



Myrovlytis Trust Grant Application Guidelines

Introduction

About Us

The Myrovlytis Trust is a charity (UK Charity Commission number 1122073) founded in 2007 to promote research into rare conditions, and advance education of the public in medical and molecular genetics.

The Trust's mission is to transform the outlook for rare conditions. With an initial focus on [Birt-Hogg-Dubé Syndrome](#) and [osteosarcoma](#), the Trust strategically funds research directed towards new treatments. We want to ensure that patients gain access to the same state-of-the-art technologies, breakthroughs and therapies as those with more common disease.

Research Strategy

Our research strategy is guided by a simple overarching framework; to bring together researchers, clinicians and patients in collaborative multi-disciplinary projects which drive forward new technologies and potential therapies. We have a particular interest in immunotherapies and new routes to treatment.

The following principles guide the Myrovlytis Trust's research strategy:

1. Relevance to the treatment or cure of rare conditions.
2. Potential to improve the prognosis and quality of life of people affected by rare conditions.
3. Evidence that funding cannot be suitably obtained elsewhere.
4. Originality and excellence of science.
5. Dissemination of research to the scientific community through publication of results, and to the wider population through public engagement in line with the aims of the Myrovlytis Trust to bring clinicians, researchers and patients together to advance the field.
6. Potential of new advances in technologies and tools in the clinic to be applicable to other related rare diseases.

You can read our full research strategy [here](#).

Types of Available Funding

We have several different funding streams available:

- Small/Pilot Studies (up to £20,000)
- Project Grants (up to £300,000 for 3 years)
- PhD Studentships (typically around £95,000 for 3.5 years)
- Public Engagement Grants (up to £5,000)
- Travel Grants (up to £1,000)

We accept applications from innovative laboratories worldwide. If you would like to discuss an application with us, please email grants@myrovlytistrust.org.

Application Procedure

Small/Pilot Studies

Up to £20,000 of funding for Small/Pilot studies with clear aims and milestones related to the Trust's [research strategy](#) is available.

How to Apply

Please download the application form and send your completed application to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We accept applications for Small/Pilot Studies throughout the year. Applications must be submitted by the Lead applicant. We encourage applicants to submit a pre-proposal to us before submitting a full application. Please download the application form and send the completed form to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We aim to review all pre-proposals within 1 month.

Who can Apply

We welcome applications from innovative laboratories worldwide. The Lead Applicant should hold an employment contract that extends beyond the period of the grant. We encourage early-career researchers to apply as Lead Applicant. If the Lead Applicant has a fixed-term position, a letter from the Head of Department must be included in your application to indicate your salary will be covered for the duration of the term of the grant. If an early-career researcher is Lead Applicant, the application should also include an experienced (tenured) Co-Applicant. Please note that Small/Pilot Studies will not cover salary costs. Please see the Financial Support section within this document for further information.

Evaluation Procedure

Upon receipt, all applications will undergo an initial screening within the Trust. If they pass, they will then be subject to external peer review. After this external review, the applicant may be given the opportunity to respond to feedback received. This response may be sent back to the external reviewers for further feedback before review by members of the [Scientific Advisory Board](#).

Members of our Patient Advisory Board are also involved in reviewing the plain English summaries of all applications. They review and score applications based on the clarity of the plain English summary and the relevance and potential impact to the community affected.

Please see our [evaluation flowchart](#) for further details. We aim to review all Small/Pilot Study applications within 6 months.

Awarding of Grant

If successful, Small/Pilot Studies must start within 6 months of receipt of the award letter. Please ensure the start times stated in the application form reflect this.

All grant holders have an obligation to work with the Myrovlytis Trust to promote and explain their work to patient groups. Please see the [BHD Foundation](#) or [Osteosarcoma Now](#) for examples of our advocacy work. The Myrovlytis Trust can provide additional training to support engaging with patient communities.

Project Grants

Funding of up to £300,000 for 3 years is available for Project Grants.

How to Apply

Please download the application form and send your completed application to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We only accept applications for Project Grants during open funding calls. Timings of any funding calls will be made clear on our website. You can receive funding updates by [signing up to our newsletter](#). Applications must be submitted by the Lead applicant.

We encourage applicants to submit a pre-proposal to us before submitting a full application. Please download the application form and send the completed form to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We aim to review all pre-proposals within 1 month.

Who can Apply

We welcome applications from innovative laboratories worldwide. You can only submit one application as a Lead Applicant or Co-Applicant in a single funding round. However, you may be listed as a Collaborator on more than one application.

