Guidance Notes
NIHR Research Professorships
Round 8, 2017
Introduction
The vision of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

The effective translation of research into practice remains a high priority. Research leadership gaps exist at two key stages in the innovation pathway; firstly, in translating new fundamental discoveries into improved treatments for patients; and secondly, in evaluating promising ideas to drive into routine clinical practice.

In order to address this, the NIHR is making available a limited number of prestigious NIHR Research Professorships. The objective of these awards is to fund leaders in the early part of their careers to lead research, to promote effective translation of research (‘bench to bedside’ [T₁] and ‘campus to clinic’ [T₂]) and to strengthen research leadership at the highest academic levels.

Up to five NIHR Research Professorships will be available in this eighth round, with up to a further two additional awards being made for Global Health Research Professorships only. The posts aim to:

- Enable outstanding early career academics to spend a fixed 5 year period dedicated to translational (T₁ or T₂) research at Professorial level;
- Facilitate strong research leadership and develop research capacity in areas critical to accelerating the transfer of research ideas into improved health.

Each award will consist of a package to support a professorship, including one doctoral and two post-doctoral appointments, research running costs, a travel fund, a leadership and development programme, including access to the NIHR Leadership Programme, the opportunity to request a sabbatical and the basic salary costs of the individual (plus indirect costs, for the lead nominating body which will be a Higher Education Institution (HEI)).

Eligibility
The scheme is open to all professions and all Higher Education Institutions (HEI), in partnership with NHS organisations, based in England only, to nominate health researchers and methodologists with an outstanding research record of clinical and applied health research and its effective translation for improved health. The nominating (lead) organisation must be a HEI.

A maximum of two nominations will be permitted per HEI for the NIHR Research Professorships. An additional single nomination may be included specifically for a Global Health Research Professorship this year.

The Global Health Research Professorship nomination must be for a candidate undertaking research which aims to specifically and primarily benefit individuals in countries on the OECD DAC list.

The following conditions apply:

- Where two nominees are put forward for consideration for the NIHR Research Professorship, at least one of these must be female;
- Where only one nominee is put forward for consideration for either the NIHR Research Professorship or the Global Health Research Professorship, this could be either male or female.

Global Health Research Professorship nominees will be required to have existing strong collaborations or links with collaborators or partners in institutions in countries on the OECD DAC list and that the award should plan to strengthen these/support training and capacity development/mentorship in these partners. For further information please refer to the guidance on page 7.

It is recommended that partnerships undergo an internal selection process to prioritise which candidates to take forward for nomination. If more than two applications are submitted, the host institution will be instructed to prioritise two and the others will be removed from the process.

Competitive candidates will demonstrate a steep career trajectory over the last 5-10 years, on course to becoming the country’s most outstanding research leaders. They will currently be at consultant grade or equivalent, and be at an early career stage having spent no more than five years at their current level of seniority at the time of application (whether as a Reader, Senior Lecturer/Fellow, Clinician Scientist, Group Leader or similar). Nominees at/close to the Professorial level should be qualified for a Professorship within the coming few years or recently have been appointed as a Professor (full
Professor, not Associate or Assistant). They should not already be established leaders in their field, but be on an upward trajectory to become leaders after the period of the award.

**NIHR Senior Investigators are not eligible to apply as they are considered to be already beyond the scope of this scheme.**

Nominees should be working in the fields of experimental medicine, public health medicine, health services research or methodological research. Such individuals should be seen as research leaders within their field in the UK or abroad. They should have a demonstrable record in effective translation of research into improved health or health care.

Nominees who were unsuccessful in previous rounds of the NIHR Research Professorships scheme, will be eligible to be re-nominated by the institutional partnership, if they meet the criteria.

Applications would be particularly welcomed in this round from non-medical healthcare professions and also from HEIs who have not previously or do not regularly nominate candidates for the NIHR Research Professorships scheme.

**Scope of funding**

**NIHR Research Professorships are personal awards and are not project or programme grants; therefore, extensions to the duration of awards to allow for completion of research and/or leadership and development are not permitted. This doesn’t affect suspensions of awards to allow for periods of maternity, paternity, adoption or sickness leave for the Professor.**

NIHR Research Professorships are fixed term 5 year appointments (a maximum of 60 months).

Nominees may exceptionally undertake the award on a part-time basis; however this would need to be discussed with NIHR TCC before submission of the application. Research Professorships are awarded for a maximum duration of 5 years, whether full time or part time.

The award will consist of a package to support a professorship, three support posts, research running costs, a travel fund, access to the NIHR Leadership Programme, the opportunity to request a sabbatical, as well as the basic salary costs of the individual (plus indirect costs, for the HEI nominating body).

As the application is made by, and awarded to, the nominating institution, should the nominee choose to move to another institution outside of the recognised partnership then the NIHR Research Professorship will terminate.

The full cost of a clinical trial will not be met by this award; nominees must seek grant funding from elsewhere to cover these costs.

**Nominee**

The majority of NIHR Research Professors’ time will be spent on research; however a continuing link with service delivery will be an essential part of leading research translation, pulling through ideas into the clinical or public health arena.

NIHR Research Professors will be funded to continue to spend **up to 2 sessions per week delivering service directly or, if the nominee is not a health professional, an equivalent time collaborating with others to facilitate service delivery.**

Global Health Research Professors will spend the equivalent time supporting clinical delivery in the **OECD DAC list** country or have relevant collaborations to be able to support this.

The award will release the NIHR Research Professor from all local and regional administrative and managerial roles.

In the case of doctors, salary costs covered will exclude payments for any Clinical Excellence Awards, which if national, should continue to be funded centrally, and if local should be met by the NHS employer.
**Support Posts**

Three support posts are available to accompany the Professorship.

- **Post-Doctoral post (5 years)**
  This post will be available for the full 5 year period of the Professorship and attracts a £3,000 contribution towards training and development, including conference costs. The post will be funded at 80%, as it attracts full economic costing.

  **The acceptable basic salary range for this post is £31,614 - £54,741.**

- **Post-Doctoral post (3 years)**
  This post is only available for 3 years within the 5 year period of the Professorship. NIHR will only fund the salary for this post (Basic + National Insurance + Superannuation); however this will be at 100%, as this post does not attract full economic costing. The post does not attract any project costs or training and development costs from NIHR.

  **The acceptable basic salary range for this post is £31,614 - £54,741.**

- **Doctoral Post (3 years)**
  This post is only available for 3 years within the 5 year period of the Professorship. NIHR will only fund the salary for this post (Basic + National Insurance + Superannuation); however this will be at 100%, as this post does not attract full economic costing. The post does not attract any project costs or training and development costs from NIHR.

  PhD fees should also be included for this post; however these are capped at the RCUK rates, which are currently set at £4,195 pa.

  **The acceptable basic salary range for this post is £28,000 - £40,100.**

All of the above posts, including any associated funding, will terminate with the end of the Professorship, therefore early recruitment is recommended. Should any of the appointments extend beyond the fixed 5 year term of the Professorship, including for statutory reasons (maternity/paternity, adoption or sick leave), the nominating organisation will be expected to continue to provide ongoing support.

**Leadership & Development**

The award may also be used in part to meet the costs associated with continuing national and international research leadership and collaboration. As such, other opportunities for international collaboration, such as sabbaticals, may be considered as part of this award, provided that it is justified and relevant. NIHR will consider requests on a case by case basis.

**Nominating Institutions**

Awards will be made to the lead HEI within the partnership, as the employing organisation.

Nominations are only eligible from HEI / NHS partnerships based in England. As the lead (employing) organisation will be a HEI, the application should make clear the arrangements with partner NHS organisation(s) which will enable the nominee to work with service providers to translate research into practice.

Nominating organisations must demonstrate in specific detail within their application a commitment to the ongoing employment of the nominee beyond the duration of the award. The NIHR TCC will require assurances from the nominating partnership that any existing funds freed up by the award will be recycled to increase research capacity.

In order to address this, host institutions will need to download and complete the mandatory table from the NIHR website. This must be attached to the application form and will clearly document out how the salary costs will be recycled and what additional support will be provided. This will be used as part of
the evaluation process and should the panel deem the support for the nominee to be insufficient, then it is highly unlikely that an award will be made.

By the end of the 5 years of the award, NIHR Research Professors will be expected to:

- Have established at least two major international collaborations;
- Have demonstrated leadership at a national level;
- Have been developed and protected by their institutions, including being relieved of local administrative tasks so that they can concentrate on their Professorship.
- Global Health Research Professors are required to have met the aims set out on page 7 of this guidance.

