



# How the Research Support Service can help you

## Free and confidential support for anyone applying for health and social care research funding.

We are a collaboration of four world-leading research universities: Imperial College London, University College London, Queen Mary University of London and King's College London.

But you don't need to be in London to access our service: we provide support to anyone in England.

### The NIHR Research Support Service is here to:

- provide innovative health and care research support
- make it easier to navigate the complex funding system
- inspire research innovation

### What do we do?

We match our clients, who are researchers, clinicians and SMEs, with our expert advisors to provide tailored research funding support. Our clients access specialist advice throughout their research funding journey.

This includes:

- expert advice on NIHR funding and other research funding programmes
- developing funding applications including for fellowships
- grantsmanship reviews and mock interviews
- advice on research methods, design and delivery, across a range of specialisms
- advice on collaboration and building your research team
- research career advice
- patient and public involvement and research inclusion expertise

Clients can get in touch before they've even written their proposal.

**Since we launched our service in December 2023, we have supported hundreds of applicants applying for funding.**

## We deliver support through:

Online advice sessions, resources and training.

## Who can we help?

We support people at **all** career stages, including health and social care professionals of all disciplines. As well as SMEs, private and commercial applicants for research funding.

Alongside more experienced teams, we're keen to reach out to those who are new to the research funding world. For example, early career researchers, health and care professionals who have less access to research infrastructure and commercial applicants.

## How to get support

Clients can apply for support via our [online form](#). We will process the application and be touch within two weeks with next steps.

## Spreading the word

We're keen to support more people to apply for health and social care research funding. You can help by letting people know about our service. For example, university research offices, NHS research managers or anyone interested in applying for funding.

We have [more resources](#) to share with your networks.

## Get in touch

- Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)
- Sign up to our [mailing list](#) for news, updates, training and events
- Email [nihrrss@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:nihrrss@imperial.ac.uk)
- Find out more on our [website](#)

## What our clients say:

“I had never completed an application previously, so had no idea what was required. The ‘critical friend’ nature of the support was invaluable. It led to an entire refocus of my application - in tone and content.” **Simon Twite, Public Health Practitioner, London Borough of Tower Hamlets**

“It was great to have the mentor’s knowledge and experience and also the amazing support links and information she provided us after our call via email.” **Professor Carola Hillenbrand, Henley Business School**

“From start to finish, the RSS service proved incredibly valuable. The team’s support and guidance were instrumental to the success of my application.” **Jess Eaton, Paediatric Radiographer, Great Ormond Street Hospital**