

## Guidance for Applicants

### Small Starter Grant

Our competitively awarded Small Starter Grants are open to researchers wishing to:

- Undertake an activity that supports a research collaboration that will facilitate future grant development within BIOREME's remit (biophysical / mechanistic modelling of respiratory diseases).
- Disseminate biophysical modelling research to diverse research communities eg. Presenting modelling research at a respiratory conference

Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, visiting research groups, visiting project partners, presenting at conferences, attending or organising a scientific meeting or workshop.

It is expected 3 - 6 grants will be awarded per year from a total annual funding of £3000. We expect the maximum to award per individual applicant is £1000, but we aim to be flexible dependent on activity and demand. The grants will be available until Spring 2025 for activities completed by the end of Dec 2025.

#### Who can apply

- Researchers of any discipline and career level can apply (please do pay attention to the eligibility and review criteria outlined below).
- International applicants are welcome (the costs must be stated in the currency, GBP).

#### Eligible Activities

- Applications may be for any activity that disseminates research and promotes collaboration between research groups, industry, clinical representatives and/or charity groups.
- Activities which promote multi-disciplinary collaboration are encouraged eg. presenting mathematical modelling work at a clinical conference.
- The activity must support research progress within BIOREME's remit, please consider our four main research themes for guidance. Please note whilst these are our main research areas of interest, our remit is broader, encompassing research that falls within biophysical/ mechanistic modelling of respiratory diseases.
  1. Improving treatment delivery and clinical trial design
  2. Developing the next generation of clinical lung function measurement
  3. Modelling pulmonary mechanics in critical and chronic care
  4. Environmental and socio-economic determinants of lung health
- Activities that support future grant developments are highly encouraged
- The applications will be reviewed in an ad hoc basis in response to submissions. We will aim to inform applicants of the outcome within 6 weeks of their submission. We advise applicants that the activity they are applying to support starts no earlier than 8 weeks after your submission. This is to account for the time needed to peer review and the administrative processes to award the grant.

## Funding

- When invoices are submitted they will be for 80% of the full cost and a statement should also be submitted showing the full cost. For further details on costing and overheads please visit the EPSRCs full economic costings guide:  
<https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/guidance-for-applicants/costs-you-can-apply-for/>

## Application

- We recommend you submit your application as soon as you can, particularly if you need a grant decision before booking the activity. We also do not fund applications retrospectively.
- As part of your application you will need to:
  - Explain why you wish to undertake the activity and how it will benefit your research
  - Explain how the activity will help foster research collaborations, ideally between multi-disciplinary fields and will support a future grant application
  - Outline how your research and the proposed activity align with BIOREME's remit
  - Explain why your activity cannot be covered by your current funding
  - Include an accompanying letter of support from your supervisor or line manager.
  - Confirm you have sought approval from the relevant person in your department
- You can only receive one Small Starter Grant per year

## Assessment

- The applications will be reviewed on an ad hoc basis in response to submissions.
- The applications will be reviewed by members of the Network+ steering committee who have expertise in the project area. All reviewers will have declared any conflicts of interest up front and will only be assigned to applications that can be judged impartially.
- Applications will be judged on the following criteria:
  - Relevance to BIOREME remit: How well does the research area that underpins the activity align with BIOREME's remit, please consider BIOREME's main research themes for guidance: [bioreme.net/themes](https://bioreme.net/themes).
  - The likelihood the proposed activity will support research collaborations, ideally between multi-disciplinary fields (which must include biophysical modelling).
  - The chances of the activity not going ahead without support from this grant.

## Successful Applications

- If your application is successful, you will receive an award letter confirming your funding amount and details on how to claim the funding. It is expected that your home institution will pay the award amount up front and will be reimbursed following receipt of an invoice.
- We request that you keep your expenses as reasonable as possible eg. Using economy/second class travel.



- We request once you have completed the activity that you submit a one page report and/or blog summarising the benefits of having received the grant within 3 months of completing the activity.

### **Contacts**

For more information on the BIOREME Network please visit our website at [bioreme.net](http://bioreme.net). If you have any further questions please contact our network project managers at [contact@bioreme.net](mailto:contact@bioreme.net)