Eligible Research

NIHR supports clinical and applied health research, including social care research. The proposal must have clear potential for benefitting patients and the public. The research can involve: patients; samples or data from patients; people who are not patients; populations; health technology assessment; or health services research.

Please note that NIHR Research Professorships are aimed at those undertaking translational research and do not support basic research or work involving animals or their tissue. Any applications involving these areas of work going forward will be deemed ineligible.

For Global Health Research Professorships, please refer to the guidance on page 7 for the eligible research criteria.

Application Procedure

Timetable

Applications must be submitted to NIHR TCC using the online application system by Wednesday 29th November 2017 at 1.00pm.

Electronic submissions via e-mail will not be accepted.

All submissions via the online application system must be in English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20th September 2017</td>
<td>Round 8 applications open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th November 2017</td>
<td>Closing date for Stage 1 applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December – February 2018</td>
<td>Assessment of eligible applications by Expert Review Panel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2018</td>
<td>Shortlisting for interview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th March 2018</td>
<td>Open for Stage 2 applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th April 2018</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of Stage 2 applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early/mid-June 2018</td>
<td>Interviews – venue to be determined</td>
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</table>

Costs of return travel from the applicant’s usual place of work to the interview by the most direct and economic route will normally be reimbursed.

Nominees are currently asked to keep all dates in June available. The confirmed interview dates will be placed on the Round 8 web page in due course.
Assessment of Applications and Outcome

Applications will be considered by an international external review panel. NIHR TCC will inform nominees as soon as possible after a final decision has been taken on their application following eligibility checks and shortlisting. Nominees who are interviewed will usually be notified of the decision as soon as possible after funding arrangements have been confirmed. The Panel’s recommendations will be considered by the Chief Scientific Adviser for the Department of Health to inform funding decisions.

Research Professorships cannot be deferred.

Research projects undertaken as part of a NIHR Research Professorship may be included on the NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio. The Research Design Service (RDS; http://www.rds.nihr.ac.uk/) supports NIHR Clinical Research Network Portfolio project research applications.

Start Dates

Successful nominees will be expected to start their award on one of the following dates only:

- 1st October 2018;
- 1st November 2018; or
- 1st December 2018.

Assessment Criteria

Applications are assessed on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of the nominee’s current capabilities as a research leader;
- The outputs from and impact of research undertaken to date;
- The success of the nominee in securing funds for their research to date;
- Demonstration of a steep career trajectory to date over the last 5-10 years;
- The likelihood that the nominee will make a long-term contribution to translational research, capacity building and research leadership in their chosen field in the UK;
- The projected impact of the NIHR Research Professorship on the nominee’s career and future research trajectory;
- The quality of the proposed research programme and the likelihood of it securing future external funding;
- The suitability of the proposed HEI/NHS partnership and programme for the development of the Research Professor;
- The commitment of the proposed host institution to support the nominee in the short, medium and long term and commitment of the provider to empowering promotion of translation at a local level;
- The strategic significance and value of the nominee and their research to the host institution at a local and national level;
- The appropriateness of resources claimed and whether the total funding requested represents good value for the use of public/NIHR funds.
In addition, for Global Health Research Professorship applications:

- Global health need: evidence as to why a specific issue or discipline has been identified for research, and how the research programme and partnerships will address this;
- ODA eligibility: research is directly and predominantly relevant to improving health of people in DAC list countries.
- A strong track record in the area and evidence of relevant collaborations and partnerships to support the application.

**Global Health Research**

For this round, a single additional nomination will be permitted per HEI specifically for those wishing to undertake global health research.

As this is a new opportunity in this area, a separate Q&A document specific to Global Health Research Professorships will be made available on the NIHR website covering additional information.

Support would be available for individuals in any field of applied global health research for the primary benefit of patients and people in low and middle income countries (LMICs). The focus of any support would be for under-funded, under-researched areas.

The funding aims to support:

- Global health applied research that has the potential to have a significant impact on the health and lives of the poorest and most vulnerable people in LMICs (see DAC list);
- Translation of advances in applied health research into real benefits for patients and the public in LMICs;
- Generation of high quality research evidence to inform decision-making by public health officials, practitioners and policy makers; and
- Develop knowledge and capacity within UK and LMIC institutions that can be translated into global health research practice.

Collaboration with researchers in ODA eligible countries on the OECD DAC list is essential.

**Research in any field of applied global health that is for the primary benefit of patients and the public in one or more LMICs will be considered.**

We particularly encourage multidisciplinary applications addressing under-funded or under-researched areas which could have a significant impact on the mortality and morbidity of poorest and most vulnerable population(s).

Clinical trials could be included, as long as a single trial is not the sole purpose of the research programme - given that there are other funding mechanisms available for this.
**ODA Compliance**

In order to be eligible to receive ODA funding, applications must demonstrate how they meet ODA compliance criteria and outline:

- Which country or countries on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of ODA-eligible countries will directly benefit;

- How the application is directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of those countries; and

- How the outcomes will promote the health and welfare of a country or countries on the DAC list.

Where researchers wish to work with middle-income countries on the DAC list (for example China, India, Brazil), the application should demonstrate how the research will benefit the health and welfare of the poorest and/or most vulnerable groups of people in those countries and how their findings could have wider applicability to other low income countries.

**Application Submission Process**

Due to the new two stage process, a number of items of information will now only need to be provided should your application progress to Stage 2.

Whilst detailed information on Patient and Public Involvement (PPI), Management and Governance, and Finances will not be required until Stage 2, it is expected that a brief account of any PPI and any intellectual property arising from this research will also be interwoven within the Detailed Research Plan section in Stage 1.

The average cost of a NIHR Research Professorship is between £1.5m to £1.7m. Costs may be slightly higher or lower than this depending upon the research being undertaken; however any project over £2m will need to be re-profiled if successful at interview.

**By authorising and submitting an application the HEI is accepting the process by which an application is assessed and agreeing to abide by the conditions under which an award may be offered.**

As the nominating organisations will need to confirm their participation in the application and then complete their relevant sections, it is recommended that the signatories section is completed as soon as is practically possible in order to allow them access to the form.

**Please note:** when the form is complete and all validation errors have been addressed, the nominee may submit their application. Clicking the submit button does not send the application to TCC for consideration; it alerts the authorised signatories that the form is ready for final approval. Only when all signatories have approved the application is it then complete and is submitted to TCC. Please allow plenty of time before the closing date for this process to take place.

Guidance on the submission process will be provided to those candidates invited to submit a stage 2 application.
STAGE ONE APPLICATION

1. Application created by Nominee

2. Nominee adds Participant(s) and Signatories (HEI & Representative(s) of NHS Organisations)

3. HEI & NHS Representatives log in to application and confirms participation.
   They also complete the relevant sections of the application form

3. Nominee continues entering data and completes all relevant sections of the application form.

4. Nominee ‘Validates’ and presses the ‘Submit’ button

5. Automated emails sent to advise Signatories

6. Lead Signatory for HEI and Representatives of NHS organisations must log in and approve application*

7. Application is fully submitted to NIHR TCC for consideration

* Rejection of the application by any individual at Stage 6 will return the application to Stage 3

Key

- Applicant
- Participants
- Signatories
- Process
Stage 1 Guidance

1. Application Summary Information

Host Organisation

Please give details of the organisation who will be the contractor if the award is funded. Please note that we expect the applicant’s proposed host organisation (substantive employer) to act as the contractor. Please also bear in mind that:

- The contractor is expected to respond to annual financial reconciliation exercises, provide the final financial reconciliation statement for the award and to provide ad hoc requests for financial information during the lifetime of the award.
- In the same way, the contractor is expected to respond to any queries relating to Intellectual Property, commercialisation and benefit realisation.

Partner Organisation (where applicable)

Please give details of the partner organisation who will be supporting this application.

Research Title

The programme title should state clearly and concisely the proposed research. Any abbreviations should be spelled out in full.

Research Type

Select the appropriate research type. If you are not sure which category to select, choose the closest match to your project as this can be adjusted later. NIHR definitions of these terms can be found here: https://www.nihr.ac.uk/glossary.

Proposed Start Date

Note this should be from 1st of the month regardless of whether this is a working day or not. Please be realistic about your possible start date taking account of the necessary contracting, and staff recruitment prior to starting your project.

WTE of Award

Awards can only be undertaken with the WTE options given. Research Professorships can only be undertaken over 60 months.

