

Introduction

In November 2011 Bournemouth University (BU) launched a central EU Academic Development Scheme (EUADS) competition with the aim of strengthening success in gaining EU funds. This Scheme included a bespoke training programme and individual funds to aid in the preparation of a grant submission to an EU funding call. This document announces the fifth round of the EUADS and details training provided as part of this.

The EUADS is sponsored by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) Research and Innovation, (Prof John Fletcher) and managed by the Research Facilitator, EU and International (RFEI) (Emily Cieciora).

Training

The Scheme will be led by the RFEI. A structured staff development programme focusing on EU funding which involves individual one-to-one mentorship and group sessions facilitated by Dr Martin Pickard will be undertaken. Additionally general EU funding workshops will be open to all staff members and participants in the EUADS.

The membership period for cohorts 1-4 was 12 months. Cohort 5 will be for 9 months only (13 January to 13 October 2016). This shorter membership will still allow full support for the popular MSCA IF call and will provide members with four training days with Dr Martin Pickard plus his unlimited support, to include on-site one-to-one bookable appointments.

Individual Funds

Each successful participant will be provided with initial grant of up to £1,000 each by the RFEI, to be spent on supporting their bid development (such as networking costs, replacement teaching, etc). A spending plan will be agreed with the RFEI 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. Funding has to be fully committed by the end of the membership period (13/1/16-13/10/16). Participants will be able to request further funding up to a personal maximum of £2,250 (pro rata of the £3,000 previously allocated for the 12 month version) which will require agreement from the participant's line manager. This is to ensure alignment with Faculty objectives.

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 12 BU staff will be selected to participate in the scheme in 2016 and a procedure to select participants will be launched via the BU Research Blog in October 2015. The procedure will be open to all BU academic staff interested in EU funding, who intend to prepare and submit a bid to an EU call during the 9 month period of the scheme.

Payments will be made in accordance with current BU financial regulations and distributed by the RFEI. All expenditure must be committed during the nine months period following the first cohort meeting – 13/1/16.

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

Award Process

The deadline for submissions will be late November 2015 and the assessment of submissions by RKEO, with appropriate reference back to DDRPPs and the PVC will take place in late December. There is sufficient budget to fund 12 staff, however, the assessors reserve the right to award less than 12 depending on the number and quality of applications. Applicants will be informed of the decision by the RKEO, usually within four weeks of the deadline. The first EUADS Cohort 5 workshop will take place on or around 11th January 2016.

Applicants will need to submit an end of award report to the PVC Research and Innovation (via the RFEI) 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 UREC 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 RFEI 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 and Innovation via the RFEI.

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