



RESEASRCH GRANTS – APPLICATION GUIDANCE

THE FOLLOWING TIMELINE AND PROCESS APPLIES FOR 2023

1. Applications will be invited via the BESS website to an annually updated application form and guidance. A notice will be placed on our website and members will be informed by email once funding has been confirmed by the Honorary Treasurer and BESS Council.
2. Applications must be made using the application form via the BESS website for research awards up to £15,000. Please do not apply for grants above this figure as the BESS Research Committee will not be able to advise BESS Council that the total project funding will be achievable and thus the application will be rejected.
3. The purpose of these grants is to encourage clinical research into shoulder and elbow disorders. Proposals should be for projects that are intended to be on the NIHR portfolio, as this pump priming grant would then allow the grant holder to access research network support to supplement this funding for completion of their project.
4. Applications will be scored by members of the Research Committee and a member of our public and patient involvement (PPI) group with the focus on importance, scientific methodology and justification of the funding request. (*See appendix 1 for details on the important content that your application will be judged against*).
5. Final application deadline is 23:59, Wednesday, 8 March 2023.
6. Successful applications will be announced at the BESS annual scientific meeting and funds will be expected to have been drawn within 12 months of the award of the grant. The Chairman of the Research Committee is happy to be contacted for advice regarding the application process but cannot advise on content of your application. Please email research@bess.ac.uk with any queries or questions.



RESEARCH GRANTS – APPENDIX ONE

CRITERIA

Eligibility criteria for applicant:

- Shoulder and elbow consultants, orthopaedic trainees, researcher supported by a shoulder and elbow consultant or an allied health professional.

Eligibility criteria for funding:

- Funding will be available for clinical research into shoulder and elbow disorders.

SCORING

BESS research grants applications will be judged and scored with particular emphasis to the following topics:

A. Importance

- How important is this research to BESS members' patients?
- Is there an acceptable scientific rationale and justification of importance?
- Will this study lead to improvements in-patient care (including pilot studies for larger clinical trials)?

B. Science

- Design/Method/Power calculation
- Outcome measures and data collection
- Analysis plan
- Realistic recruitment targets
- Realistic study timeline
- Ethics
- Patient and Public involvement (PPI)
- Infrastructure in place for study success

C. Justification of resources

- Has the applicant justified how the grant will be spent?
- Would awarding this grant be value for money?
- Would awarding this grant provide opportunity for further funding or research activity?

Scoring will be performed by all members of the Research Committee and a member of the Public Patient Involvement (PPI) group. An up-to-date list of the Committee membership can be found on our website. Committee members are required to declare any interest in applications they are involved in. If an interest is declared an alternative scorer will be sourced from among the Society's trustees. Scores will be averaged, and the highest scoring applications will be considered for funding.

The scoring sheet will be composed of the following questions (example and not exhaustive):

Importance - Maximum score for this section is 20 points

1. How important is this research to BESS members/ patients? (10 points max)
2. Is there an acceptable scientific rationale to the research question? (5 points max)
3. Is the study likely to lead to improvements in patient care? (5 points max)
4. Feedback comments:

Science - Maximum score for this section is 60 points

Is the research of high quality? Please consider the following:

5. Design/methodology/power calculation (15 points max)
6. Outcome measures and data collection (10 points max)
7. Analysis plan (5 points max)
8. Realistic recruitment targets (5 points max)
9. Realistic study timeline (5 points max)
10. Ethics (5 points max)
11. Patient involvement (PPI) (10 points max)
12. Infrastructure in place for study success (5 points max)
13. Feedback comments

Justification of resources - This section can score a maximum of 20 points.

14. Has the applicant justified how the grant will be spent? (10 points max)
15. Would awarding this grant be value for money? (5 points max)
16. Would awarding this grant provide gearing for further funding/research activity? (5 points max)

Feedback comments