Estimated Research Costs

Enter the total amount of research costs requested (not including NHS Support & Treatment costs).

Estimated NHS Support & Treatment costs or external (not NHS) intervention costs

Enter the total amount of NHS support and treatment costs or external (not NHS) intervention costs associated with this proposal.
2. Applicant CV

Please note some of the responses to these questions are automatically pulled through from information you have entered in the 'Manage My Details' page.

**Degrees and Professional Qualifications**

Please give the full details of any completed higher degree(s) and, where relevant, the full details of any higher degree(s) you are currently undertaking.

**Present and previous positions**

When entering details of your current and previous positions please indicate at what percentage (WTE) in each post you were undertaking research. For example, if you were a Clinical Lecturer and undertook research for 2.5 days a week and clinical work for 2.5 days per week; please enter 50% for that position. If you have worked part time at 60%, and undertook research for half of that time, please enter 30% for that position. This information is used to calculate your eligibility for schemes where there are limits on the amount of post-doctoral experience an applicant can have.

**Research grants held**

Details of all grants obtained in the last five years should be provided, including personal research training awards or fellowships, plus any additional previous grants relevant to this application. Please indicate clearly any co-applicants and provide brief details of the nature and full extent of your involvement (e.g. project design, project management, day to day running, data collection, data analysis, writing papers for publication, etc.).

These details relate to the nominee only. Information on the grants/awards held by the nominating institutions is no longer required.

**Publication Record**

Please download and complete the word template from the NIHR Research Professorships webpage. Please do not list all publications in the 'Manage My Details: Update CV' section.

**Peer Reviewed Publication Summary**

Please provide details of the most significant 20 original, peer-reviewed publications that would be of relevance to this application from the last 5 years. Please list in date order, with the most recent first. No additional rows may be added to this table. If more than 20 publications are listed in this section, only the first 20 will be taken into account. The panel assesses each publication on its merits, particularly in relation to patient benefit. Different disciplines vary in the journals that they use and journal impact factors will only form a part of the assessment.

i. **Publication** – please state the publication title.

ii. **Journal** – please state the journal that the output was published in.

iii. **Year** – please state the year published.

iv. **Current Journal Impact factor** – given that these change, please list the most current Impact factor for the journal listed.

v. **Number of Citations** – please list the number of times that the publication has been cited.

vi. **Source of Citation Information** – please state where you obtained the citation information from for each publication, e.g. Scopus, Google Scholar etc.
vii. Number of authors – please list the total number of authors associated with the publication.

viii. Key Authorship Position – please state your authorship position for each publication, e.g. first, last or corresponding author.

ix. Interdisciplinary research – please choose either yes or no from the drop down list.

x. URL – please provide the web link to the journal (where available).

Other significant publications or outputs

Please provide details of any other significant publications, outputs or products that would be of relevance to this application, which provide evidence of influence and leadership in the nominee’s field. Items in this section should include the following headings (where appropriate):

- Books and/or book chapters;
- Papers in conference proceedings;
- Research reports to government departments, charities, the voluntary sector, professional bodies, industry or commerce;
- Monographs;
- Intellectual Property (patents, patent applications or other forms of IP);
- Other applied research outputs (new materials, software packages, images and devices, research derived from development, analysis and interpretation of bio-informatic databases, work published in non-print media, Cochrane reviews and NICE Guidelines).

Please complete the overall summary tables at the start of this section. Please state whether you have used Web of Science or Scopus as the source of the information. Please do not use any other system.

Once completed, please upload onto the online application system. If you do not upload the publications document your application will be deemed to be incomplete and will not be processed.

**Relevant Prizes, Awards and other Academic Distinctions**

Please provide details of any awards or distinctions that would be relevant to your application including details of what the award was for.

**ORCiD**

The NIHR is an ORCID member and encourages all researchers to obtain this persistent digital identifier that distinguishes you from every other researcher. Lead applicants must include an ORCID iD in their application. Without it, your application will not be validated and you will not be able to submit. For more information and to register please see [http://orcid.org/](http://orcid.org/).

**Gender**

This question is included within the application form (in addition to being asked as part of equal opportunities monitoring) to ensure we are meeting NIHR’s commitment to gender equality in relation to academic career progression. The response to this question will not be displayed to the review Panel.
3. Applicant Research Background

Professional background

Select the one option which best describes your professional group. This will determine the options that appear below for your professional background.

Please describe your research career to date

Please use this question to describe your research experience and career to date and how this makes you suitable for this award. The following items should be included, however please note that this is not an exhaustive list:

- Track record of research and its translation;
- Contributions towards research leadership;
- Developing translational research capability;
- Track record in training researchers;
- Previous involvement of patients and public in research.

Please do not duplicate any information that will be included within the Detailed Research Plan section. Please do not include any web links, as they will be disregarded by the panel.

The option to upload one document for this section is only for the inclusion of charts, diagrams, tables and images that relate to the text in this section. Any other information/documents uploaded here will be removed. The document must be in either Word or PDF format.

Please do not leave this section blank on the online system in order to upload a document with text and images combined, as this will be removed and your application will be deemed incomplete.

Has this application been previously submitted to this or any other funding body?

Select ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ to indicate whether this or a similar application has previously been submitted to this or any other funding body. This must include any previous submissions for an NIHR research training award, even if the proposed research has changed. Please detail the title of any previous submission(s), the funding body and scheme, the outcome and the date this is due if a decision is pending. If the application was unsuccessful please indicate why and detail how this application differs from previous submission(s) and how any feedback received has been used to inform this application.

Current and previous NIHR awards

In order to help track the progression of NIHR trainees please indicated whether you have previously or currently hold another NIHR research training award.
4. Plain English Summary of Research

The importance of a plain English summary

A plain English summary is a clear explanation of your research. Many reviewers use this summary to inform their review of your funding application. They include clinicians and researchers who do not have specialist knowledge of your field as well as members of the public. If your application for funding is successful, the summary will be used on National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and other websites.

A good quality plain English summary providing an easy to read overview of your whole study will help:

- those carrying out the review (reviewers and board and panel members) to have a better understanding of your research proposal;
- inform others about your research such as members of the public, health professionals, policy makers and the media;
- the research funders to publicise the research that they fund.

If it is felt that your plain English summary is not clear and of a good quality then you may be required to amend it prior to final funding approval.

It is helpful to involve patients / carers / members of the public in developing a plain English summary.

Content

When writing your summary consider including the following information where appropriate:

- aim(s) of the research;
- background to the research;
- design and methods used;
- patient and public involvement;
- dissemination.

The plain English summary is not the same as a scientific abstract - please do not cut and paste this or other sections of your application form to create the plain English summary.

Further guidance on writing in plain English is available online at NIHR Make it clear www.involve.nihr.ac.uk/makeitclear.

For further support and advice on writing a plain English summary, please contact your local Research Design Service (where applicable). www.rds.nihr.ac.uk.

5. Scientific Abstract

The scientific abstract should be a clear and concise scientific summary of the Detailed Research Plan / Methods.

The following is a list of potential elements / headings that might be included depending on the design of the proposed research, the setting and programme being applied to, and whether it is for primary research or evidence synthesis. It will be for researchers to decide the appropriate elements to be included in the scientific abstract and could include elements outside this list. Applicants may find the guidance on the EQUATOR Network website (www.equator-network.org) useful.
6. Detailed Research Plan

Using all of the headings (in the order presented) and guidance below, please use this section to clearly explain your proposed research. As this is the main part of your application detailing your proposal which will be considered by the reviewing Panel you should ensure that the information is accurate, succinct and clearly laid out.

The NIHR expects appropriate and relevant involvement of patients and the public and other key stakeholders in the research it supports. It is essential to set out your plans to involve patients and the public in this application. Your patient and public involvement plans will be assessed by the funding Panel including patient and public members.

Information and resources to assist you can be found on the INVOLVE website (a detailed definition of patient and public involvement in research, briefing notes for researchers on how to involve patients and the public and an involvement cost calculator and budgeting guide).

In this section it is important that you identify all stakeholders who are relevant to your research proposal. For each stakeholder group you need to be clear about how they benefit from your proposed research and, where appropriate, how they have been involved in the development of the application, as well as the plans for their involvement in the proposed research.

In this section, you are required to provide details of your future research and translational plans over the 5 year time period. Please include a case for how an NIHR Research Professorship would enable you to make a significantly increased contribution towards translation into practice and developing translational research capability.

