

Manchester Institute for Collaborative Research on Ageing (MICRA)

Seedcorn Funding Call 2015

The aim of MICRA seedcorn funding is to further ageing-related research within the University of Manchester. Applications must meet the following essential criteria:

1. The proposed research activity must be explicitly related to ageing
2. The proposed research activity must be interdisciplinary (for example, crossing the funding domains of two or more research councils)
3. The proposed research activity must lead to at least one specific outcome, such as a research proposal for a research council or a working paper.
4. The award must be held by a University of Manchester member of staff (except joint MICRA/MMU award which can be held by a MMU or UoM member of staff) but can be used to fund collaborations with other institutions and/ or external partners.

A maximum of £6K will be awarded per application:

- **Age UK / MICRA:** up to two projects will be supported by MICRA and Age UK and must fall within the categories of 'person-centred care' or 'improving later life'.
- **Age UK/ Dementia@Manchester:** up to two projects will be supported by the University of Manchester's dementia research network and Age UK and must fall within the category 'dementia and cognitive ageing'.
- **Manchester City Council/ MICRA:** up to two projects will be supported by MICRA and the Age-friendly Manchester team at Manchester City Council and must fall within the categories of 'BME elders', 'Devo Manc' or 'age-friendly hospitals'.
- **Cheshire East Council / MICRA:** up to two projects will be supported by MICRA and Cheshire East Council. Proposals are invited that address one or more of the following themes:
 - The role of technology in supporting older people
 - How do we utilise public spaces in small towns and villages to promote independence and mobility?
 - Identifying inventions that have proven effective in reducing social isolation for adults 65 years and over. The interventions or proven initiatives should reflect both rural and urban geographies similar in scale to Cheshire East, gender, and the needs that are associated with long-term conditions in the older population.
- **MICRA/ Manchester Metropolitan University:** up to two projects will be supported by MICRA and MMU. These applications must have two project investigators, one from each university.

In addition to the above joint awards, a number of general awards will be made.

Application process:

- a. Applicants are required to submit a written proposal for their research activity totalling no more than two sides of A4; please state if you wish to be considered for one of the joint awards.
- b. The application should clearly demonstrate that the proposed research meets the above essential criteria (items 1 to 4) and should include:
 - Outline of proposed research including research title or research question, methodology and expected outputs of the research
 - Summary budget of project costs
 - Names and affiliations of the research team (school/ faculty/ discipline)
- c. Applications from early career researchers will be looked upon favourably.
- d. In order for the proposal to be considered interdisciplinary, there should be a minimum of two members per research team.
- e. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 9 December 2015**; all submissions should be made via email to micra@manchester.ac.uk
- f. The MICRA commissioning panel will meet in December 2015, panel members will include:
 - MICRA Co-Directors
 - Age UK
 - Cheshire East Council
 - Manchester Metropolitan University
 - Manchester City Council's Age-friendly Manchester team
 - Director of Dementia Research
 - Institute Manager, MICRA

Any queries, please contact Jo Garsden, Institute Manager, MICRA jo.garsden@manchester.ac.uk
0161 275 1298

Examples of previous successful awards: <http://www.micra.manchester.ac.uk/research/funding-opportunities/seedcorn-funding/>

Terms and conditions:

- Please confirm that your Head of School or Division supports your application (a line in your covering email)
- Publicity related to the research must include reference to MICRA and if applicable, the body jointly supporting the award
- Successful applicants are required to submit a one page summary of research outcomes to MICRA (and if applicable, to the body jointly supporting the award) by the end of December 2016.
- Funded projects are expected to contribute to future MICRA seminars/ events, and to inform MICRA (and any organisation jointly supporting the award) of any research successes such as subsequent awards and publications.
- Seedcorn funds can be used to fund a range of research costs including salaries, travel, events and consumables; it is recommended that you seek input from Research Support Services around costings.
- As soon as they received confirmation of the decision, awardees should contact their school finance team to set up a new account for the seedcorn monies, this will be an AA code as the funding is internal. MICRA will transfer the funds to the nominated University of Manchester account code as soon as the details are sent by the awardee.
- The awarded funds must be spent by the financial year, 31 July 2016. It is the responsibility of the project investigator to manage expenditure and arrange for any unspent funds to be returned. The University does not permit funds in AA accounts to be carried over to the next financial year and MICRA is unable to arrange for any extension of the funds into the 16-17 financial year.