

**GOSH BRC Junior Faculty Conference and Training Support Fund**

**Aim**

The NIHR Great Ormond Street Hospital Biomedical Research Centre (NIHR GOSH BRC) Junior Faculty Conference and Training Support Fund provides an opportunity for early career researchers working on translational research projects across Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) and the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health (ICH) to apply for funding to support their attendance at conferences to disseminate their research findings or to attend training to learn new skills.

**Background**

The NIHR GOSH BRC is a collaboration between GOSH and ICH and provides cutting-edge facilities and world-leading expertise and access to over 200 rare disease patient populations allowing our staff and NHS, university, and industry collaborators to conduct pioneering translational research into childhood illnesses. We were first awarded BRC status from the NIHR in 2007 and, in 2022, we secured £35 million for our fourth term until 2027.

In our fourth term of funding, the NIHR GOSH BRC has [five strategic research themes](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/). Supporting our themes is our Central Development Hub, which includes our Career Development Academy. An important part of our Career Development Academy is our BRC Junior Faculty, who support the career development of talented child health researchers to build the required capacity of paediatric academics.

**Funding call information**

The NIHR GOSH BRC Junior Faculty Conference and Training Support Fund provides support for early career researchers (ECRs) to attend conferences to disseminate their research findings or to attend training to learn new skills. Early career researchers applying for this scheme should be working in translational research, which aligns with [the BRC remit](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/) and hold substantive employment or a studentship contract with either GOSH or ICH, including clinicians, non-clinical, nursing, AHP, pharmacy and health care scientists and any others not mentioned here. You do not need to have had any prior links with the BRC to be eligible to apply – we welcome applications from those new to the BRC.

Applicants to the fund should be actively participating in the conference (e.g., they have been invited to do an oral or poster presentation), to encourage interactions with other attendees and for recipients to take full advantage of the experience. The fund is also for training opportunities of a similar scope to attending a conference (e.g., a one-day training course), where it can be demonstrated that the training opportunity would allow the recipient to learn a new skill or knowledge, which could also be shared or implemented within the wider team at GOSH/ICH. In both scenarios, it would be necessary to demonstrate how the conference or training opportunity would benefit the recipient’s career development.

The Junior Faculty has a small amount of funding to award for this call. To maximise the number of early career researchers who can benefit from the budget available, we require applicants to explore whether matched funding is available from either their supervisor, employer, conference/training provider, or from alternative funding schemes. We ask the applicant’s supervisor/line manager to confirm whether matched funding is available as part of the application form. Applicants are ***only eligible to receive one award*** from the Junior Faculty Conference and Training fund throughout the BRC term. Therefore, once an applicant has been awarded a Conference and Training fund grant, they will be ineligible to apply again until November 2027.

You can apply for the following costs in this call:

1. Registration fees associated with attending a conference/meeting or training course.
2. Travel, accommodation, and subsistence fees associated with attendance at an in-person conference.
3. Applicants can also apply for costs for a PPIE representative to attend the conference where the research due to be presented has been co-produced (i.e., the PPIE representative has collaborated with the researcher from the start to the end of the project, including the generation of knowledge).

**For anyone who is interested in applying for the scheme, but circumstances make it challenging to access, please contact the****brc@gosh.nhs.uk****.**

Salary or laboratory costs will not be provided through this fund, and it cannot be used as a means of extending a position of employment/studentship, beyond its normal termination date.

Candidates are required to undertake a risk assessment within their area of employment and seek permission from their employer for international trips, as appropriate. This includes any quarantine requirements; allowable expenses for international travel in line with the candidate’s employing organisation; and insurance.

**Scheme eligibility criteria/rules:**

* Applicants must be an early career researcher working on translational research projects and hold a substantive employment or studentship contract with either GOSH or ICH at the time of the application and at the time of attending the meeting, conference, or training opportunity - no claims will be processed if staff end their employment prior to attending to the meeting or training event.
* For this funding call, an early career researcher is defined as a PhD student or someone who is within six years\*\* of receiving their PhD (or equivalent), has ≤£250k in total grant income as Primary Investigator across their career (excluding their own salary e.g., a fellowship grant) and does not hold a tenured academic position.