Please note that NIHR Research Professorships are aimed at those undertaking translational research and do not support basic research or work involving animals or their tissue. Any applications involving these areas of work going forward will be deemed ineligible.

Please do not replicate any information that has already been included within this application form.

Please state clearly at the top of this section, which of the following areas you are applying for:

- Experimental Medicine;
- Health Services Research;
- Methodological Research
- Public Health Research;
- Global Health Research.

**Contribution to, or collaboration with, service**

NIHR Research Professors will be funded to continue to spend up to 2 sessions per week delivering service directly, or in the case of health researchers and methodologists, an equivalent time collaborating with others to support service delivery. Please state how you will make this contribution towards service, or for non-health professionals, how you will collaborate with service.
Global Health Research Professors will spend the equivalent time supporting clinical delivery in the OECD DAC list country or have relevant collaborations to be able to support this.

Please detail the projected impact that the Professorship will have on your career and research trajectory. Please note that by the end of the 5 years of the award, NIHR Research Professors will be expected to:

- Have established at least 2 major international collaborations;
- Have demonstrated leadership at a national level;
- Have been developed and protected by their institutions, including being relieved of local administrative tasks so that they can concentrate on their Professorship.
- Global Health Research Professors are required to have met the aims set out on page 7 of this guidance.

Please do not include any web links in the application, as they will be disregarded by the panel.

The option to upload one document for this section is only for the inclusion of charts, diagrams, tables and images that relate to the text in this section. Any other information/documents uploaded here will be removed. The document must be in either Word or PDF format.

Please do not leave this section blank on the online system in order to upload a document with text and images combined, as this will be removed and your application will be deemed incomplete.

The research programme should have clear patient benefit within the lifetime of, or shortly after the completion of, the award. All implementation plans need to be clearly defined and a Gantt chart setting out what will be achieved and when should be included within the uploaded document for this section.

If including a feasibility study, it has been deemed appropriate by the panel to expect the nominee to undertake and complete this within the duration of the 5 years of the award (ideally within 1 year) and then move the research forward.

1. **What is the problem being addressed?**

   Provide a clear explanation of the health problem to be addressed, the impact on patients as well as health and care services, and how this research would fill a demonstrable evidence gap.

2. **Why is this research important in terms of improving the health and/or wellbeing of the public and/or to patients and health and care services?**

   It is essential that you clearly identify the health and care need your research meets or contributes to. Please outline the anticipated value or contribution the study will provide.

3. **Review of existing evidence - How does the existing literature support this proposal?**

   Explain why this research is needed now, both in terms of time and relevance. We will only fund primary research where the proposed research is informed by a review of the existing evidence.
4. **What is the research question / aims and objectives?**

Please summarise the research question / key aims and objectives.

5. **Project Plan**

Provide an expert description of the project plan of investigation plus any additional points required to support statements made in the previous sections, and include any key references required to justify the points made (e.g. in the use of particular outcome measures or methods of analysis). You should include where applicable; study design, justification of sample size, selection and exclusion criteria, methods of data collection and analysis, and justification for your choice of methodology.

6. **Dissemination, Outputs and anticipated Impact**

The purpose of this section is for the applicant to describe what the outputs of the research might be, how and who they will talk to and what impact there might be. NIHR understands that the impact of any research may take time to be realised and will likely involve other funders and institutions. In many cases it may be difficult to provide definitive answers or any guarantees. However, addressing the below questions will allow you to describe what you hope or expect the pathway to impact to be, what might prevent impact and who else might be involved.

- **WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO PRODUCE FROM YOUR RESEARCH?** This could include but is not limited to: Conference presentation or other workshop events; Publications (academic or otherwise); Guidelines (clinical, service or otherwise); Other copyright (e.g. questionnaires, training aids, toolkits, manuals, software, etc.); New or improved design of medical devices or instrumentation; New or improved diagnostic; Trial data that could be used to support a CE mark, market authorisation or equivalent; Trial data that could be used to shape or influence a healthcare market or government; Potential new drug or healthcare intervention; Other. Please provide brief details of each of the anticipated outputs.

- **HOW WILL YOU INFORM AND ENGAGE PATIENTS, NHS AND THE WIDER POPULATION ABOUT YOUR WORK?** Describe your plans for disseminating this research. If you have not yet made plans, please outline at what stage in your project you intend to start formulating these.

- **HOW WILL YOUR OUTPUTS ENTER OUR HEALTH AND CARE SYSTEM OR SOCIETY AS A WHOLE?** Describe how any new or improved outputs generate through the proposed research will be recognised, captured, managed and used directly in the health and care service or wider society. This might be through commercial exploitation or other non-commercial routes or means. If the output(s) from your research are likely to be commercial, describe the proposed route to market and by whom, or how you plan on developing this.

- **WHAT FURTHER FUNDING OR SUPPORT WILL BE REQUIRED IF THIS RESEARCH IS SUCCESSFUL (e.g. from NIHR, other Government departments, charity or industry)?** This should be linked to the responses in questions 2 and 3 above.

- **WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BARRIERS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION?**
  - Will the proposed research use data, technology, materials or other inventions that are subject to any form of intellectual property protection (e.g. copyright, design rights, patents) or rights owned by another organisation(s)? If yes, provide brief details including how such third party IP will be accessed (e.g. collaboration agreement, drug supply agreement).
  - What are the key current and future barriers to uptake of any likely output or innovation directly in the health and care service, through commercial exploitation or other means, e.g. potential regulatory hurdles?
WHAT DO YOU THINK THE IMPACT OF YOUR RESEARCH WILL BE AND FOR WHOM? Describe the anticipated impact of the expected outputs on the health and care of patients, the public, and on health and care services in the short, medium and long term in terms of: patient benefit; changes in NHS service (including efficiency savings); commercial return (which could contribute to economic growth). Indicate the anticipated timescale for the benefits to reach patients, the public and services, providing a quantitative estimate of the scale of these potential benefits, if possible.

7. Project Management

Please outline the processes that will be put in place to ensure the research described will be well managed. This should complement your research timetable upload (see ‘8. Uploads’ below).

8. Ethics

Please describe any ethical issues your research project raises and how you intend to address these. Research requiring ethical approval must have the appropriate approvals in place before it can commence. Further guidance on the approval process is available from the Health Research Authority (HRA) (http://www.hra.nhs.uk/about-the-hra/our-committees/). The MRC and the HRA have designed a tool to help you decide whether you need ethical approval which you can find here: http://www.hra-decisiontools.org.uk/ethics/. However, if you are unsure whether your research requires ethical approval please contact the HRA directly and they will be able to advise.

9. Success Criteria

Please set out the measurements of success you intend to use and also the key risks to delivering this research and what contingencies you will put in place to deal with them. This section should identify appropriate actions that would reduce or eliminate each risk or its impact.

7. Training and Development and Research Support

Proposed leadership and development programme

The nominee will be expected to participate in a leadership and development programme to support personal and professional development as a research leader. Please detail your existing skills and outline a tailored development programme, which has been designed in conjunction with your nominating partnership organisations to address your future needs. Please provide a clear statement of how the HEI will actively support and develop your leadership and development programme. A strong leadership and development programme will focus mainly on the skills required for progression as a research leader. Successful Research Professors will also be invited to participate in the NIHR Leadership Programme.

As this award may be used in part to build on existing national and international research leadership and collaborations, please include details of any sabbaticals that you may wish to undertake during the 5 years of the award, for consideration by the expert panel.

Please detail how you intend to develop research capacity in the next generation of researchers, including via your Post-Doctoral and Doctoral appointments and the wider environment.

Please also state clearly where you expect to be on your career trajectory after the 5 years of the award and also what commitment the HEI intends to make towards your future career.
Research support

Please state the name(s) and institution(s) of your mentors. You will also be required to justify your choice of mentor and how you intend to work with them. A minimum of 1 and a maximum of 4 entries are required on the form.

Although we acknowledge that formal supervision may not be appropriate for the level of award, we believe that senior academic mentoring is vital to allow the development of the nominee as a research leader. In this context, the mentoring role will encompass providing the nominee with support throughout the Professorship in both their (the nominee’s) research endeavours and their overall career development.

At least one of the proposed senior academic mentors should be based in the host institution. They should have a clear understanding of the research process, the demands that the chosen area of research are likely to place on the nominee, and their particular strengths and weaknesses. Nominees may also wish to choose another mentor from another institution either elsewhere in the UK or overseas.

