

NEW FOUNDATIONS 2018 FAQ

Updated: 1st November 2018.

Similar questions have been grouped below in the following theme(s):

- Eligibility criteria

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

NEW: Are personnel costs allowed?

Awards are valued at up to a maximum for each strand. All costs sought must be detailed and justified in Part B of the application (Excel spreadsheet). Applicants must clearly demonstrate that any costs sought are necessary to carry out the proposal. Demonstration of value for money is an important consideration under the evaluation and assessment process.

Where not covered by the categories outlined in the Terms and Conditions and clearly relevant to the viability of the proposal, other costs such as staff costs can be considered. All such costs must be specified and fully justified.

Irish Research Council/institutional rates should be used for all research staff costs sought. Recruitment to these posts should be in accordance with the scheme's Terms and Conditions and institutional norms. Irish Research Council rates are as follows:

Staff Costs	Maximum cost for 1 calendar year	Maximum cost for ½ calendar year
Academic replacements	€24,353 (inclusive of PRSI 10.85% & Employer Pension Contribution 20%)	€12,177 (inclusive of PRSI 10.85% & Employer Pension Contribution 20%)
Research Assistant (can be pro-rata) Postdoctoral Researcher (can be pro-rata)	HEIs should use the institutional researcher salary scale for research assistants and postdoctoral researchers. These costs must be clearly justified in the application form. The salary requested must include provisions for PRSI 10.85% & Employer Pension Contribution 20%. As part of the award acceptance process, the research office must confirm that the requested salary is line with the institutional researcher salary scale and provide documentary evidence.	
Other	Other personnel costs may be considered such as technicians, digital archivists. These costs must be explicitly justified, and institutional salary scales can be used for this category. As part of the award acceptance process, the research office must provide documentary evidence of the salary scale used.	

Staff costs should be included in the 'Other' cost heading in Part B of the application.

NEW: I've had a few queries about the eligibility of the applicant based on p.10 of the Call Document where it says "Competitively acquired research awards granted by higher education institutions are also eligible."

Would a competitively awarded grant by an Irish Higher Education Institution to one of its staff, e.g., to attend a conference make that person an applicant eligible? And what sort of documentation should be included?

An applicant is eligible if they currently hold or have held a competitively acquired research award from a national or international research funder within the three-year period prior to 6th December 2018. The applicant must be the named recipient of the award (i.e. the award holder) to be considered eligible.

Awards granted by higher education institutions are eligible so long as they are competitively acquired through an open competition and the institution is willing to endorse the application.

Evidence of the award can take the form of a letter of award from the relevant funding or award institution.