

Research Office Bulletin 35

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Research Administration News

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NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

1. UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) – Next Funding Assurance Visit

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) will visit the College on **27 and 28 January 2020** to conduct their cyclical [Funding Assurance Programme](#) audit. This will involve an examination of financial transactions, compliance with award terms and conditions and the overall control environment. The largest proportion of the College's research income comes from the Research Councils so this audit is extremely important.

A large number of research awards and CDT/DTP awards have been selected for review and relevant PIs and DAs/DOMs have already been notified. The Research Office is coordinating the visit and will work with Faculty Research Services and Departments to ensure that the necessary preparations are in place ahead of the visit.

2. British Heart Foundation - Flexi-Grant system

From January 2020, the British Heart Foundation (BHF) will begin replacing its current GMS system with Flexi-Grant. Submission deadlines have been set for all currently open funding streams, but note that any proposals in GMS that have not been submitted by these deadlines will be deleted. These deadlines are outlined on the webpages of each specific funding stream. Each stream will reopen for submission via Flexi-Grant in January 2020.

rgcoadmin@imperial.ac.uk should continue to be added to all BHF proposals as the institutional approval account.

More general information about electronic submission systems is available on the [Research Office Website](#)

3. Research Governance and Integrity Workshops

The Research Office's **Research Governance and Integrity** team (*formerly known as the Joint Research Compliance Office*) is running several workshops for planning, conducting and maintaining research projects:

- Best Practice When Using ClinicalTrials.gov Website (**18 November 2019**, 10.00-13.00)
- Best Practice When Using EudraCT Website (**18 November 2019**, 14.00-16.00)
- How to make a successful Imperial College Research Ethics Committee (ICREC) and/or Science, Engineering and Technology Research Ethics Committee (SETREC) application (**27 November 2019**, **26 February 2020** and **29 April 2020**, all 13.00-15.00)

For further information and to register, visit the [events webpage](#).

The current JRCO website will be updated in due course.

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4. UKRI (Research Councils) – Equipment Maintenance Costs

Each Research Council has a different policy on the eligibility of equipment maintenance costs relating to existing items of equipment. This is summarised as follows:

- **BBSRC** – will fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment provided they are fully justified and charged based on usage for the project.
- **ESRC** – will not fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment.
- **EPSRC** – will not fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment.
- **MRC** – will fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment provided they were originally purchased through an MRC grant and the costs are fully justified and charged based on usage for the project.
- **NERC** – will not fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment.
- **STFC** – will fund equipment maintenance costs for existing items of equipment provided they are fully justified and charged based on usage for the project.

The Golden Rules for both [Pre-Award](#) and [Post-Award](#) have been updated to include these details. The Golden Rules for other funders will also contain details of the eligibility of equipment maintenance costs if the funder has a clear policy on this.

5. European Commission Horizon 2020 – UKRO Deadline Calendar

The UK Research Office (UKRO) has extracted more than 300 final Horizon 2020 calls for proposals from the European Commission's Funding and Tenders Portal. These calls are excerpted into a filterable Excel Spreadsheet and compact PDF format. Links to both formats have been uploaded to the [Research Office EU Team webpage](#). For Imperial users registered with UKRO, these are also available [directly from UKRO](#).

The latest information about the impact of Brexit on UK participation in Horizon 2020 is available on the [College website](#).

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