Please state why these particular mentors have been chosen and what new perspective/developments they will bring. Clearly describe how the proposed mentorship will support your overall development and provide an initial assessment of the time that will be allocated to the mentoring process.

Funding for research support is available for travel and subsistence only (for the nominee) and does not support any fees the individuals who provide research support may wish to charge the nominee.

Collaborations

Explain what collaborations you intend to establish to support your research and, if applicable, your leadership and development programme. This may involve short visiting placements (e.g. an Overseas Research Visit), or secondments in new (to the applicant) research environments, e.g. clinical trials units or NIHR Biomedical Research Units / Centres.

The NIHR is particularly keen to enhance the cadre of researchers equipped to work at the university/NHS/industry interface, translating ideas into new treatments and products from which patients can benefit. Therefore, where appropriate, you should consider any industry collaborations you may wish to establish during the course of your award. You should include; the leadership and development the collaboration will provide; the facilities and expertise you will have access to; and how the collaboration will strengthen links between academia, industry and the NHS.

For the Professorship, please provide details of all existing and any future national and international collaborations that you are already part of or that you may wish to be involved in.

Global Health Research Professorship nominees will be required to have existing strong collaborations or links with collaborators or partners in institutions in countries on the OECD DAC list and that the award should plan to strengthen these/support training and capacity development/mentorship in these partners. For further information please refer to the guidance on page 7.

Host Organisation support statement

The Heads of Departments of the host organisation and the partner organisation are required to complete this section jointly.

The nominating partnership will need to include within this statement when they expect the nominee to be appointed as a Professor (full Professor, not Associate or Assistant) and, if
already appointed at Professorial level, why they consider the nominee is still qualified for this award and how the award will change their potential to become a leader in the field.

As the lead organisation, the HEI must state how the interface with service will be managed to empower the nominee to promote translation, or how the partnership intends to collaborate with service in the case of non-health professional nominees. Please note that NIHR Research Professors will be funded to continue to spend up to 2 sessions per week delivering service directly, or in the case of health researchers and methodologists, an equivalent time collaborating with service.

Please state how the partnership intends to work together to support the nominee and support post appointments, including how they will be supported in terms of infrastructure in the short, medium and long term.

Please note that this statement of support will need to be individually tailored to each nominee that the partnership wishes to be considered for a NIHR Research Professorship, rather than a generic institutional statement. These statements are critically important and will be used by the panel to determine whether the support from the host environment for the nominee and the proposed research is suitable enough to allow the application to progress beyond the shortlisting stage of the process.

The Statement of Support must also contain, but is not restricted to, information on the following two items:

Support for the nominee at an organisational level
Please provide a clear statement outlining the strategic significance and value of the nominee and their research to the host institution. The HEI must also set out how it specifically intends to value and actively support the nominee at the organisational level both during and after completion of this award.

Support for the nominee at a national/international level
Please provide a clear statement outlining the strategic significance and value of the nominee and their research at a national/international level. The HEI must also set out how it specifically intends to value and actively support the nominee at the national/international level both during and after completion of this award.

In addition, the host institution will be required to download the mandatory statement of support table from the website. This must be attached to the application form and will clearly document how the salary costs will be recycled and what additional support will be provided. This will be used as part of the evaluation process and should the panel deem the support for the nominee to be insufficient, then it is highly unlikely that an award will be made.

8. Uploads

To support your research plan you are able to upload the following documents in the ‘uploads’ section of the form:

- References 1 A4 page listing all references cited in the application.
- Figures/Tables Up to 2 A4 pages of figures/tables may be included to supplement your research plan.
- Research Timetable 1 A4 page detailing specific milestones and deliverables (Gantt Chart).
• CTU Letter of Support: Where you are working with a CTU please include a supporting letter.

• Publications Summary: Please use the Round 8 form downloaded from the NIHR website to include all relevant publications information.

• Statement of Support Table: Please download from the NIHR website and complete the mandatory questions on the support for the nominee. This can only be uploaded by the Lead Signatory for the HEI.

9. Participants and Signatories

A number of participants and signatories are required to be added to your application and, where applicable, to complete sections of it. Details of the required individuals are provided on the online application form along with details of how they should added. The flow diagram in Annex B goes through the actions required of participants, signatories and the applicant.

10. Acknowledge, review and submit

Conflict checks

Please declare any conflicts or potential conflicts of interest that you may have in undertaking this research, including any relevant, non-personal & commercial interest that could be perceived as a conflict of interest.

Agreement to terms and conditions

Please click the check box to confirm you agree to the Terms and Conditions of submission as detailed on the application form.

Checklist of information to include when submitting a NIHR stage 1 research application

Applicants should use list below to check that they have included the necessary information prior to submitting their application.

- A good quality Plain English Summary; [www.involve.nihr.ac.uk/makeitclear](http://www.involve.nihr.ac.uk/makeitclear)
- A clear explanation of the problem being addressed;
- A clear demonstration of the need and importance of the research;
- A review of existing literature (primary research);
- A clear research question / aim(s) and objectives;
- A clear project plan summarising the study design and methods;
- Appropriate and relevant involvement of patients and the public; [www.involve.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.involve.nihr.ac.uk)
- A clear, appropriate and relevant plan for dissemination;
- A single A4 page of references (document upload);
- All mandatory additional information has been uploaded to the online application system.
Stage 2 Guidance

**Patient and Public Involvement**

Please describe how patients and the public have been involved in developing this proposal

You should describe who has been involved and why this is appropriate, what role(s) they have played and what influence or change has happened as result of their involvement.

Please describe the ways in which patients and the public will be actively involved the proposed research, including any training and support provided

INVOLVE has developed guidance both on how patients and public can be involved [http://www.invo.org.uk/posttypepublication/involve-briefing-notes-for-researchers/](http://www.invo.org.uk/posttypepublication/involve-briefing-notes-for-researchers/) and the processes, procedures and values necessary to support this involvement [www.invo.org.uk](http://www.invo.org.uk).

Patients and public can be involved in every stage of a research project, from developing a proposal through to dissemination and evaluation.

In your description you will need to say who will be involved and why.

Explain why your approach to public and patient involvement is appropriate for this proposal

Describe how you will support and enable patient and public involvement in your research (e.g.: payments, training).

If it is considered not appropriate and meaningful to actively involve patients and the public in your proposed research, please justify why

Complete / justify as necessary.

**Management and Governance**

Please complete the check boxes as appropriate.

**Finance Guidance (Stage 2)**

**Detailed Budget**

Justification of costs

- Please provide a breakdown of research costs associated with undertaking the research and provide justification for the resources requested. This should include the following costs: staff costs, travel and subsistence, dissemination costs, equipment (including lease versus purchase costs), consumables, patient and public involvement (PPI) and any other direct costs. For help with estimating PPI costs please see the INVOLVE cost calculator available at [http://www.invo.org.uk/resource-centre/payment-and-recognition-for-public-involvement/involvement-cost-calculator/](http://www.invo.org.uk/resource-centre/payment-and-recognition-for-public-involvement/involvement-cost-calculator/).

- When justifying staff costs you should also provide the % amount of time input of each member of staff and link this to the specific area/work package of the proposed study where this input will be taking place.
• You should indicate here how this research will potentially benefit the NHS and/or public health. For example, where appropriate, describe the likely cost savings or benefits in terms of numbers of patients treated, treatment times etc.

• You should describe the value for money of the conduct of the proposed research.

• Please provide a breakdown of the NHS costs associated with undertaking the research and provide justification for the resources required. If there are no NHS Support or Excess Treatment Costs associated with the research you must explain why you think this is the case.

• Please provide a breakdown of any non-NHS intervention costs and provide justification for the resources required. Non-NHS intervention costs should include costs incurred in delivering the intervention which would continue to be incurred after the trial, should the intervention become standard care.

• NIHR Personal awards are not project or programme grants; therefore, extensions to the duration of awards to allow for completion of research and/or training and development are not permitted. This doesn't affect suspensions of awards to allow for periods of maternity, paternity, adoption or sickness leave.

Detailed Budget Breakdown

The finance section should provide a breakdown of costs associated with undertaking the research as described in the proposal.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The information entered in this section should provide an analysis of the total funds requested to undertake the research proposed and should be based on current prices. These costs will be used to assess value for money.

- It is in the best interest to undertake a thorough, realistic and accurate costing. Where an outline/stage 1 application has been produced and this is the full stage (2) application, the Panel will pay close attention to any material increase in costs. You must provide a clear and full justification for all costs including NHS costs. You must also ensure that you include all costs including those required to secure good research management.

