor J, Heidenreich O. Lentiviral marking of patient-derived acute lymphoblastic leukaemia cells allows *in vivo* tracking of disease progression. Leukaemia 2013;27:718-721

Provide details of up to three of your publications, which you consider the most significant or relevant to the application and your career to date.
In addition to using the format described in the above question when citing publications, please also provide a statement describing the contribution of each author in the study following the CRediT Taxonomy of author contributions. All of the authors listed on the paper should be mentioned in this section at least once.

This question is intended to promote thorough consideration of the content of a publication or other research output, rather than the impact factor of the journal it is published in. The scientific content of a paper is much more important than publication metrics or the identity of the journal in which it was published. This is your opportunity to highlight the impact that your papers have made on your field of research.

The Academy is a signatory of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and Panel members and peer reviewers are requested not to use journal-based

metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles.

Estimated CCT date *(applicable only if you are a clinician in human or dental medicine)*
Your CCT date must fall after your proposed project start date. The earliest possible project start date will be September of the same year (for rounds closing to applications in March) and March of the following year (for rounds closing in September).

If part of your proposed project falls after your CCT date, or you have had your clinical lectureship extended, please describe the plans that will be put in place to ensure you are afforded sufficient research time post-CCT to complete this grant. Your academic supervisor and Head of department need to be in a position to support such statements if asked by the Academy. As clinical lectureships in Primary Care are primarily awarded post-CCT, we welcome applicants from these groups. However, for all other specialities candidates are not eligible to apply if they have already attained their CCT.

Please contact us at clinicallecturers@acmedsci.ac.uk if you are still not sure whether your anticipated CCT date will affect your eligibility.

Page 5 - Research proposal

In this section, you will be asked to give an outline of your proposed research area, research plan and any relevant collaborations.

Project duration and project start/end dates
The expectation is that applicants will conduct their research over the course of two years. However, the Panel may consider - if justified - a shorter duration, but no less than one year. The earliest you could start your project would be one month after the decision has been communicated to you (approximately within two months of the Panel meeting). For the March and September application deadlines, the Panel meetings occur in June and December, respectively. The outcomes will then be released approximately in August and February; therefore, the earliest start dates are 1st September and 1st March. The project start date must occur within six months of the award offer.

Lay Summary
See our ten tips on how to write a lay summary and example lay summaries from successful grant awardees.

Research Proposal
We are looking for a research proposal of high scientific merit and your application will be sent out for peer review to assess various aspects. The key assessment criteria, which are considered, are in three areas:

The applicant

- Academic track record.
- Potential benefit of the project to your career.
- Clarity of plans for obtaining further funding and your career aspirations.

Research quality

- Importance and relevance of the research question.
- Quality and appropriateness of the research methodology.
- Degree of innovation.

Research environment and support

- Quality of the research environment.
- Availability of appropriate support.
- Quality of Data Management and Sharing plans, where provided.

Please provide as much detail as possible to help the reviewers assess the quality of your proposal.

It is important that your methodology is detailed and clearly laid out to ensure reviewers can understand how you will address your proposed research question. Read more about the application process here and our top tips on how to write a successful grant application here.

Please note that the proposal word limit is 1,000 words. Furthermore, figures and tables cannot be added in this section; they should be uploaded and attached to your proposal separately below.

Resubmissions
If this is your second application to the scheme, this is your opportunity to respond to peer review and/or Panel discussion comments made to your previous application and explain what changes you have made to the application. Please note that only one resubmission is permitted.

Importance of Starter Grant to you
This question aims to draw out how this starter grant will enable you to build/strengthen future applications for funding and inform future research projects.

Page 6 - Animal use

If your proposal features the use of animals or animal tissue, in this section you will need to explain why this is necessary and justify the choice of species and number of animals used.

Does your proposal involve the use of animals or animal tissue?
It is important for us to know if any animals will be used in your research project and, if so, that you comply with the Academy's Policy and Position on the use of animals in research. The Academy is committed to being open about when, how and why animals are used in the projects we fund. In addition, we aim to ensure that every effort is made to replace, refine and reduce animals in research. For more information, please see www.nc3rs.org.uk.

Applicants proposing to use animals in their research must ensure that the use of animals falls within the regulations stipulated in the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures Act) 1986 and subsequent amendments. Welfare standards consistent with the principles of UK legislation must be applied and maintained, wherever the work is conducted. If your proposed research involves animal experiments, we encourage you to consult the NC3Rs Experimental Design Assistant (EDA) to help you design your study. This complements the ARRIVE guidelines (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) for reporting animal research.

Our awardees are required to follow these guidelines when conducting research using animals to improve the design, analysis and reporting of animal research, maximising information published and minimising unnecessary studies. Further useful guidelines and practical information in the use of animals can also be obtained from the 3Rs resources

library. You are also encouraged to refer to the PREPARE guidelines when planning your animal experiments.

This section gives applicants the opportunity to explain the use of animals involved in their project proposals and measures in place to ensure openness about their use. Where non-human primates, cats, dogs or equines are used, anonymised information will be sent to the NC3Rs for review.

Page 7 – Human tissues or subjects

If your proposal features the use of human tissues or subjects, in this section, you will need to confirm that the study has been approved and enclose details of the approval.

