

Application deadline

14th November 2018, 4pm

Summary

The Bioinformatics and Biological Resources (BBR) Fund aims to facilitate the establishment, maintenance and enhancement of high-quality bioinformatics and biological resources to support the UK bioscience research community.

The indicative budget for the call is up to £6M, subject to the quality of applications received. Please note that all applications must have a start date no earlier than 1st July 2019.

Eligibility

This call for proposals is open to all institutions and applicants normally eligible for BBSRC funding. See section 3 of the [BBSRC grants guide](#) for further information on institutional and applicant eligibility.

Research Technical Professionals

BBSRC recognises the value of technical expertise to the UK research workforce, and supports recognition of their contributions where appropriate. Arrangements for professional development of technical and support staff should be described in the proposal. Please refer to the [BBSRC website](#) for further information.

Research Software Engineers

BBSRC notes the significant contribution of staff such as [Research Software Engineers](#) and equivalent roles to interdisciplinary computational projects, and supports recognition of their contributions and encourages applicants to cost them appropriately on applications.

For any queries about eligibility, please contact eligibility@bbsrc.ukri.org before submitting your application.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted using the [Je-S website](#) by **14th November 2018, 4pm**, selecting the following options:

- Council: BBSRC
- Document Type: Standard Proposal
- Scheme: Bioinformatics and Biological Resources Fund
- Call: 2018 Bioinformatics and Biological Resources Fund
- Create Document

Please note that all applications must have a start date no earlier than 1st July 2019.

To ensure a proposal is submitted on time we suggest that it should be sent to your institution's Je-S submitter pool approximately a week before this deadline. Please note that we are unable to accept late submissions.

General guidance

- Standard guidelines for research grant applications apply, as described in our [grants guide](#).
- Total requested costs should not exceed £2M (100% FEC value). Funding is available for up to 5 years.
- The New Investigator and Industrial Partnership Award schemes do not apply to this call for proposals.
- Requests for studentships should not be included as part of a BBR Fund application.

Required documents

In addition to the completed Je-S application form your submission should include the following attachments:

Attachment	Max. page length (A4)	Guidance
Case for support	8 pages	See below
Justification of Resources	2 pages	All resources requested (directly incurred, directly allocated, staff costs for Research Technical Professionals and Research Software Engineers, PI and Co-I time) must be fully justified. If costs are not sufficiently clear and well justified the panel may cut costs before awarding the grant.
Data Management Plan	1 page	Should provide information relating to data sharing and software management. Please refer to the BBSRC website for our Data Sharing Policy . We recommend consulting the Software Sustainability Institute website for guidance on software management .
Pathways to Impact	2 pages	Must be specific to the project and contain timelines, milestones and deliverables. Applicants are expected to outline the broader benefits of the resource to the public sector, as well as private sector, third sector and wider public where applicable.
Diagrammatic Work Plan	1 page	A diagrammatic Gantt chart outlining the key steps to be taken and milestones to be reached to realise the project outcomes as described in the Case for Support.
Management structure	1 page	Should provide a diagrammatic overview of how the project management and scientific advisory functions will operate. The proposed membership should be listed. Please use attachment type 'other attachment'.

CVs	2 pages each	Required for all named applicants and named research staff only. CVs for key technical staff can be included where appropriate although they are not mandatory. All CVs should be collated and uploaded as a single pdf.
Letters of support – Demand & Collaborative	Variable	Please ensure that all letters of support are on headed paper and that they are signed and dated within 6 months of the date of submission of the proposal. Only directly relevant Letters of Support should be submitted. See below for further guidance. A maximum of 10 letters of support demonstrating community demand should be provided. Collaborative letters of support may be provided as necessary. All letters of support plus a tabulated summary should be collated and uploaded as a single pdf.
Proposal cover letter		Applicants should indicate whether they are applying for continuation funding. Applicants' conflicts of interest will also need to be added to the Proposal Cover Letter, please refer to the UKRI website for further guidance.

Interim reports for related BBSRC grants are no longer requested, the relevant information should be [submitted using researchfish](#)[®].

Guidance for completion of BBR Fund application documents

Case for Support (maximum of 8 sides of A4)

The Case for Support should be a self-contained description of the proposed resource. It should include the following:

- Previous research track record of all applicants, including:
 - Summary of the results and conclusions of recent work relevant to the proposed resource, both referencing BBSRC funded and non-BBSRC funded work. Details of past collaborative work with industry and/or with other beneficiaries should be given.
 - Indication of where previous work has had impact, including contributions to the UK's economic competitiveness or to improving the quality of life.
 - Specific expertise available at the host organisation and any proposed partner organisations.
 - Proposed role of the involved applicants and collaborators
- Background and context
 - Introduction of the proposed resource, including its academic and wider economic and societal context
 - Overview of past and current resource(s) in the subject area in both the UK and abroad including community resources available

- Details for the proposed resource
 - Evidence for need / demand and potential benefit to the UK research community, including justification why continuation funding is requested (if applicable) – why should the proposed resource be supported in the UK at this point in time?
 - Potential for economic and social impact beyond the academic community
 - Objectives for the proposal and individual measurable targets against which the outcome of the work will be assessed. This should refer to the objectives set out in the Je-S proposal form.
 - If applicable, outline any proposed research efforts and how they directly facilitate development of the resource
- Overall resource management, e.g.
 - Management and advisory structure - Please note that having a strategic management board with a biologist as a user will be a requirement under the terms and conditions of the grant.
 - User engagement – awareness, access, needs / requirements
 - Staff training and support
 - Long term sustainability considerations

Letters of Support

'Demand' letters of support

'Demand' letters of support should give an indication of community demand for the resource in question, demonstrating the breadth of research relevant to BBSRCs remit that the resource would underpin. A **maximum of ten 'demand' letters of support** should be provided for any application.

BBSRC expects letters of support aimed at demonstrating demand to explain clearly the impact and benefit of the proposed resource on the writer's research and the associated community. Letters of support that fail to do so, in particular template letters indicating generic support without identifying a particular usage, are of negligible value for the assessment and should not be submitted.

'Collaborative' letters of support

'Collaborative' letters of support should be provided by collaborators who will provide expertise or resources necessary for the proposed work. Any number of these may be provided as necessary.

The separate letters of support and a tabulated summary of those letters should be collated and provided as one single pdf document.

Contact

Please provide as much information as possible in your email to ensure a rapid response.

For call-specific queries please contact: bbr.fund@bbsrc.ukri.org

For Je-S system queries please contact:

- Email: JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk
- Tel: +44 (0) 1793 44 4164