- Costs must be provided at current prices. An adjustment for inflation will be made annually thereafter at rates set by the Department of Health. Whilst allowances for incremental increases should be included on the form, nationally or locally agreed pay increases should be excluded.

- Years should be calculated starting from the anticipated start date of the proposed research. For example, if your research is expected to start on 01 June 2020 then its second year starts 01 June 2021.

- Further itemisation of costs and methods of calculation may be requested to support the application at a later date.

- Payments will be made to the contracted organisation only and the contracted organisation will be responsible for passing on any money due to their partner organisation(s).

- Appropriate sub-contracts must be put in place for any element of the research which is to be paid to another organisation.

- NHS Support Costs are funded via Clinical Research Networks. Researchers should contact their local NHS R&D Department initially and, if they are unable to help directly or if there is no local NHS R&D Department, contact their Local Clinical Research Network. Further details about CRN contacts are available at: https://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/local-clinical-research-networks.htm.
- All applications are expected to have appropriate NHS, HEI, commercial and other partner organisation input into the finance section of the application form.
- There is no need to individually itemise costs where the total is below £1,000.

INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT TYPES OF ORGANISATIONS

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)
- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) should determine the Full Economic Cost (FEC) of their research using the Transparent Approach to Costing (TRAC) methodology. For HEIs, up to 80% of FEC will be paid, provided that TRAC methodology has been used.

NHS bodies and other providers of NHS services in England
- For applications where the contractor is an NHS body or provider of NHS services in England, up to 100% of direct costs will be paid.
- If you are a commercial organisation/consultancy, please fill in direct costs and commercial indirect costs. Indirect costs should be charged in proportion to the amount of research staff effort requested on the funding application form. Up to 100% of costs will be paid.

Other Partner Organisations
- If you are an other partner organisation (e.g. charity or NGO), please fill in direct costs and other partner organisations indirect costs. Indirect costs should be charged in proportion to the amount of research staff effort requested on the funding application form. Up to 100% of costs will be paid.

DIRECT COSTS
These are costs that are specific to the research, which will be charged as the amount actually spent and can be supported by an audit record. They should comprise:

1) Details of posts and salaries. This section presents an overview of salary costs for the applicant and other support/shared staff contributing to the research, including normal salary increments broken down individually.

The Applicant
Please state the proposed salary point and scale at the start of the Professorship. Please note immediate promotion to a higher grade as a result of securing an award will not be funded. Please do not include any Clinical Excellence or Discretion/Merit awards or discretionary points. NIHR agrees to fund consultant salaries at a full-time rate equivalent to 10 Programmed Activities per week.
Support staff

- **Post-Doctoral (5 years)** – this is for one person at Post-Doctoral/NIHR Clinical Lecturer level. The acceptable salary range for this post will be £31,614 - £54,741. Under ‘Type of Cost’, please enter this post as ‘HEI’ from the drop down list. This post attracts Full Economic Costing and has a training allowance of £3,000. Any conferences, travel, courses etc. must be included within this £3,000 limit.

- **Post-Doctoral (3 years)** – this is for one person at Post-Doctoral level. The acceptable salary range for this post will be £31,614 - £54,741. Under ‘Type of Cost’, please enter this post as ‘NHS’, even if the post will be based in a HEI. This post does not attract Full Economic Costing and will therefore be paid at 100%. If you choose HEI, it will be returned at 80%, rather than the 100% required. There is no training allowance for this post.

- **Doctoral Post (3 years)** – this is for one person at Doctoral level. The acceptable salary range for this post will be £28,000 - £40,100. Under ‘Type of Cost’, please enter this post as ‘NHS’, even if the post will be based in a HEI. This post does not attract Full Economic Costing and will therefore be paid at 100%. If you choose HEI, it will be returned at 80%, rather than the 100% required. There is no training allowance for this post. PhD fees for this post should be included within the Training and Development section.

Please do not exceed the maximum limits for these posts, as you will be asked to re-profile them if this occurs. All of the above posts, including any associated funding, will terminate with the end of the Professorship, therefore early recruitment is recommended. Should any of the appointments extend beyond the fixed 5 year term of the Professorship, including for statutory reasons (maternity/paternity, adoption or sick leave), the nominating organisation will be expected to continue to provide ongoing support.

Please include all members of staff working on the research by clicking ‘add staff details’ or editing a current one. Where applicants are already receiving salaries funded by NIHR, these should be declared in the application.

The Apprenticeship Levy can be included in the salary costs from 1st April 2017 where relevant.

II) Salary costs. This section specifies the annual costs of the applicant and other staff contributing to the research. You should now allocate the individual staff member costs to each year of the research, allowing for increments. Use current rates of pay, and build in any known annual increments (again at current rates). You will not be able to claim for pay awards retrospectively, once your research is underway.

Please note the salary figures need to be calculated using the current annual costs, %WTE and number of months. If the research lasts for several years and an individual's involvement varies over the course, it may be necessary to explain fully in the justification of costs section the %WTE and months per year for an individual staff member.

It is important to double check that the %WTE, total months and yearly costs information are consistent with the information presented in ‘Details of Posts and Salaries’ (‘Details of Posts and Salaries’ should show the full current staff costs independent of % WTE etc., whereas the yearly costs in ‘Salary Costs’ depend on % WTE etc.).

Please ensure that you check the ‘Type of Cost’ box which describes the employing organisation for a member of staff as this impacts on the level of funding provided. Staff employed by a Higher Education Institution (HEI) are funded at 80% of cost and staff employed by NHS, commercial or other partner organisation at up to 100% of cost.
Please note that this section also includes ‘Shared Staff Costs’ which is located under directly allocated costs in some other funders’ applications. These are costs of an institution’s research resources which can be charged to the research on the basis of estimated use, rather than actual costs. These may include: IT technicians, laboratory staff, and costs of pooled staff efforts. HEI indirect costs cannot be claimed on these shared costs.

NIHR TCC reserves the right to question any costs deemed excessive, and will not fund:
   i. Contributions for individuals providing research support (previously referred to as mentors), supervisors and/or other collaborators involved in the research
   ii. Administrative or secretarial support
   iii. Whole or significant percentages of support posts over and above those permitted by the scheme
   iv. Technical or research support staff whose costs are funded through institutional indirect costs (HEIs only)

III) Travel, Subsistence and Dissemination costs. This section includes journey costs, subsistence and dissemination costs, including conference fees and open access publication costs. Where applicable, you will need to include the travel and subsistence costs of your Project Advisory Group, Steering Committee and/or Data Monitoring & Ethics Committee. Travel and subsistence costs relating to dissemination should also be included here, as should costs relating to overseas travel. Where applicable, you will need to include the travel and subsistence costs relating to meetings with individuals providing research support. Please note that mentors’ (including supervisors and individuals named as providing research support) expenses will not be funded.

If a cost relates to travel, subsistence or fees for a conference please select ‘conference’. Costs relating to conference attendance will be funded at up to 100% for all employing/host organisation types. Conference costs don’t need to be individually itemised for each conference. The justification box should detail the conferences the costs will cover.

Journey Costs

Enter the total cost of transport for all journeys for destination/purpose. If travel is by car, apply your institution’s mileage rates (however this should not exceed HMRC approved mileage allowance payments, which is 45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles and 25p thereafter).

Travel by the most economic means possible is encouraged. NIHR programmes do not usually fund first class travel.

Subsistence

Subsistence covers accommodation (if necessary) and meals associated with the travel, excluding any alcoholic beverages.

Conference Fees

There is a limit on the amount that can be spent on conference related costs (including all related travel and subsistence as well as conference fees) depending on the level you are applying for.

Where national or international conference fees are included, a statement naming the conference or purpose of travel and the benefit to the Professorship must also be made; failure to adequately justify your attendance at a conference, will mean the programme will not fund this cost.

NIHR will fund a maximum of £15,000 for all conference-related costs for the NIHR Research Professor.
Dissemination costs (in addition to conference costs)

- **Open Access Costs**
  During the course of your project and throughout review and publishing phase you may choose to submit an article based on your research to an Open Access publication. Depending on the publication you may be subject to an article processing charge (APC). APC rates vary but are usually within the range of £300 and £3000. Open Access publications usually list their APC rates on their websites.

  Where possible you should include an estimate for any APC in your funding application, since NIHR expects that APCs will be covered by the funding award.

