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**RESEARCH IN CLINICAL ETHICS SMALL GRANT COMPETITION 2024**

The IME invites research proposals addressing areas relevant to UK clinical ethics support services, such as Clinical Ethics Committees.

Please read the relevant guidelines below. All applications and enquiries should be submitted to: philg@ime-uk.org copying in: contact@ime-uk.org.

Deadline for applications is **20th May 2024**. Please note, any funds awarded by the IME will need to be spent in full by **31st December 2025**.

Seed funding of **up to £10,000** will be available for the best proposal, as determined by a judging panel appointed by the IME Board.

**CALL GUIDELINES**

Proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

**Remit and Relevance** (yes/no)

The proposal should be relevant to the good functioning of UK clinical ethics support services, such as Clinical Ethics Committees. If the proposal is not judged to be within remit (i.e. relevant in the way described here), the assessment will stop at this point.

**Importance** (0-5 marks)

The proposal should make clear the significance of the work e.g. in meeting an established need, advancing research in the area of clinical ethics, and demonstrating clear benefits of the proposed activity to the clinical ethics community in the UK.

**Aims/Plan and Methods** (0-10 marks)

The proposal should demonstrate a clear and robust plan i.e. have clear aims, a clear plan of action, be attentive to inclusivity issues, and be capable of providing reliable information related to clinical ethics support services in the UK, such as how they function, how they should function in the future and any relevant questions and issues pertinent to clinical ethics support.

**Applicant(s) and Institutional Support** (0-10 marks)

Applicants should provide a brief CV plus a letter of support from the institution that would administer the award. The CV from the applicant(s) should provide evidence that the applicant(s) has the skills required to successfully carry out the research project. The letter of support from the institution should provide evidence that the institution will support the applicant(s) in the proposed research.

**Outcome and Dissemination** (5 marks)

The proposed work should have clear intended outcomes and dissemination plans, including outline plans for follow-on work e.g. funding application(s), etc. Please also note that you should plan to feedback your work to the IME e.g. via a short report and/or a presentation or poster at an IME event.

**Feasibility** (5 marks)

The proposal should have a clear and deliverable schedule i.e. timescale. It should also be clearly and appropriately costed. Applicants should also note the source(s) and amount(s) of any additional funding that has been or may be secured for this research.

**Declaration of Interests** (carries no marks)

Proposals should provide declarations of potentially conflicting interests especially concerning the applicant’s involvement with the IME and the UK Clinical Ethics Network (UKCEN). Such involvement will not disqualify applicants but will be taken into account in order to minimise risk of bias by the judges. For the avoidance of doubt, applicants who have no relationship with the IME and or UKCEN are welcome to apply.