



## **GUIDANCE FOR RCEM RESEARCH GRANT APPLICANTS**

### **Eligibility**

RCEM research grants are open to all members and fellows of the College. The Lead Applicant must take a lead role in the research and must be a member or fellow (i.e. Fellow / Member / Associate Fellow / Associate Member / Affiliate Member / Retired Fellow or Member) in 'good standing'.

Please observe the word and page limits advised. Applications that exceed these specifications will be disqualified.

Projects should be supported by the Departmental Clinical Lead (Clinical or Service Line Director). Applications without this section completed will be disqualified.

### **Funds**

RCEM funds emergency medicine grants for up to £10,000. In exceptional circumstances funding up to £15,000 may be considered.

RCEM is an NIHR partner organisation and as such, research studies that receive RCEM research grants may be eligible for inclusion on the NIHR Portfolio.

Grants cannot be used to fund facilities that should be available, such as a computer, 'normal' software, internet access and normal postage. Projects may include elements of basic science, looking at improving processes, studying clinical management or secondary research. Grants can be used to fund or part-fund salaries, but only 'reasonable' overheads will be considered.

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine is a small funder and as such is not able to fund open source publication costs or conference fees.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to include appropriate PPI (Patient and Public Involvement) in their application. Submission without this is unlikely to be funded.

Applicants are encouraged to liaise with their local Regional College Academic Lead (RCAL), Research Design Service and CLRN in planning the study and in facilitating the research which may be eligible for service support costs via the CLRN.

Only projects of direct relevance to the practice of Emergency Medicine in the UK (as judged by the Research Committee) will be funded.

Research Ethics Committee approval should be considered and addressed.

Successful applicants will be expected to produce a short report in the approved format on the progress of the project every 12 months, and be completed within 2 years. This form is detailed in Appendix 1.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **My whole study costs more than £20,000 - would RCEM part fund the project?**

Part funding would be considered, especially if there is a natural subsection of the project which could be fully funded. If part funding is granted it will not usually be released until the rest of the funds are obtained, usually with a 6 month time limit.

#### **How will my application be judged?**

All applications are rated on the basis of scientific merit, cost, importance to Emergency Medicine, the likelihood that the project will lead to further research in the future and the potential for academic development, especially of EM trainees.

#### **I have an idea for a pilot project – is this type of research considered?**

Pilot studies that have the potential to lead to a Grant Application to one of the major funders of medical research will be given a particularly high priority.

#### **I have a project in progress but would like to fund a sub-study – is it worth applying?**

Worthwhile sub-studies can be considered.

#### **I have run out of money from another source, but have not completed the project – is it worth applying?**

In these circumstances it is unlikely that your application will be successful, unless a very good argument can be made about why the initial funding has not been sufficient.

#### **I am intending to undertake a survey and would like to apply for the costs of postage?**

A survey is a less robust research methodology and is unlikely to be funded without appropriate justification.

#### **I am intending to undertake a Systematic Review and would like to apply for the costs?**

Secondary research may be supported, but remember that the grant will not fund facilities that should normally be available (such as library access).

#### **I am intending to undertake a research project abroad, can I still apply?**

Research abroad will be considered on an equal footing to research within the UK, as long as the researcher is a Member/Fellow of RCEM.

**I need help putting together my application, who should I ask?**

The Regional College Academic Lead (RCAL) for your region may be able to help. Other useful sources of information and advice include the local Research Design Service, CLRN, or Injuries and Emergencies Regional Lead.

**I can't find the answer to my question here, who should I ask?**

Please email your question to [theo.chiles@rcem.ac.uk](mailto:theo.chiles@rcem.ac.uk) who will pass on your question to the Research Committee.

## Appendix 1

Progress report (to be completed no later than 12 months after receipt of funding)

1. Can you describe the overall progress you have made in completing this research? (max 250 words)
2. Any significant changes to plan or timescale?
3. Do you have or are you seeking any co-funders? Please detail any larger grant applications that have been supported by this work.
4. Have you made use of NIHR partner status to secure extra support?
5. Would you have been able to conduct this research without RCEM support?
6. Have you had any publications as a result of this research yet – please list?