



Conceptions fund

Cambridge Reproduction: Conceptions Fund guidance (2023–24)

The **Conceptions Fund** provides a unique opportunity for early career researchers (e.g. research fellows, post-doctoral research associates and graduate students) in Cambridge to run their own creative interdisciplinary project around the theme of reproduction. The project may involve a programme of invited speakers, a novel research proposal, the production of a short film or outreach material, or other activity.

The requirements are that the project must be:

- interdisciplinary and involve at least 2 members from different departments (preferably from different Schools) within the University of Cambridge, Babraham Institute, Wellcome Sanger Institute or CUH (applications from external institutions are not eligible);
- fully costed, as funding will be capped;
- completed within 9 months of receipt of funding.

Assessment criteria

The key criteria for assessing applications will be:

- Relevance/benefit to Cambridge Reproduction (see <https://www.repro.cam.ac.uk/about-us> for our vision and goals)
- Interdisciplinarity
- Originality/novelty
- Achievability/feasibility
- Value for money
- Impact

Funding available

The maximum award is £5000 (although applications for smaller amounts are also welcomed), and applicants are strongly encouraged to look for additional sources of co-funding if their project cost is likely to exceed this.

Application and review process

Applicants must be early career researchers (e.g. research fellows, post-doctoral research associates and graduate students), and each proposal must be made by at least two applicants from different departments (and preferably from different Schools or institutions).

You may apply [via the online form](#) or by emailing the Word application form to Tamsin Smyth admin@repro.cam.ac.uk. Applications should be accompanied by a brief letter of support from a University Teaching Officer, Principal Investigator or someone of equivalent status.

If the project involves working with research subjects, appropriate ethical permission must be sought.

Submissions must be made at least 4 weeks before your proposed project begins, as we cannot cover retrospective costs.

Applications will be considered three times per year; please see the Cambridge Reproduction website (www.repro.cam.ac.uk/conceptions-fund) for current deadlines. In exceptional circumstances, we may be able

to consider applications outside these timescales; if you think this applies to you, please email Christina Rozeik to discuss your situation: coordinator@repro.cam.ac.uk.

The review process is expected to take 3-4 weeks to complete. The review is conducted by the **Conceptions Fund** Panel.

Preference may be given to those who have not previously received a grant from Cambridge Reproduction.

Awards and report

Successful applicants will be contacted by the Cambridge Reproduction Coordinator at the start of their projects, to arrange interim and final deadlines, and to discuss how the budget will be managed. They will also be expected to provide text and/or images for a project page on the Cambridge Reproduction website (<https://www.repro.cam.ac.uk/research/conceptions/conceptions-funded-projects>).

If you have received an award, you are required to submit a brief report within one month of completing their projects. The report should be submitted to coordinator@repro.cam.ac.uk using the provided post-award report form, along with proof of expenditure (receipts, travel documents, etc). Funds will only be made available on evidence of expenditure. A brief report summary will be made available on the Cambridge Reproduction website (www.repro.cam.ac.uk), together with one or more images from the project.

Financial support from Cambridge Reproduction should be acknowledged in project materials, outputs and outcomes. In the interests of transparency, it would be helpful if you could share any outputs with Cambridge Reproduction.

Contact

Applicants may discuss the **Conceptions Fund** with Christina Rozeik: coordinator@repro.cam.ac.uk.