- **Other Dissemination Costs**
  Any large costs should be further detailed with a breakdown of constituent parts or a timescale profile of the costs. Meetings to share best practice, training events and events to disseminate research findings must be run at the lowest possible cost with minimal catering. ‘Conferences’ which are described as such are not eligible for funding.

**IV) Equipment.** Essential items of equipment plus maintenance and related costs not included as part of estates should be input in this section. These can be lease or purchase costs. The purchase cost of pieces of equipment, valued up to £5,000 excluding VAT, will be considered.

  Pieces of equipment costing more than £5,000 to purchase will usually need to be leased. Where applicants are leasing equipment with a purchase price of more than £5,000, a comparison of leasing verses purchasing costs must be provided in the ‘Justification of Costs’ section.

  Items of equipment valued at £250 or more must be itemised separately; however grouping same type equipment is permitted. Costs of computers are normally restricted to a maximum of £650 each excluding VAT and a statement of justification must be included, in the relevant ‘Justification of Costs’ section for any purchase above this limit.

  Equipment must exclude VAT, but if your organisation is unable to reclaim/recover the VAT on a piece of equipment, you should check the box ‘VAT cannot be reclaimed’.

  You will need to seek expert advice from the organisation purchasing the equipment regarding its VAT status. If you check the ‘VAT cannot be reclaimed’ column, VAT at 20% will automatically be calculated into the overall cost of that item.

**V) Consumables.** This section includes non-reusable items specific to the research. Please itemise and describe the requirements fully (e.g. postage, stationery, photocopying). These items should be research specific, not just general office costs which should be covered by indirect costs.

**VI) Patient and Public Involvement.** Please itemise and describe fully the costs associated with Patient and Public Involvement. These are likely to include out of pocket expenses, payment for time and any relevant training and support costs.

INVOLVE have produced a number of useful payment-related resources which can be found at the following link:

VII) **Other Direct Costs.** These are costs, not identified elsewhere, that are specifically attributed to the research. For example, costs associated with the use of research facilities, external consultancy costs, computer licensing, recruitment and advertising costs. Please note that for organisations claiming indirect/overhead costs, costs such as recruitment of staff, and general training (e.g. in common IT packages) are costs that should be covered by the indirect costs element of the award being sought and should not appear in this section.

If external consultancy costs are included in this section they must be fully justified in the ‘Justification of Costs’ section. Please specify the hourly rate and the number of hours and note that consultants must not be people who are already employed by the applicant’s institution. If they are, any costs should be entered as direct costs in the ‘Details of Posts and Salaries’ and ‘Annual Costs of Posts’ sections.

**Note on CTU costs in Personal Training Awards**

Costs claimed should be for the additional support from the CTU for the necessary expertise that the trainee cannot provide themselves. For example, part time support from a trial manager, database manager, and statistician are all costs that could potentially be included. The level of support and input from the CTU will likely vary depending on the level of fellowship and experience of the applicant. For example, doctoral applicants will be expected to be undertaking the majority of the day-to-day tasks involved in running a trial, with oversight from a more senior member of CTU staff (though specialist input in database programming may be needed). For more senior post-doctoral awards it may be more appropriate for other members of staff to be undertaking some of the day-to-day tasks. This also very much depends on the experience and expertise of the applicant and the applicant’s training needs and should be agreed with the CTU before submitting an application. These costs should all be agreed with the CTU and budgeted for. Staff costs should be detailed under the ‘other direct costs’ section. Staff costs should include basic salary and on-costs for each member of staff involved and it should be made clear within the justification section what role each member of staff has within the context of the personal award application and the time they will spend on the award. Please note that because NIHR Fellowships and other research training awards are personal awards and not project or programme grants we can’t fund whole or significant portions of posts other than that of the applicant themselves and their support staff member (where applicable). We would not normally expect the time commitment of any individual costed into the application other than the applicant or member of support staff to exceed 0.3 WTE. In total we wouldn’t normally expect the total WTE of all staff costed into the application to support clinical trial activities to exceed 1 WTE (excluding the applicant and support staff member) for more junior awards (doctoral and early post-doctoral level awards) and 2 WTEs for more senior awards (this includes any shared staff also costed into the application). The level of additional staff input will obviously depend on the type and scope of the trial and the experience of the applicant. Full justification should be provided for all staff costs requested. Overheads (estates and indirect costs) can be included for CTU staff costed into the application. The justification section should split out the overheads from the salary costs and overheads shouldn’t exceed 40% of the total CTU staff cost.

Any costs must be realistic in order to deliver the trial but must also represent value for money. Applicants can also include non-staff costs for the CTU for example; randomisation service, and license fees for clinical data management software.

VIII) **Training and Development.** All costs in this section will be funded at up to 100% for HEI, NHS and Commercial/Other Partner organisations. Please itemise and describe fully the costs associated with training and development. Please provide estimates if exact costs are not available at the time of application. Any travel and subsistence associated with training and development including overseas research visits should not be included here and should be included in the travel section of the form.
Leadership Training Programme, short course and workshops
These are costs relating to the applicant's training programme.

Support Post – Training & Development (5 year Post-Doctoral position only)
NIHR will make a maximum contribution of £3,000 in total (including any identified travel and subsistence) for the duration of this Professorship towards the cost of training and development for the member of staff in the 5 year support post.

Overseas Research Visits
Please provide costs for any overseas research visits that the nominee wishes to undertake during the course of the award. NIHR TCC will consider overseas research visits on an individual basis and reserves the right to limit expenditure.

Support post – PhD fees
Where relevant, NIHR will make an estimated maximum contribution of £4,195 per year, based on Research Council UK 2017 published PhD fees.

INDIRECT COSTS/OVERHEADS

HEI Indirect Costs
Total HEI indirect costs must be fully justified. HEIs are permitted to claim estate and other indirect costs. These costs are calculated on the basis of TRAC methodology. Proposals from other types of institutions/organisations should leave this section blank.

HEI indirect costs are based on the number of full-time equivalent research staff working on the research and the indirect/estates charges set by an institution. Please note HEI indirect costs cannot be claimed on shared staff costs. Where staff from more than one HEI are working on the research there may be different indirect/estates charges for each one. Please list each institution on a separate line.

The applicant(s) should consult their HEI Finance Departments for the appropriate figures to include in the estate charges and other indirect cost sections

Commercial/Other Partner Organisation Indirect Costs
Commercial/Other Partner Organisations can claim indirect costs which are the costs of resources used by the research that are shared by other activities. Please seek advice from your finance department about the appropriate cost for this section.

Total Commercial/Other Partner Organisation indirect costs must be fully justified.

I) Indirect Costs
Indirect costs will be charged in proportion to the amount of research staff effort requested on the award. Commercial/Other Partner Organisations should calculate them, using their own cost rates.

They comprise:

- General office and basic laboratory consumables
- Premises costs
- Library services/learning resources
- Typing/secretarial
- Finance, personnel, public relations and departmental services
- Usage costs of major research facilities
- Central and distributed computing
- Charge out rates for shared equipment
- Cost of capital employed

**NHS SUPPORT AND TREATMENT COSTS (incl. Excess Treatment Costs/Savings)**

The finance section includes a section that asks researchers to provide an estimate of the patient care costs associated with the research (if applicable). An explanation of why these costs are being incurred and the basis on which the estimations have been made should be fully detailed under the relevant ‘Justification of Costs’ section.

The Panel will take NHS Support and Treatment Costs into account when considering the value for money of the research. It is important that you consider these costs and discuss them with the NHS bodies or providers of NHS services involved in order to avoid any delay in commencing the research.

Please be aware that the research award does NOT include NHS Support and/or Treatment Costs. NHS Support Costs will be funded via the Clinical Research Networks. NHS Treatment Costs, including any Excess Treatment Costs/Savings, will be met by the NHS through normal patient care commissioning arrangements.

A representative of the NHS body or provider of NHS services - incurring any NHS Support and Treatment Costs - must sign off the application. The ‘Declarations and Signatures’ page is intended to ensure that the aforementioned organisation is satisfied that all NHS Support and Treatment Costs in the application are correct and is prepared to meet these costs.

**I) NHS Support Costs**

These are the additional patient care costs associated with the research, which would end once the R&D activity in question has stopped, even if the patient care service involved continues to be provided. These might cover items such as extra patient tests, extra in-patient days and extra nursing attention. Applicants should contact their local NHS R&D Department initially and, if they are unable to help directly or if there is no local NHS R&D Department, contact their Local Clinical Research Network (LCRN) for advice on NHS Support Costs. Further details about LCRN contacts are available at [https://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/local-clinical-research-networks.htm](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/nihr-in-your-area/local-clinical-research-networks.htm).