*\*\*six years of full-time active research pro rata. Eligibility can be extended for reasons such as caring responsibilities, illness, career breaks or change in profession, clinical activity and any extenuating circumstances that resulted in time away from research. Contact the BRC (brc@gosh.nhs.uk) if you have any queries regarding your eligibility for this call.*

* We expect applications to request no more than £250 (UK)/£500 (Europe)/£750 (beyond UK and Europe)
* Applicants must consult their employer’s expense claim policy before submitting their application. Any expense claim made must be within the rules of the applicant’s employer’s expense claim policy ([UCL](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/finance/policies-corporate-info/expenses-policy) and [GOSH](https://gosh.interactgo.com/Interact/Pages/Content/Document.aspx?id=4775&SearchId=1636165&utm_source=interact&utm_medium=general_search&utm_term=expense+policy)). We will not be able to approve expense claims that are not aligned with the relevant policy.
* All applicants are required to explore and demonstrate whether matched funding from another source is available to attend the conference/meeting/training course.
* For conferences and meetings, applicants should proceed to apply for the fund when they have had an abstract accepted for a poster presentation or an oral presentation and where the research due to be presented aligns with the remit of the BRC. Conformation of this will need to be provided as part of the application form.
* There are four application deadlines per year ahead of subsequent peer review panels (see ‘Submission of applications’ below). Applicants should submit their application **at least three months** before the planned conference/training course start date to allow time for the peer review process to take place and application outcome to be communicated. Applicants should consider this when deciding which deadline to apply to.
* Applications cannot be made for retrospective reimbursement of expenses for conferences or training courses already attended.
* No early career researcher will be awarded more than one award from this call per BRC term (one award between 1st December 2022 and 30th November 2027).
* Costs associated with the conference or training event need to be fully expensed by **20th March of the financial year they were awarded**, but attendance can be after this date.
* NIHR funding is formally not allowed to support any research using animals; therefore, **the research you present must contain a substantial component of human translational research activity**.
* Awardees must **acknowledge the NIHR GOSH BRC** in any presentations and produce a short report to feedback to the Junior Faculty on their experience of at the conference or training activity.

**Application Process:**

**Submission of applications:** Completed application forms should be sent as a word document ***at least three months*** before the conference/training starts to the GOSH BRC(BRC@gosh.nhs.uk), along with a copy of your CV. Applications will be reviewed every three months, the deadlines for applications are as follows:

* 1st February
* 1st May
* 1st August
* 1st November

**Review of applications:**

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of researchers from the NIHR GOSH BRC Junior Faculty committee within 2 weeks of the application deadline. Applicants should expect to hear back on the outcome of their application within 2-3 weeks of the deadline. Please note that this is a competitive process and funding is not guaranteed. Each application is considered on its merits and there may be occasions when it is not possible to make an award due to limited budget available. The following selection criteria will be used during the review process:

* Benefit of the meeting/conference/training opportunity for the applicant’s career development.
* Benefit of the opportunity to the recipient’s wider team and the BRC Junior Faculty.
* Alignment with the BRC’s translational [research objectives](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/support-researchers/brc-opportunities/knowledge-transfer-scheme/).

**Reimbursement:** Funds will only be reimbursed to awardees after they have made the initial payment themselves and have submitted expenses claim forms together with receipts. Further details of claiming reimbursements will be made available to successful candidates.

**Contacts:** Further information about the BRC can be found on our website at [www.gosh.nhs.uk/brc](http://www.gosh.nhs.uk/brc)**.** For any queries about the call, please contact the BRC by email at BRC@gosh.nhs.uk.

