

Guidelines for the Translational Research Access Programme (TRAP)



University College Cork
School of Medicine

This new programme available through the School of Medicine will provide start-up funding for researchers in UCC and its affiliated clinical institutions. The programme will provide access to state-of-the-art research facilities & equipment, with the explicit intention of promoting collaborative translational research within the UCC healthcare community.

The Programme has been established on a trial basis for two years (2011/12 and 2012/13). It represents a response by the School of Medicine to the challenges faced by researchers who accept permanent posts at UCC and its affiliated clinical institutions. Its purpose is to develop meaningful partnerships with UCC colleagues in clinical, pre-clinical and other disciplines relevant to their research areas. It is intended to provide an opportunity for pairs of researchers (one clinician and one non-clinician investigator) to develop new or existing research areas, and to foster them to a point where a more substantial grant application can be made. Applications and awards will be processed by the School of Medicine Research Committee. The awards will be made to support projects of one year or less, and have a maximum value of €10,000 which will be made available through the budget of a designated Department of the School of Medicine. In any given year, the maximum number of grants awarded is ten. To encourage applicants, the application process is simple, and a timely response is assured.

Eligibility

This programme is open to all academic staff in departments within the School of Medicine and to all consultant clinicians at UCC-affiliated clinical institutions. Each application will be made jointly by (a) a consultant clinician at a UCC affiliated institution and (b) a permanent (non-clinician) academic staff member within the School of Medicine. In addition, each application should address a specific translational research question.

Application and criteria

The first call for these awards will be issued in December 2011. Application forms can be downloaded from the School of Medicine research website (<http://www.ucc.ie/en/DepartmentsCentresandUnits/SchoolofMedicine/research/>). Applications will be evaluated and awards made through the School of Medicine Research Committee.

Deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 27th January 2012.

The award will be made subject to the applicants obtaining the appropriate institutional ethical approval. The proposed work will be completed within one year of the award and successful applicants will be required to submit a final report within 12 weeks from the end date of the award. Publications arising from the work should acknowledge the financial

support of the School of Medicine. The criteria which will be applied to the assessment of applications are:

- i. Scientific quality of the proposal.
- ii. Translational impact of the proposal
- iii. Feasibility and match to the resources available.
- iv. Applicants' records in the subject area.
- v. Level of institutional/departmental support.
- vi. Likelihood that award will lead to subsequent independently funded collaborative research

The awards

Within the amount awarded, the following costs will be covered for successful applicants:

- Contribution to the cost of consumables & materials required to complete the project
- Access costs for specialised equipment usage
- Costs of access to technical support

The following costs will not be covered:

- Salary costs of researchers or other personnel associated with the project
- Postgraduate Student Fees
- Travel costs associated with the project or dissemination of the results.
- The costs of access for industry researchers
- Any equipment or computers
- Overheads or indirect costs.

Note: Successful applicants may –as resources allow- be able to access part-time research nurse support, administration, budgetary and biostatistical support via the Clinical Research Facility (CRF). If such support is essential to the conduct of the proposal then this should be discussed with the CRF director in advance and a letter of support from the CRF should accompany the application form.

Please address any queries to TRAP@ucc.ie