

Call for applications: Wellcome Early-Career Awards – May 2024 Round

<https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/early-career-awards>

Keywords: early career, science, discovery research, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), experimental medicine, humanities and social science, health sciences, and public health

Funding amount and duration of funding: Applicant salary and up to £400,000 for research expenses over 5 years

Funder deadline: 21 May 2024, 17:00 GMT

UCT Intention to Submit deadline: Please complete our [intention-to-submit form](#) by **11 March 2024** to help us ensure timely submission of your completed application.

UCT internal deadlines: Approval via UCT's electronic Research Administration (eRA) system is **required** prior to submission to the funder. Applicants should:

- Your finance staff will be automatically contacted when you complete and submit the [intention-to-submit form](#)
- [eRA Internal Approvals forms](#) should reach the Finance Approver step by no later than **7 May 2024**.
- Faculty approved eRA forms must reach RC&I by **14 May 2024**.

Contacts: Faculty of Health Sciences: FHS.ResearchFunding@uct.ac.za Other Faculties - internationalgrants@uct.ac.za

Information session /webinar: To assist early career researchers in developing their proposal, the Faculty of Health Sciences Research Development team will be hosting an information session/webinar on Tuesday, **13 February**, followed by a virtual interactive workshop series from Tuesday, **05 March**. Please click [here](#) to register for the webinar, and click [here](#) to register for the interactive workshop.

The [Wellcome Early-Career Awards scheme](#) is soliciting applications from early-career researchers from any discipline who are ready to develop their research identity. Through innovative projects, awardees will deliver shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health, and wellbeing.

By the end of the award, successful candidates will be equipped to lead their own independent research programme. Research proposals may be in any discipline - including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), experimental medicine, humanities and social science, clinical/allied health sciences, and public health - as long as it has the potential to improve human life, health and wellbeing, and aligns with the Wellcome Trust's [funding remit](#).

Award details:

- Grants are available for up to five years, but this may be less for some disciplines, and longer if held on a part-time basis.
- Applicants may request salary and up to £400,000 for research expenses.
- More information regarding allowable and non-allowable costs can be found [here](#).

Eligibility:

The call is open to early-career researchers who:

- Hold a PhD or have completed four years' equivalent research experience.
- May have some postdoctoral experience but generally no more than 3 years.
- Are ready to design, plan, and deliver their own innovative project that aims to:
 - Advance understanding in their field, and/or
 - Develop methodologies, conceptual frameworks, tools, or techniques that could benefit health-related research.
- As an LMIC university, UCT early career researchers who hold a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract are eligible to apply for this award.

- Please review the [Wellcome's Eligibility and Suitability](#) criteria to confirm your individual eligibility.

How to apply and key dates

- UCT internal requirements
 - Applicants must complete [UCT's Intention-to-Submit form](#) by not later than **11 March 2024**.
 - [eRA Internal Approvals forms](#) should reach Finance Approver step by **7 May 2024**.
 - Faculty approved eRA forms must reach UCT's Research Contracts & Innovation (RC&I) office by **14 May 2024**.

*Please take note that applications that need to be actioned/signed-off on by RC&I need to reach RC&I stage sufficiently in advance of any deadlines, and by no later than **at least five working days before funders' deadline**. When your application reaches RC&I all necessary approvals must already be in place and finalised e.g., budget approval on eRA. In instances where RC&I are not given a minimum of five working days to review and submit a proposal, they will not be held liable for any consequences should they be unable to meet the funder deadline.*

- **Funder submission**
 - Application deadline is **21 May 2024, 17:00 GMT** (via Wellcome Trust [online grants system](#))
- **Contact information:**
 - Health Sciences applicants contact FHS.ReserachFunding@uct.ac.za
 - All other faculties contact internationalgrants@uct.ac.za

Wellcome Trust applications require a significant amount of time to complete. To help streamline the process, we recommend completing our intention to submit form, which will allow us to provide personalised assistance in planning your application several months in advance of the actual submission. This will give you ample time to gather all necessary materials and ensure a strong competitive application.