# EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) at the University of Bath

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# EPSRC IAA at Bath

The Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) supports **knowledge exchange** and **impact** activities in the **EPSRC remit** across the institution.

Funds **help speed up** the contribution that research makes toward **innovation** across industry, business and the public sector.

Since the start of the IAA in 2012:

- EPSRC has awarded the University over £6m
- Leveraged more than £10 million in cash and in-kind funding
- Supported 110 projects
- Plus hundreds of Lunch with Impact workshops, Enterprise training, and other impact initiatives.

The University will receive £1,056,602.66 over 3 years.

Funds will be invested in:

- open call projects
- activities for emerging commercial projects
- training and networking
- supporting culture change

£500k available in the next Open Call – no funding limit for projects, but you will be expected to demonstrate how the amount requested is good value for money.

Competitive award scheme – projects will be assessed on how closely they fulfil the criteria.

Open Call applications are invited in 2 stages:

- Stage 1: Short Proposal
- Stage 2: Detailed Application

# Essential Requirements

Projects must:

- Relate to a past EPSRC grant, or research within the EPSRC remit, to stimulate pathways to impact

- Have a high probability of generating impact (i.e., new health or social benefits, jobs created, cost savings made, new products launched, policies changed, etc.), that will be accelerated with the funding.

- Have a direct, auditable link to the outputs of a past project or activity, which are up-to-date on Pure.

Projects are normally expected to:

- Have one or more external collaborator(s), but should not be a partner-led project, i.e. 'contract research'.

Applications are particularly encouraged from (although not limited to):

- Projects that support one of the University's priority research areas Sustainability; Health and Wellbeing; Digital; and Bath Beacons.

- Depts which have a low take-up of IAA funding in relation to their EPSRC portfolio: Architecture & Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematical Sciences and Physics.

- Under-represented groups, including female academics, ethnic minorities and early career researchers.

- Projects working towards strong impact case studies for future REF.

- Collaborative IAA projects involving at least one other GW4 university.

- Interdisciplinary projects that span the EPSRC combined with other UKRI Funding Council remits (must be at least 50% within the EPSRC remit).

- Projects which address the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Next Open Call Timeline

**3 March 2022, 4pm –** Stage 1: Short proposal deadline

**25 March 2022 –** Panel decision announced, shortlisted proposals invited to submit a full application

**28 April 2022 –** Stage 2: Detailed application deadline

**27 May 2022 –** Panel decision announced

**1 October 2022 –** Earliest start date for projects (dependent on Collaboration Agreement and recruitment in place)

**31 March 2025 –** Funding ends

Short Proposals will be assessed on their potential for Impact in one or more of the following areas:

- Economic – Wealth creation, inward investment, new companies, products and procedures.

- Societal – Policy, international development, health, quality of life.

- Knowledge – Scientific advances, techniques.

- People – Skills, people pipeline-related.

Examples are included in the IAA Open Call Criteria guidance in the application pack.

Detailed applications will be assessed on:

1. Impact potential – high probability of generating impact.
2. Investment risk – able to deliver within time and budget.
3. Collaboration commitment (where applicable)
4. Responsible Innovation (RI) and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

Further information is included in the IAA Open Call Criteria guidance in the application pack.

# Responsible Innovation

Responsible innovation has emerged out of growing concerns about the impact of scientific research – good and bad – on society and the planet.

In the detailed application, you will be asked to reflect on the potential consequences of your project, to ensure that innovations arising from it are socially desirable and undertaken in the public interest.

See further guidance in the application pack and sign up for these Lunch with Impact webinars to find out more!

1. 'Putting Responsible Innovation into Practice', 17 March
2. 'Developing Your Engagement Strategy', 24 March

# EPSRC IAA Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

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We are working to ensure the IAA is accessible and aim to increase diversity across the award.

- We strive towards diverse representation on the assessment panel (currently 3:2 female to male ratio).
- Panel members are required to take unconscious bias training.
- Applications are encouraged from under-represented groups, including women and ethnic minorities. They are assessed on merit according to how closely they fit the criteria.
- Stage 1 Proposals will be assessed anonymously, to reduce chances of unconscious bias.
- Stage 2 Applicants will be prompted to consider EDI in relation to your project.
- Feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

Please get in touch with Alice Hovanessian if you require the information in a different format – contact details at the end.

# To Apply

1. Download and read the Application Pack.

2. Register your interest with Alice Hovanessian, IAA Coordinator, who will arrange a meeting to discuss your project requirements.

3. Submit a short proposal to: ke-applications@bath.ac.uk, by the deadline, **Thursday 3 March 2022, 4pm**.

4. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full application by **Thursday 28 April 2022, 4pm.**

3 recent award holders will present on their projects next:

- Dr Joe Flynn (Mechanical Engineering)

'Manufacturing Process-Aware Design Optimisation'

- Dr Despina Moschou (Electronic & Electrical Engineering)

'COVID-19'

- Dr Eike Mueller (Mathematical Sciences)

'Accelerating climate and weather forecasts with faster multigrid solvers'

# Discussion

- Any questions/comments?

# Enquiries

For enquiries, or to request the information in a different format, please contact the IAA Coordinator:

Alice Hovanessian: ae244@bath.ac.uk | 01225 384583

Further details and application pack:
https://www.bath.ac.uk/guides/impact-acceleration-account/