The Lead Applicant should hold an employment contract that extends beyond the period of the grant. Lead Applicants with a fixed-term position may apply, but they cannot request costs for their salary. If the Lead Applicant has a fixed-term position, a letter from the Head of Department must be included in your application to indicate your salary will be covered for the duration of the term of the grant.

Funding for salaries of the Principal Applicant, Co-Applicants or Collaborators who are currently funded by the university, NHS or equivalent, should not be included. We will cover the salary for a research support post to directly work on the research project. This may be a Co-Applicant.

Please see the Financial Support section within this document for further information.

Evaluation Procedure

After receipt, all applications will undergo an initial screening within the Trust. If they pass, they will then be subject to external peer review. After this external review, the applicant may be given the opportunity to respond to feedback received. This response may be sent back to the external reviewers for further feedback before review by the grant review panel (made up of members of the [Scientific Advisory Board](#)).

Members of our Patient Advisory Board are also involved in reviewing the plain English summaries of all applications. They review and score applications based on the clarity of the plain English summary and the relevance and potential impact to the community affected.

Please see our [evaluation flowchart](#) for further details.

Awarding of Grant

If successful, Project Grants must start within 9 months of receipt of the award letter. Please ensure the start times stated in the application form reflect this.

All grant holders have an obligation to work with the Myrovlytis Trust to promote and explain their work to patient groups. Please see the [BHD Foundation](#) or [Osteosarcoma Now](#) for examples of our advocacy work. The Myrovlytis Trust can provide additional training to support engaging with patient communities.

PhD Studentships

Funding for a PhD Student including stipend, university fees and consumables is available for 3.5 years. This is typically capped at £95,000. Please see the Financial Support section within this document for further guidance.

How to Apply

Please download the application form and send your completed application to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We only accept applications for PhD Studentships during open funding calls. Timings of any funding calls will be made clear on our website. You can receive funding updates by [signing up to our newsletter](#). Applications must be submitted by the Lead applicant (this should be the Primary Supervisor of the PhD Candidate).

We encourage applicants to submit a pre-proposal to us before submitting a full application. Please download the application form and send the completed form to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We aim to review all pre-proposals within 1 month.

Who can Apply

We welcome applications from innovative laboratories worldwide. You can only submit one application as a Lead Applicant or Co-Applicant in a single funding round. However, you may be listed as a Collaborator on more than one application.

The Lead Applicant should hold an employment contract that extends beyond the period of the grant. Lead Applicants with a fixed-term position may apply, but they cannot request costs for their salary. If the Lead Applicant has a fixed-term position, a letter from the Head of Department must be included in your application to indicate your salary will be covered for the duration of the term of the grant. Please see the Financial Support section within this document for further information.

All PhD Studentships should have a Primary and Secondary Supervisor.

Evaluation Procedure

After receipt, all applications will undergo an initial screening within the Trust. If they pass, they will then be subject to external peer review. After this external review, the applicant may be given the opportunity to respond to feedback received. This response may be sent back to the external reviewers for further feedback before review by the grant review panel (made up of members of the [Scientific Advisory Board](#)).

Members of our Patient Advisory Board are also involved in reviewing the plain English summaries of all applications. They review and score applications based on the clarity of the plain English summary and the relevance and potential impact to the community affected.

Please see our [evaluation flowchart](#) for further details.

Awarding of Grant

If successful, PhD Studentships must start within 9 months of receipt of the award letter. Please ensure the start times stated in the application form reflect this.

All grant holders have an obligation to work with the Myrovlytis Trust to promote and explain their work to patient groups. Please see the [BHD Foundation](#) or [Osteosarcoma Now](#) for examples of our advocacy work. The Myrovlytis Trust can provide additional training to support engaging with patient communities.

Public Engagement Grants

Funding of up to £5,000 is available for projects involving patients and/or the public to advance knowledge, provide advocacy and raise awareness of rare diseases and new technologies.

How to Apply

Please download the application form and send your completed application to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We accept applications for Public Engagement Grants throughout the year.

Who can Apply

We welcome applications from the following:

- Individuals or groups aiming to engage with public audiences to raise awareness of a rare genetic kidney disorder or rare cancer.
- Patient or advocacy groups wishing to hold events or undertake projects which will advance understanding of a rare genetic kidney disorder or rare cancer.
- Researchers wishing to communicate their research in innovative ways to new audiences.

No individual is eligible for more than one grant in any twelve-month period.

Evaluation Procedure

After receipt, all applications will undergo an initial screening within the Trust. If they pass, they will then be reviewed by members of our Patient Advisory and Scientific Advisory boards.

