



**The Meath
Foundation**
Better Research - Better Care

2026 RESEARCH GRANT CONDITIONS

The following Research Grant Conditions set out the terms and responsibilities applicable to applicants and Principal Investigators in accepting funding from The Meath Foundation in 2026. These Conditions should be read carefully prior to submission of an application and will form part of the terms governing any award.

1. Background and 2026 Campaign

The history of the Meath Foundation is closely associated with the Meath Hospital, founded in 1753. The Meath Hospital was a centre of some of the most important medical discoveries in Irish history. Renowned for providing healthcare to the sick and poor of the Liberties, it was the oldest voluntary hospital in continuous existence in the country as well as the oldest university teaching hospital.

The Meath Foundation was established in 1998 following the merger of the Meath Hospital with the Adelaide and National Children's Hospital to form Tallaght University Hospital (TUH).

The Foundation supports research activities in Tallaght University Hospital. Our funding, typically awards of up to €75,000, is intended to enable the development of initial ideas, pilot studies and proof-of-concept work that would not yet meet the minimum funding thresholds of larger national or international funding bodies.

Oversight of the Research Grant programme is undertaken by the Research, Education, Quality Improvement and Innovation Committee (REQII), a committee of the Board of Directors.

2. Definitions

In these Conditions:

- "Foundation" means The Meath Foundation.
- "Hospital" means Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) or the Hospital's Institutes.
- "Principal Investigator (PI)" means the person responsible for the conduct of the Research Grant awarded by the Foundation.

3. Eligible Applicants

The PI must be employed in a defined capacity by TUH. Co-applicants may hold an appointment with another recognised institution, including Trinity College Dublin (TCD).

4. Project Assessment

Applications will be reviewed by an independent Assessment Panel using the following criteria:

- 4.1 The originality of the research proposal (to avoid duplication with other research efforts).
- 4.2 The research record of the applicant, taking into account, where applicable, the early stage of their research career.

4.3 Potential translation to improve clinical outcomes.

4.4 How the proposed work would add to existing knowledge in the area and the impact that such new knowledge would have.

4.5 Value for money.

The results of the Assessment Panel will be used by REQII to make a recommendation to the Board of the Foundation, which will make the final decision. All decisions of the Board on the awarding of Research Grants are final.

5. Research Staff

Where research staff are involved, the PI will ensure:

5.1 Research staff are employed by either TUH or TCD.

5.2 Research staff understand they are not agents or employees of the Foundation.

5.3 Appropriate supervision and direction are provided.

5.4 All appropriate health and safety procedures are in place.

5.5 Professional indemnity insurance is secured where appropriate.

5.6 A contingency plan is in place to address any research staffing issues that may arise.

6. Financial Arrangements

6.1 Grant proceeds will be paid to TUH or TCD which will administer payments on behalf of the Foundation.

6.2 Funding will not be released until evidence of ethical approval has been furnished.

6.3 The grant must be used within the time-limit set in the application. Requests for extensions will be considered on an exceptional basis only.

6.4 Financial statements detailing actual v budget expenditure are required at six months, one year and final reporting stages.

6.5 The Foundation reserves the right to require a financial statement at any time during the grant period.

6.6 Expenditure shall be limited to costs properly and necessarily incurred for completion of the approved project.

6.7 Unused funds must be returned unless an extension has been expressly approved by the Foundation.

7. Intellectual Property Rights

The PI should be aware that intellectual property (IP) may arise during the course of the research. Any IP created shall be managed in accordance with Ireland's National IP Protocol 2019. Support is available from Knowledge Transfer Ireland (www.kti.ie).

8. Acknowledgement

The PI undertakes to acknowledge the support of the Foundation in any publication, presentation or report of the research or in any publicity relating to such research.

9. Good Research Practice

Research must be carried out in accordance with best practice standards, TUH Research policy and the Higher Education Authority (HEA) Principles of Good Practice in Research within Irish Higher Education Institutions.

10. Data Protection

For the purposes of assessing applications and administering grants, the Foundation processes personal data. Basic information regarding successful awards may be published. On completion of funded research, information may be retained to evaluate outcomes, outputs and impacts of the Foundation's investment.

11. Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator

11.1 Ethical Approval

Written ethical approval must be provided for any research approved for funding.

11.2 Institutional Sign-Off

Grant applications must be signed off by the appropriate TUH EMT/Clinical Director Lead.

11.3 Research Project Management

The PI may not receive duplicate funding for the same project without prior permission.

The PI may modify approved aims in consultation with the Foundation.

No part of an award may be used for purposes unrelated to the approved project.

11.4 Review of Research Grants

The PI may be requested to participate in a review of progress, organisation or financing of the research.

11.5 Reports and Publications

Progress reports are required at six months and one year, with a final report on completion at 24 months.

Non-compliance may render the PI ineligible for future funding.

The PI must participate in reasonable Foundation activities when requested.

The Foundation reserves the right to publish summaries of funded research for promotional purposes, subject to IP considerations.

12. General Terms

12.1 Research Staff Status

No person working on a project funded by the Foundation shall represent themselves as an employee or representative of the Foundation.

12.2 Termination

The Foundation reserves the right to terminate a grant upon 30 days' written notice or immediately in the event of breach of these Conditions.

12.3 Amendment of Conditions

The Foundation reserves the right to amend these Conditions from time to time.

The Meath Foundation is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Dublin, Ireland. Registered Office: The Meath Foundation, Tallaght University Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 NR0A. Tel: 01-414 3095, Website: www.meathfoundation.com Company Registration No: 285929 Registered Charity Number: 20038045.