

EU Academic Development Scheme

1 November 2011

Introduction

In November 2011 the University launched a central EU Academic Development Scheme (EUADS) with the aim of strengthening BU's success in gaining EU funds. This Scheme will include a bespoke training programme and individual funds to aid in the preparation of a grant submission to an EU funding call.

The EUADS is sponsored by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation and managed by the Research Development Unit (RDU). The scheme will be administered by a team comprising of the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation (Prof Matthew Bennett), a member of the Professoriate (Prof Adrian Newton, ApSci), Senior Research Development Officer (EU) (Corrina Dickson) and Research Development Unit Manager (Julie Northam). Appeals should be made to the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation via the Senior Research Development Officer (SRDO).

Training

The Scheme will be led by the SRDO. A structured staff development programme focusing on EU funding, involving individual mentorship and individual/ group sessions facilitated by members of the EU Academic Steering Group and external facilitators will be devised. Additionally there will be general EU funding workshops open to all staff members and participants in the EU Academic Development Scheme. A specific training budget of £5,000 will be available for bespoke training for the EU Academic Development Scheme participants (to be allocated by the allocated member of the Professoriate in consultation with the SRDO and other members of the team where appropriate).

Individual Funds

Each successful participant will be provided with grants as requested totalling up to £3, 000 each by the SRDO to be spent on supporting their bid development (such as networking costs, replacement teaching, etc); a spending plan will be agreed with the allocated member of the Professoriate and the SRDO as part of the individual mentorship and proposal development plan. If funding is requested for pilot studies, funding will only cover direct costs (i.e. overheads and established staff costs will not be reimbursed). No applications for retrospective funding will be considered.

Individual grants as part of the EUADS could be used to support activities such as:

- Travel with the intent of networking
- Conference attendance with the intent of networking
- Pilot research work
- Fieldwork
- Attendance at external networking events leading to collaborative research proposals
- Meetings with external organisations to establish collaborations
- Preparation of specialist material or data
- Replacement teaching

This list is not exhaustive; applications can be for other expenses providing it is clear how the funding will benefit a submission to an EU funder. The EUADS does not cover open access publication costs, however, these can be applied for from the BU Open Access

Publication Fund (OAPF). The applicant must submit at least one application to an EU funder within 12 months of starting the Scheme.

Application Process

Up to 10 BU staff will be selected to participate in the scheme in 2011-12, and a competition to select participants will be launched via the BU Research Blog mid November 2011. The competition will be open to all BU academic staff interested in, but new to, EU funding and who intend to prepare and submit a bid to an EU call during the academic year. Applications will be assessed by the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation, the allocated member of the Professoriate, the SRDO and the Research Development Unit Manager in late December. Appeals should be made to the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation via the SRDO.

Payments will be made in accordance with current BU financial regulations. Payments of individual funds will be made to the relevant School and the School will be responsible for administering the expenditure. All expenditure must be committed in the current academic year; it will not be possible to carry funding forward into the next academic year.

The application must be authorized by the relevant School Deputy Dean (Research and Enterprise) / equivalent prior to submission.

Award Process

The deadline for submissions will be mid-December and the assessment of submissions late December. There is sufficient budget to fund 10 staff, however, the assessors reserve the right to award less than depending on the number and quality of applications. Applicants will be informed of the decision by the RDU, usually within four weeks of the deadline.

Applicants will need to submit an end of award report to the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation within 8 weeks of the end of the award. The end of award report must include a breakdown of all costs incurred and EU funding submission plans. Milestones to be reached by the end of the scheme are:

- Evidence of strengthened ability to write bids to the EU
- Evidence of strengthened capacity to identify and collaborate with international partners
- Evidence of strengthened ability to identify EU funding opportunities

The end of award report will be made available to the UREF to help determine if future rounds of a EUADS will occur. Failure to provide a report will debar award holders from applying for future grants. The SRDO will contact award holders one year from the submission of the end of award report for an update on research activity to find out how the EUADS has been beneficial. Appeals should be made to the PVC Research, Enterprise and Internationalisation via the SRDO.

All forms and further information on the scheme will be available from the BU EU Research Blog.

The process map is available in Annex 1.



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Process 2011-12

