



The Meath Foundation Fondúireacht Na Mí

Healthcare Research, Education, Quality Improvement
& Arts in Health at Tallaght University Hospital

Research Grant Regulations

*Revised Regulations approved by Meath Foundation Board on 16th December 2021
Next review Q3 2022*

RESEARCH GRANT REGULATIONS

The Meath Hospital was founded in 1753 to provide health care for the poor of Dublin's Liberties. Funded entirely by voluntary subscriptions and donations from prominent citizens of the day the hospital would attract some of Ireland's most celebrated physicians and surgeons and become an internationally recognised centre for the advancement of medical science.

In 1998, along with the Adelaide and the National Children's Hospital the Meath moved to the new Hospital at Tallaght now known as Tallaght Hospital. The Meath Foundation has subsequently evolved from its former role as the Board of the Meath Hospital.

Purpose

The Foundation was founded to support the provision of health care research and education in the health care area and is committed to providing funding for research and education in healthcare that will help to develop the necessary skills to transform the health service and deliver a safer and better quality service to our patient.

By supporting Research Fellowships, the Foundation is seeking to support young healthcare professionals to start or develop an early career in research through the pursuit of innovative and ground breaking projects.

The Research Grant Regulations are to inform applicants of their responsibilities if successful and in accepting funding from The Meath Foundation for Research purposes.

1. Definitions

In these Regulations,

- Foundation is The Meath Foundation;
- Hospital is Tallaght University Hospital (TUH);
- Grant holder is the principal investigator of the research for which a Research Grant has been awarded by the Meath Foundation;
- Research Grant is a grant awarded under any of the schemes of research supported by the Foundation.

2. Grants available for 2022

The following Research Grants will be available in 2022:

2 Research Grants valued at €75,000 each –

One of which is the John Barragry Research Grant

3 Research Grants valued at €50,000 each

One of the €50,000 Research Grants is a newly established 'themed' Research Grant to be awarded to a multi-disciplinary Team. The theme for 2022 is

'Chronic Disease Management & Integrated Care

Applications for Research Grants are assessed by a panel of external Assessors

3. Conditions under which grants are awarded

The grant holder i.e. the principle investigator, must be employed in a defined capacity by TUH or hold a contract with another institution e.g. Trinity College, Dublin with a contractual arrangement to work in the Hospital. If the grant holder is a qualified healthcare practitioner the Clinical Indemnity Scheme must cover the position held by the applicant.

Grants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- The originality of the research proposal (to avoid duplication of other research efforts)
- Track record of researcher
- Have a clearly defined goal in terms of a population that will be positively affected by the programme.
- Be consistent with The Meath Foundation's Strategic Plan and that of Tallaght University Hospital.

All decisions of the Board of The Meath Foundation on the awarding of Research Grants are final.

3.1. Research Staff

The grant holder shall ensure:

- 3.1.1** where research staff are employed, as well as students in receipt of stipends in or involved in any Foundation-funded research, that they
 - have a letter of appointment for the research they are undertaking
 - receive training appropriate to their duties including Health and Safety training.
- 3.1.2** appropriate direction of research and supervision of research staff is provided.
- 3.1.3** all appropriate health and safety procedures are in place in relation to research staff
- 3.1.4** payments/stipends to researchers are appropriately adjusted to reflect any changes in personnel, as well as any circumstances such as absences, illness or resignation.
- 3.1.5** all research staff including students have Garda clearance.
- 3.1.6** all research staff have professional indemnity insurance.

The Foundation will, in the event of a grant holder resigning during the period of tenure of the grant, play its role in trying to ensure that postgraduate students supported by the grant are given every opportunity to complete their degree.

3.2. Financial arrangements

The following are the financial arrangements pertaining to Research Grants:

- 3.2.1** Payments will be made through The Meath Foundation and will be disbursed according to the terms of the letter of award.
- 3.2.2** Where a grant holder employs research staff the Foundation can, if required/requested to do so, make arrangements for the payment of salaries/stipends. If a stipend is being paid the Research Grant holder must have a contract in place with the researcher and The Foundation must be furnished with a copy of the contract and a current Tax Clearance Certificate for the recipient of the stipend. Grant holders should read the guidelines at Appendix 1 associated with this facility before making the request.
- 3.2.3** The Foundation reserves the right, at any time during the period of the grant, to obtain from the grant holder, a financial statement detailing disbursements from the grant and confirmation that the grant has been used for the purposes for which it was awarded.

