

RSTMH Smalls Grants 2020 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of RSTMH Small Grants?

To enable early career researchers and global health professionals in the field of tropical medicine or global health to undertake clinical or scientific research and/or fieldwork, either as stand-alone projects or distinct elements within a larger project. They are ideally for those who have not received funding in their own name before.

How do I apply for an RSTMH Small Grant?

You must submit your application through the [RSTMH online submission platform](#). All guidelines are on the platform. You need to create a Submittable account to apply.

When do the grants open for applications?

Tuesday 4 February 2020

When do they close?

The deadline for applications (including your references) is 5pm GMT on 27 April 2020.

How much is the small grant for?

The maximum amount you can request from RSTMH for a Small Grant is GBP £5,000 including VAT. Your costs should be justified and appropriate for your proposed activities.

When does the money get paid?

We expect this to be from July 2020, but it does somewhat depend on how many applications we receive.

What should my application focus on?

Applications focused on the thematic areas listed in RSTMH's five-year strategy are encouraged. These are listed below:

- Neglected tropical diseases, with a particular focus on their overlap with non-communicable diseases and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Malaria, with a particular focus on drug resistance
- One Health and wider planetary health. The consideration of human health alongside animal health and the environment, in the context of social, economic and political factors
- Topical issues including, but not limited to, emerging diseases
- Drug resistant infections

We are also interested to see applications related to snakebite, mycetoma and other skin NTDs and other deep mycoses, co-morbidity and NCDs, coronavirus and emerging diseases. Email tamar.ghosh@rstmh.org for further areas of interest.

Do the applications have to be in English?

Yes, all applications must be in English. Applications in other languages will not be accepted.

I've already received a small grant from RSTMH, can I re-apply?

You are not eligible for a small grant if you received one in the last two years.

What can the grant be used for?

The grant must be used to carry out research. To do this you can spend it on a number of things:

- Consumables,
- Field expenses, including salaries or per diems,
- Field transport,
- Travel,
- Accommodation,
- Items of equipment or software.

Can I use a small grant to undertake a course of study?

No

Can I submit more than one application?

No

Who is eligible?

- Anyone early in their career (guidance provided below), from any nationality based anywhere in the world can apply.
- BUT only RSTMH's members can receive the funds – If successful, applicants who are not already members will be asked to join the Society. Become a member today at <https://rstmh.org/membership>

What do you define as “early career”?

We would like to ensure that as many early career researchers and professionals can apply for a small grant as possible, and we encourage people from a range of disciplines and sectors to get involved. With such a range of sectors we cannot easily define early career in terms of specific qualifications or roles.

To ensure equity and fairness of opportunity, RSTMH prefer to be as inclusive as possible in regard to suitable applicants. Rather than a definition focused on specific roles or qualifications held, we choose to supply guidance around the profile of the applicant that may be suitable for a small grant.

Applicants should meet this profile and should not have received funding for this field of study already. The applicant's supervisor must verify this as part of the reference and the application process.

We expect candidates to be able to:

- Carry out research under supervision
- Have the ambition to develop knowledge of research methodologies and discipline
- Have demonstrated a good understanding of a field of study
- Demonstrate the ability to produce data under supervision
- Use critical analysis, evaluation and be able to synthesise new and complex ideas
- Competently explain the outcome of their research and value thereof to colleagues.

Do I need referees?

Yes, your application must be supported by two referees, one of which should be a senior member of the employing organisation. The other should be the applicant's direct supervisor or mentor.

Referees should assess and clearly should comment on:

- The feasibility of achieving the project aims with the resources defined in the application
- The relevance of the project to your research and/or career development
- The benefit of the project to the wider community
- The applicant's supervisor must also verify that to the best of their knowledge, the applicant meets the guidance for being early in their career
- References must be on headed paper
- References must be complete and uploaded to Submittable by the deadline. Applications without completed and submitted references from the relevant referees will be deemed incomplete and not assessed.

Remember, the deadline for applications (including your references) is 5pm GMT on 27 April 2020.

When does the work need to start if I get the funding?

The project should start no earlier than four months after the closing date for applications. It should be completed within a year of receiving funding from us.

Who assesses the grants?

Our team of Global Assessors and our Grants and Awards Committee. The criteria used to assess applications for small grants are:

- Originality and potential to contribute to this area of work
- Feasibility of project design and methodology
- Resource and cost effectiveness
- Potential to provide career progression to the applicant