

Micro Grant Terms and Conditions

The Animal Free Product Micro Grant is provided by the Centre for Human Specific Research, an initiative of Animal Free Research UK ("the Centre"). It provides up to £500 to support researchers, technicians, students and other eligible members of the research community to trial an animal-free alternative to an animal-derived product (such as FBS, a hydrogel or an antibody). By applying, you agree to these terms.

1. Eligibility and use of funding

- The product must be a genuine animal-free alternative to an animal-derived product you currently use.
- If the product to be replaced is an antibody, the replacement must be a Category A recombinant antibody, as defined by the Centre's antibody database colour-coding system. Applications proposing a Category B–G antibody are not eligible for funding.
- We do not fund or endorse the use of animal-derived products. The aim of this Micro Grant is to generate a completely animal-product free protocol, including all reagents, materials and procedures used at any stage.
- By applying, you confirm that no animal-derived products will be used elsewhere in the protocol, and that the resulting protocol will be completely animal-product free from the outset.
- You must be based at an institution, company or organisation able to receive the reimbursement.
- Funding may only be used to purchase the approved product. It cannot be used for animal-derived products, salaries, equipment, travel or overheads.
- The product should be purchased and trialled within six months of the award start date. If you need more time, contact us before this deadline.

2. Payment and reporting

Funding is paid by reimbursement, directly to your host institution, up to a maximum of £500. To receive payment, within 30 days of your award end date you must submit:

- Proof of purchase (a receipt or invoice); and
- A completed End of Award Report, covering your protocol, results and lessons learned.

This is the only reporting requirement for the award. Payment will not be released until we have received a satisfactory report.

3. Mandatory dissemination of results

Generating shareable evidence is a condition of this award. By accepting funding, you agree that your End of Award Report will be used to produce the following outputs, which the Centre will publish and share with the wider research community:

a) **Protocol.** The method described in your report will be extracted, standardised and published as a standalone resource so that other researchers can find and use it. Protocols from unsuccessful or partial transitions are equally valuable and will also be published. We will share a draft of the protocol with you for factual review before it is published.

b) **Case study.** The Centre will write a short case study based on your report, covering your project, results and lessons learned. We will identify your name, role, institution and the funded product unless you tell us otherwise (see below). We will share a draft of the case study with you for factual review before it is published.

Review before publication. You will have the opportunity to check both the protocol and case study drafts for factual accuracy before they go live.

Attribution. If you would prefer your case study or protocol to be published without your name or institution identified, let us know when you submit your report and we will anonymise it accordingly.

4. Other terms

- Any research data, results or intellectual property generated remain the property of you and/or your institution. By submitting your application, you confirm that you have the necessary authority (or institutional permission) to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty free licence to use and share your protocol and report for the purposes described above.
- We may withhold or recover funding if it is used for purposes other than those approved, if false information has been provided, or if the reporting requirement is not met.
- We may withdraw an award where exceptional circumstances require it.
- Personal data you provide will be processed by the Centre of Human Specific Research in line with its privacy policy, to administer the award and, where you have agreed, to produce communications materials.
- If you publish or present your results independently, we ask that you acknowledge the Centre for Human Specific Research's funding support.
- These terms are governed by the law of England and Wales.

If you have any queries about these terms, please get in touch with the Centre for Human Specific Research grants team.