- 3.2.4** The Foundation may, at its discretion and cost, decide to commission and conduct a separate audit of the grant holder and/or the systems used by the grant holder to administer foundation grants, including the system to procure equipment and materials.
- 3.2.5** Expenditure from the award shall be limited to expenses properly and necessarily incurred for the successful completion of the approved research project. The Meath Foundation does not award overheads. All costs must be made transparent and agreed with the Foundation before the awarding of the grant.

3.3. Intellectual property

The Researcher should be aware that there may be potential for intellectual property to be created during the course of the research. Any Intellectual Property (IP) arising from the research should be managed according to the policies set out in the Government publication: **Ireland's National IP Protocol 2019**. Support for the Researcher on this topic is available from **Knowledge Transfer Ireland (www.kti.ie)** whose mission is to support business and the research community to maximize innovation from research by getting technology, ideas and expertise into the hands of business swiftly and easily for the benefit of the public and the economy.

3.4 Acknowledgement

The grant holder undertakes to expressly acknowledge the support of The Meath Foundation in any published record of their research activities

3.5 Good research practice

The Meath Foundation expects that the research will be carried out in accordance with the best practices and standards of research and in line with TUH Research policy.

4. Responsibilities of the Grant Holder

4.1. Ethical approval

The grant holder will provide a written copy of ethical approval from the Joint TUH / St. James's Hospital Ethics Committee or in the case of non-clinical studies from TCD School of Medicine REC for any research for which an award has been approved by the Foundation.

4.2 Sign off by EMT/Clinical Director Lead

Applications for Research Grants must be signed off by EMT/Clinical Director Lead. In order to allow time for the application to be reviewed it must be submitted to EMT/Clinical Director Lead at least 2 weeks prior to closing date for applications

4.3 Financial arrangements

4.3.1 The recipient of a research grant will not apply for or receive funding for the same research project from any source other than The Foundation without prior permission from The Foundation.

4.3.2 The grant holder may, in consultation with the Foundation, modify the aims and objectives of an approved research project in order to follow scientific developments.

4.3.3 The grant holder may not use any amount of an award for purposes not related to the research project. To the extent that any amount is used for purposes not related to the approved research project, the same amount shall immediately become repayable to The Foundation.

4.3.4 Funds remaining unused and uncommitted at the end of the grant period shall

be returned to The Meath Foundation.

4.4 Review of Research Grants

The grant holder for which a grant has been awarded by The Foundation, may be requested to participate in a review of the progress of the research, its organisation, financing and any other relevant issues at a date decided by The Foundation. The grant holder must agree to implement any recommendations made by the review panel and verified by The Foundation.

4.5 Reports and publications

4.5.1 The grant holder shall provide a final report to The Foundation on the research for which the award was made within six months following the end of the period for which the grant has been awarded. Grant holders, who do not comply with this requirement, will be deemed ineligible to apply for future Foundation research grants.

4.5.2 The grant holder must make themselves available, to all reasonable requests from The Foundation, for their participation in activities relating to furthering the aims of The Foundation e.g. Research Symposium, Foundation Meetings etc.

4.5.3 The grant holder shall provide the Foundation with signed copies of all publications arising from research funded by The Foundation.

4.5.4 The support of The Foundation must be expressly acknowledged in any publication, presentation, or report of research funded by The Foundation or in any publicity given to such research.

4.5.5 The Foundation at all times reserves the right to publish a summary of the research funded by The Foundation. Detailed information, furnished to The Foundation, will be regarded as confidential until the grant holder in question has published his/her results elsewhere.

4.6 Transfer to another Hospital/Institution

The grant holder shall not transfer the award to another Hospital/Institution without the prior written approval of The Foundation.

5. General terms

5.1. Research staff

No grant holder or personnel working on, in relation to or in connection with the research for which The Foundation has granted an award shall represent themselves or consider themselves for any purposes whatsoever to be an employee/representative of The Foundation.

5.2. Termination

The Foundation reserves the right to terminate the award of a grant upon 30 days written notice to the grant holder. The award of a grant will terminate in the event of the grant holder breaching any of the Regulations contained herein. The grant holder will furnish all necessary reports of research completed or in progress through to the date of termination.

5.3. Disputes

The Foundation and the grant holder shall negotiate in good faith with a view to resolving any dispute arising from an award made by The Foundation, and if necessary involve an agreed third party for that purpose.

5.4. Amendment of Regulations

The Foundation reserves the right to amend these Regulations from time to time and will inform the grant holders thereof.