**II) NHS Treatment Costs**

Please read the following guidance on the funding of excess treatment costs prior to completing your application [https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/research/etc/](https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/research/etc/).

These are the patient care costs that would continue to be incurred if the patient care service in question continued to be provided after the R&D activity has stopped. In determining NHS Treatment costs you must assume that the patient care service being assessed will continue even though there may be no plans for it to do so. Where patient care is being provided which differs from the normal, standard, treatment for that condition (either an experimental treatment or a service in a different location from where it would normally be given), the difference between the total Treatment Costs and the costs of the “usual standard care” (if any) constitutes Excess Treatment Cost/Saving, but is nonetheless part of the Treatment Cost, not an NHS Support or Research Cost. These costs should be determined in conjunction with your NHS body or provider of NHS services and their commissioners.

Please note if the patient care intervention under investigation is in addition to usual care there is no need to complete the ‘Usual Treatment Costs’ section however this will need to be justified in the relevant ‘Justification of Costs’ section. If the patient care intervention under investigation either wholly or partially replaces usual care, the ‘Usual Treatment Costs’ section must be completed.
For further information, please see:
Attributing the costs of health and social care research and development (AcoRD)
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-attributing-the-costs-of-health-and-
social-care-research
HSG(97)32: Responsibilities for meeting patient care costs associated with research and
development in the NHS
http://collections.europarchive.org/tna/20100509080731/http://dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsands-
tatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4125280

SUMMARY OF COSTS

- NIHR programmes currently fund HEIs at a maximum of 80% of full economic cost, NHS bodies and other providers of NHS services in England 100% and commercial/other partner organisations at 100%.
- Please note that whilst these percentages will be used to calculate the maximum grant payable, the programme reserves the right to award a grant for less than this maximum where it is considered appropriate.

Additional Supporting Information

Data Protection
The Department of Health, National Institute for Health Research (DH NIHR) is the Data
Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 ('the Act'). Under the Data Protection Act, we have a legal duty to protect any information we collect from you. You should be aware that information given to us might be shared with other DH NIHR bodies for the purposes of statistical analysis and other DH NIHR research management purposes. NIHR also reserves the right to share, in confidence, details of your application with other approved research funding organisations outside NIHR, and peer reviewers for the purposes of selection and assessment, in order to coordinate research activity in the UK.

Information collected from you will not be passed to any third party outside the NIHR except specifically as detailed above without your consent except where we are under a statutory obligation or entitled to do so by law. Applicants may be assured that DH NIHR is committed to protecting privacy and to processing all personal information in a manner that meets the requirements of the Act.

Data Security
Personal information will be held on a secure network with strictly controlled user access. Your details will be retained by TCC on behalf of the Department of Health to facilitate the running of our programme. If your application is successful your name, and the details of the host organisation, will appear on the NIHR website (www.nihr.ac.uk). In addition, once funding has been agreed and the contract signed, your details will appear in other literature as an award holder and will be passed to the Department of Health (DH) for inclusion in their publicly available databases of research projects. Your name will be added to our mailing list. This means that you will be sent updates on all the programmes. We may also send you separate literature about the NIHR research training programmes and related events in health research. If you have any questions, or if you would prefer not to receive routine and/or general communications, please contact us at: tcc@nihr.ac.uk.
NIHR Privacy Policy
The privacy policy sets out how the NIHR uses and securely protects any information that you give us when you use TCCi and other websites, systems and services of organisations that are contracted to the Department of Health to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

The NIHR may change this policy from time to time. You may check the latest document content at any time by visiting the privacy policy page of the NIHR website at http://www.nihr.ac.uk/privacy-policy.htm.

International Standard Randomised Controlled Trial Number (ISRCTN)
All primary research studies need to be assigned an ISRCTN. You can view the ISRCTN website at: www.isrctn.org/. Please note that the remit of this database has been widened to include all primary research projects, even those that are not randomised controlled trials. There is no registration fee for NIHR funded trials.

Requirements for systematic reviews to be registered with PROSPERO
Applicants undertaking systematic reviews should note the commitment of NIHR to publication in the database. PROSPERO was developed by the NIHR’s Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD), and is the first online facility to register systematic reviews for research about health and social care from all around the world. Access is completely free and open to the public. PROSPERO registration is a condition of NIHR funding for eligible systematic reviews. Link to PROSPERO website: http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/.

UK Biobank
UK Biobank is a major national health resource, and a registered charity in its own right, with the aim of improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of serious and life-threatening illnesses – including cancer, heart diseases, stroke, diabetes, arthritis, osteoporosis, eye disorders, depression and forms of dementia. UK Biobank recruited 500,000 people aged between 40-69 years in 2006-2010 from across the country to take part in this project. They have undergone measures, provided blood, urine and saliva samples for future analysis as well as detailed information about themselves. The health of members of this large cohort will be followed over the coming years and the participants have consented to be approached about health research. http://www.ukbiobank.ac.uk/

Applicants are encouraged to consider whether Biobank may be able to provide suitable data for their study. We do not want to discourage establishment of new collections of participants and their data where this is necessary to address the research questions under consideration, our aim is to avoid applications for funding to set up Biobank-like cohorts where the use of Biobank would prevent wasteful duplication of Biobank-like activities.

NIHR Carbon Reduction Guidelines
Researchers applying for NIHR funding are asked to consider the carbon footprint of their research and take steps to reduce carbon emissions where appropriate. Advice on how to do this can be obtained from the NIHR Carbon Reduction Guidelines https://www.nihr.ac.uk/research-and-impact/documents/NIHR-Carbon-Reduction-Guidelines.pdf.
Transparency Agenda
In line with the government’s transparency agenda, any contract resulting from this tender may be published in its entirety to the general public. Further information on the transparency agenda is at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-and-contracting-transparency-requirements-guidance.

Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) support
Applicants thinking of including a clinical trial, feasibility or pilot study as part of their application, or are undertaking a research and/or training related to clinical trials are encouraged to consider working with a CTU where appropriate. Further guidance for trainees and applicants is available in the NIHR Clinical Trials Guide for Trainees (https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/documents/Clinical-Trials-Guide.pdf). This includes guidance on how to go about approaching a suitable CTU to support your application.

MRC Complex Intervention Guidance
Where appropriate applicants are encouraged to read the MRC complex interventions guidance available here: https://www.mrc.ac.uk/documents/pdf/complex-interventions-guidance/.

NIHR Research Design Service
The NIHR Research Design Service (RDS) supports prospective applicants to make high quality applications for research funding from the NIHR and from other national research funders. Assistance is primarily focused around refinement of research questions, research design and methodological support. Complementing the advice applicants receive from supervisors and/or mentors. The RDS also assists prospective applicants to understand the scope of the NIHR’s various funding streams and to develop patient and public involvement (PPI) strategies. The RDS may be able to support applicants with small grants to work up PPI plans with, for example, patient groups.

The RDS has regional offices and links with local networks. Further information regarding support that the RDS can provide and contact information for each regional office is available via the NIHR website: https://www.nihr.ac.uk/about-us/how-we-are-managed/our-structure/research/research-design-service/.

NIHR INVOLVE
INVOLVE is funded by the National Institute for Health Research, to support active public involvement in NHS, public health and social care research.

As a national advisory group, its role is to bring together expertise, insight and experience in the field of public involvement in research, with the aim of advancing it as an essential part of the process by which research is identified, prioritised, designed, conducted and disseminated.

INVOLVE can support prospective applicants and existing awardees to incorporate effective patient and public involvement into their work. Support includes; help with calculating appropriate costs for involving patients and the public, help with developing potential strategies for involvement, case studies of involvement activities including the impact they have had, and help with writing plain English summaries.

Full details of the support INVOLVE can provide and contact information is available via the INVOLVE website: www.invo.org.uk.
CRN support
The NIHR Clinical Research Network (CRN) supports researchers and the life sciences industry in planning, setting up and delivering high quality research to the agreed timelines and study recruitment target, for the benefit of the NHS and its patients in England.

In partnership with your local R&D office, we encourage you to involve your local CRN team in discussions as early as possible when planning your study to fully benefit from the support the NIHR CRN offers as outlined in their Study Support Service. To find out more about how you can apply for this additional support to help deliver your study, please visit www.supportmystudy.nihr.ac.uk.