

Cambridge Humanities Research Grants Scheme 2015/16 - 2018/19

Guidance notes for awards under new combined scheme

1. Eligibility

1.1 Applications are invited from **any** researcher active in the arts, humanities and social sciences holding a current contract of employment as an independent researcher – at the point of application - with either the University or the Colleges (i.e. CTO and JRF will be eligible, but not visiting or affiliated researchers). This includes:

- externally-funded Research Fellows and those working in museums, research centres or other relevant non-School institutions;
- emeritus staff are able to apply with the support of their Faculty or Department.
- Senior Research Associates are eligible to apply

Research Associates are **not** eligible to apply directly. Postgraduate students are **not** eligible to apply. Researchers previously in receipt of funding from the Scheme are eligible to reapply, but preference will be given to first-time applicants where possible, subject to the Scheme criteria.

2. Criteria

2.1 The objective of the funding is to enable researchers to conduct small-scale research activities, of the highest quality, that enable them to bid successfully for larger-scale funding, and/or to generate publications, and/or to contribute materially in other ways towards the research objectives of their home institution and School.

2.2 Awards will be made in one of three Tiers:

Tier 1) Small grants - up to £1.5k

Short-term support for initial/experimental research, or to expedite a research output.

Preference for junior-level research assistance.

Costs relating to (i) conferences and (ii) costs associated with publication will not be considered.

Tier 2) Research grants - £1-20k

General research grants, to be assessed on academic quality.

While conference support is not excluded, it must demonstrably support the priorities identified in 2.3 below.

Preference will be given to applications from early career academics.

Tier 3) Exchange schemes

The University supports mutual exchange with *Paris Sciences et Lettres*; the CHRGS will provide match-funding for exchange visits for academics or students of between £1k and £20k

- 2.3 The primary criterion will be research quality. In addition, awards will be considered against the following specific priorities:
- Direct support (including research assistance) of pilot or experimental research, intended to lead to larger-scale activity suitable for external funding;
 - Direct support for activity towards a publication. This may include supporting the costs of partial remission of Departmental duties if the case is sufficiently strong;
 - Support for fieldwork, archival access etc. allied to existing or emerging research priorities in Departments;
 - Support for early-stage network or concept-development activities, including collaborative work with CRASSH;
 - Match-funding to support research where sponsors are unable to meet the full costs, e.g. website assistance for dissemination, support for charity research;
 - Support for research activities for which externally-funded grants are not normally available;
 - Support for activities specifically designed to enhance impact or outreach.

3. Costing

- 3.1 Costings should state direct costs only; the Scheme is exempt from indirect costs. Travel and consumables may be requested. Applicants may not apply for their own salary costs.
- 3.2 The costing of any employment for research assistance should take into account standard University rates, including the necessary allowance for on-costs.

4. Selection

There will be two open calls each year. A cross School panel will be convened comprising the Head of each of the two Schools, plus another senior UTO nominated by each School, one of the latter normally being the Director of CRASSH.