Does your proposal involve the use of human tissue or subjects?
Research involving human participants is governed by principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki, the Nuremberg Code, and the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS), all of which set out requirements with regard to the rights and safety of research participants and standards for research design and conduct.

The Academy requires researchers to have the relevant regulatory and ethical approvals in place before the relevant research begins, although you may apply for funding before this. In the event of an award being made, commencement of any research involving human participants will be subject to these approvals being in place and sent to the Academy.

Page 8 - Outputs management, sharing, subsidy control and use of generative AI

Outputs management and sharing
In this section, please outline your plans for the management of your research outputs in a way that will achieve the greatest health benefit, maximising the availability of research data, software and materials with as few restrictions as possible.

To maintain research integrity, institutions and researchers must ensure research outputs are preserved so that results can be verified, and data reused in the future. The Academy expects all of its Starter Grant award holders to maximise the availability of research data.

You should consider your approach for managing and sharing research outputs at the research proposal stage. Where the proposed research is likely to generate outputs that will hold significant value as a resource for the wider research community (for example genome-wide sequencing data), you are required to submit an outputs management and sharing plan to the Academy when submitting your application. The Academy will review those plans as part of the funding decision.

We do not have a set format for data management and sharing plans. You can structure your plan in a manner most appropriate to the proposed research. The information submitted in plans should focus specifically on how the outputs will be managed and shared, detailing the repositories where data will be deposited. However, in considering your approach for outputs management and sharing, you should consider the following questions as briefly and unambiguously as possible.

1. What outputs will your research generate and what outputs will have value to other researchers?
2. Where and when will you make the data available?
3. If the research output is of high public interest, how will it be made accessible not only for those in the same or linked field, but also to a wider public audience?
4. Specify whether any limits will be placed on the output to be shared, for example, for the purposes of safeguarding commercial interests, personal information, safety or security of the data.
5. How will datasets be preserved to ensure their long-term value?
6. What resources will you require to deliver your plan?
7. Does your Institution have a data repository that is available to you?

Subsidy control
The UK subsidy control regime began on 4 January 2023. As part of this regime, the Academy is required to report to the UK Government on how award funding is being used when applications collaborating with commercial enterprises are awarded. The regime determines the lawfulness of monetary awards made using public sector resources when given to businesses and other organisations that are engaged in economic activity.

The questions in the application form related to subsidy control will be used to help the Academy ensure that any relevant applications are correctly reported. Should you be unsure of any of your answers please do contact the office and we will be able to assist.

Use of generative AI

This is a monitoring question for us to understand how applicants are using AI tools to develop their applications. It will not be a part of the decision-making process or shared with peer reviewers or the funding Panel.

You can read our AI policy for applicants, reviewers and Panel members here.

Page 9 – Your budget request

In this section, you will need to detail the budget for your research grant application.

Budget
The grant cannot cover your personal salary costs or provide funding for research assistants, PhD students or postdoctoral staff. Costs such as bench fees for generic lab support such as wash-up and IT are also not supported.

Open access publication fees can be included in the budget.

Funds can be used for direct research running costs, including but not limited to laboratory consumables, equipment, animal costs, access to data sets, essential software and licences, and technical support. Technical support refers to already available staff/facilities. For example, costs relating to access to specialist equipment may include a contribution to technician salary, which is permitted. In this instance the applicant would need to provide a clear justification within their application.

The Starter Grants Scheme is only able to provide a *maximum £30,000 grant* over two years. The *minimum available is £15,000*.

If you have any concerns or questions about your funding request, please contact the Office via clinicallecturers@acmedsci.ac.uk to discuss your specific circumstances.

Justify any high-cost (>£5,000) budgetary items and technical support requested
Please provide a breakdown and clarification on the budgetary items, and how any technical support requested will contribute to the research.

Page 10 – Marketing feedback

On this page, we request marketing information. We are requesting this information to help us monitor the effectiveness of our marketing activities. This information is not used in the application review process.

Page 11 - Applicant declaration

Please read the data protection statement and the undertakings on this page carefully and ensure that you fully understand the obligations you are making before signing the declaration.

Page 14 - Head of Department declaration

Your Head of Department will be asked to confirm their support and compliance with the various concordats and grant policies of which the Academy is a signatory or a supporter. They can be found here.

In relation to the Concordat to support the career development of researchers, they will be asked to confirm, on behalf the administering organisation, that the applicant funded on this award will be supported with career development planning and will be afforded a minimum of 10 days pro rata per year to engage in professional development activities, should this application be successful.

This Concordat sets out seven key principles on the expectations and responsibilities of researchers, their managers, employers and funders. It aims to increase the attractiveness and sustainability of research careers in the UK and to improve the quantity, quality and impact of research for the benefit of UK society and the economy.

Pages 12, 13 and 15 - Other declarations

Your **Clinical Supervisor**, **Academic Supervisor,** and **Finance Officer** will need to approve your application by signing the declaration on this page. You will not be able to submit your application without their approval. Your signatory will receive an invitation to sign this page once their details are entered into the 'Ongoing Declarations' table, within the 'Participants' tab on the Application Summary page and 'Invite' is clicked.

Contact Information

Enquiries about this scheme can be made by email to clinicallecturers@acmedsci.ac.uk

The Academy of Medical Sciences

Supporters