# APPLICATION FORM

1. Personal Details

|  |
| --- |
| Name:  |
| Substantive employer (GOSH or ICH):  | Department at GOSH or ICH:  |
| Current Position: |
| Email:  |
| Supervisor/Line manager name and their job title:  |

1. Proposal - Conference/Meeting

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| **Conference/Meeting***Only complete this section if you are applying to attend a conference or meeting. Delete this section if you are applying to attend a training opportunity and complete the section below instead.*  |
| Name of conference/meeting you wish to attend: |
| Please provide a link to the conference/meeting webpage:  |
| Date From: Date To:  |
| R&D number and title of the research project you plan to present: |
| Accepted for: Oral presentation [ ]  Poster presentation [ ]   | Please confirm if your oral presentation and/or poster presentation will be presented live or whether it will be pre-recorded:Live [ ]  Pre-recorded [ ]  |
| *Please provide* ***a copy of your abstract*** *accepted for a poster or oral presentation and a copy of the confirmation of acceptance of your abstract for poster or oral presentation****.***  |
| **Please write a short statement providing details of how attendance at this meeting will benefit your research career** |
| **Please write a short statement of how the work you are due to present and your research area aligns with the overall remit of the BRC and one of the BRC research themes, details of which can be found on our website:** [**https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/**](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/) |
| **Please provide details of the alternative funding sources secured and/or explored to contribute to costs associated with attending the conference, including exploring matched funding from your supervisor, your employer, conference/training provider, or from alternative funding schemes.**  |

1. Proposal – Training Opportunity

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| --- |
| **Training Opportunity** *Only complete this section if you are applying to attend a training event/course. Delete if applying to attend a conference/meeting and the above section has been completed* |
| Name of training course you wish to attend: |
| Please provide a link to the training course webpage:  |
| Date From: Date To:  |
| R&D number and title of the research project the training opportunity is linked to (if applicable):  |
| **Please write a short statement providing details of how the training opportunity is linked to your area of research, how it will benefit your wider team and how you will implement the skills/experience/knowledge gained within GOSH/ICH.**  |
| **Please write a short statement of how your research area and the training course aligns with the overall remit of the BRC and one of the BRC research themes, details of which can be found on our website:** [**https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/**](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk/our-research/our-research-infrastructure/nihr-great-ormond-street-hospital-brc/about-our-biomedical-research-centre/our-research-themes/) |
| **Please provide details of the alternative funding sources secured and/or explored to contribute to costs associated with attending the conference, including exploring matched funding from your supervisor, your employer, conference/training provider, or from alternative funding schemes.** |

1. Costs

In the interest of simplicity - this award will only be processed through an applicant making an expense claim (e.g., paying for the registration fees and expensing back). Please ensure any costs requested are aligned with the policy of your employer. We can only reimburse costs that are in line with the policy of your employer. Please note this requires proof of purchase such as a receipt. Please ensure you provide a breakdown of the costs requested in the table below.

UCL: ([User account | Finance - UCL – University College London](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/finance/user/login?destination=node/287))

GOSH: ([Staff travel and other expenses policy - Our GOSH (interactgo.com)](https://gosh.interactgo.com/Interact/Pages/Content/Document.aspx?id=4775&SearchId=1636165&utm_source=interact&utm_medium=general_search&utm_term=expense+policy)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COSTS REQUESTED FROM THE BRC** |  |
| Registration fee for conference, meeting, or training opportunity:  |  |
| Travel (please provide details of the travel):  |  |
| Accommodation (please provide the costs per night if applicable)  |  |
| Subsistence: |  |
| Any other costs: |  |
| Total cost requested from the BRC | £  |
| Please confirm your costs requested are in line with your employing organisation’s expenses policy |  |

1. Supervisor/Line Manager Endorsement

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| --- |
| Full name of supervisor/line manager:  |
| Email:  |
| Please confirm whether alternative funding is available to provide support for the applicant to attend the conference/training opportunity:  |
| Supervisor Supporting Statement for the application:  |
| Supervisor/Line Manager Signature: Date: |

Please send a copy of this application as a word document along with a copy of your up-to-date CV to BRC@gosh.nhs.uk.

Monitoring questions

The following questions will **not** be used to assess your application. They will only be used for monitoring purposes. Monitoring enables us to see what is happening in practice, to set any targets for improvements, and measure progress.

**Ethnic Group**:

Asian or Asian British [ ]

Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British [ ]

Mixed or multiple ethnic groups [ ]

White [ ]

Other ethnic group [ ]

Prefer not to say [ ]

**Gender**:

Woman [ ]

Man [ ]

Transgender [ ]

Non-binary or non-conforming [ ]

Prefer not to say [ ]

**Disability**: Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Yes [ ]

No [ ]

Prefer not to say [ ]