Awarding of Grant

If successful, Public Engagement Grants must start within 6 months of receipt of the award letter. Please ensure the start times stated in the application form reflect this.

Successful applicants, upon completion, must submit a report. This should explain how the aims of the Trust have been furthered and might be made available on the Trust's website.

Successful applicants are also expected to engage with the relevant patient groups to explain their work. This could take the form of a blog post or interview published on the appropriate website ([BHD Foundation](#) or [Osteosarcoma Now](#)). See our websites for examples of our advocacy work.

Travel Grants

Funding of up to £1,000 is available to support attendance at a conference or international collaborative research pertaining to a rare genetic kidney condition related to Birt-Hogg-Dubé syndrome or osteosarcoma.

How to Apply

Please download the application form and send your completed application to grants@myrovlytistrust.org. We accept applications for Travel Grants throughout the year.

Who can Apply

We welcome applications from anyone currently engaged in basic or clinical research into Birt-Hogg-Dubé syndrome, another rare genetic kidney condition or osteosarcoma.

No individual is eligible for more than one grant in any twelve-month period. Myrovlytis Trust and BHD Foundation grant holders whose grant contains a travel allowance are ineligible.

Evaluation Procedure

After receipt, Travel Grant applications will be reviewed and approved within the Trust.

Awarding of Grant

If successful, Travel Grants must start within 6 months of receipt of the award letter. Please ensure the start times stated in the application form reflect this.

Grant payment requires submission of receipts. For travel to a meeting, grant payment also requires evidence of meeting acceptance/registration.

Successful applicants, upon return, must submit a report. This should explain how the aims of the Trust have been furthered and might be made available on the Trust's website. Successful applicants are also expected to engage with the relevant patient groups to explain their work. This could take the form of a blog post or interview published on the appropriate website ([BHD Foundation](#) or [Osteosarcoma Now](#)). See our websites for examples of our advocacy work.

Resubmission Policy

We will only allow one resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application, unless explicitly invited otherwise. If you would like to resubmit an application to us, please email us at grants@myrovlytistrust.org.

Financial Support

The Myrovlytis Trust is a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities' (AMRC) and endorses their [position statement](#) on supporting research in universities. As such, we will only fund directly incurred costs and will not cover any indirect costs. Please see the below section for a summary of allowed and disallowed costs. If you have any queries about costing your application, please contact us at grants@myrovlytistrust.org.

Funding for all applications must be submitted in British Pounds Sterling (GBP). Funding must be well justified. For Project Grants and PhD Studentships, a 1-page justification of resources should be attached to the application. For Small/Pilot Studies, Project Grants and PhD Studentships, a letter indicating approval from the institute finance department of the Lead Applicant must also be included. Please consult the Lead Applicant's Finance Office for advice in costing applications well in advance of submitting your application.

Allowed and Disallowed Costs

Below is a list of allowed and disallowed costs. Please note this list is not exhaustive and the Myrovlytis Trust may query or remove any costs that are considered outside the funding remit. If you have any queries regarding allowed and disallowed costs, please email us at grants@myrovlytistrust.org.

Please note the following applies to Small/Pilot Studies, Project Grants and PhD Studentships.

Allowed Costs

- Salary costs for member(s) of staff carrying out the research. These may be named Co-Applicants if they do not hold a permanent position.
- PhD Studentship stipends at the current [UKRI-recommended rate](#).
- Tuition fees for PhD Studentships.
- Any consumables and laboratory materials directly attributable to the project.
- Animal costs including purchase, housing, husbandry and animal licence costs.
- Travel related to the proposed research (such as participant expenses to travel to focus groups, interviews etc).
- Small equipment essential to the proposed research up to a maximum of £5000. If you wish to discuss purchase of any larger equipment please email us at grants@myrovlytistrust.org
- Computer software licences, if required for the proposed research.
- Access charges to shared equipment facilities (e.g. microscopes, flow cytometers, mass spectrometers).
- Consultancy costs and statistician advice.

- Conference and travel costs up to a maximum of £1000.

Disallowed Costs

- Salary for any Lead Applicant or Co-Applicant not directly carrying out the research.
- A proportion of salary for central support staff (e.g. secretarial) or general technician staff (e.g. waste disposal).
- Equipment maintenance or running costs.
- Staff recruitment costs.
- General office expenses e.g. stationery, photocopying, postage. An exception may be made for proposed research involving epidemiological studies including questionnaires.
- Training courses (e.g. animal licence courses).
- Full economic costs; directly allocated and indirect costs.