

Match Maker Grant Terms and Conditions

Terms and Conditions

These Terms and Conditions ("Conditions") apply to the Match-Maker Grant of up to £6,000 awarded by the Centre for Human Specific Research, an initiative of Animal Free Research UK, a registered charity (charity number 1146896) and a company limited by guarantee (company number 08015625) ("we", "us" or "our").

They form part of the grant agreement and will become legally binding only once the agreement letter, cover note and these Terms and Conditions have been signed by the Centre for Human Specific Research and the Grant Holder(s).

For the avoidance of doubt, a written offer of award and formal grant agreement will be issued to the successful applicants following review of their Match-Maker Grant application. The grant will commence only once the agreement has been signed by all required parties. No expenditure incurred prior to the effective start date will be reimbursed.

1. Parties

These Conditions apply between us and the researcher(s) and/or Host Institution(s) named in the grant agreement ("you"). Together, we are referred to as "the parties".

Where a collaboration involves researchers from more than one institution, one institution will act as the lead Grant Holder and signatory for the purposes of receiving and administering the funds. Other collaborating researchers and institutions will be named in Schedule 1 and are expected to comply with these Conditions as they relate to their part of the funded activity.

2. Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of the Match-Maker Grant is to support a new research collaboration emerging from the Regional North Community launch event. The funding is intended to enable researchers to develop shared ideas, build partnerships, and initiate collaborative research that supports the adoption of human-specific, animal-free research and strengthens the Regional North Community.

3. Eligibility

To be eligible for the Match-Maker Grant, an application must be made jointly by two or more researchers who connected at, or in the period around, the Regional North Community launch event.

Applicants are encouraged to have completed a match-maker profile on the Forum, under the North Regional Community channel, ahead of the event, setting out their areas of expertise, research interests, and what they are looking for in a potential collaborator. This helps applicants identify shared interests and start conversations before meeting in person.

4. Application and selection process

Following the launch event, researchers who have identified a shared collaboration opportunity may apply for the Match-Maker Grant by submitting a proposal setting out the collaboration, its aims, and how it will strengthen the Regional North Community.

We reserve the right to vary the format or timing of the application process and to make no award if, in our reasonable opinion, no application meets the required standard.

5. Award announcement and publicity

The successful collaboration will be announced through our website and communications channels for publicity purposes only. Any such announcement is symbolic and does not constitute a legally binding commitment or create any entitlement to funding.

6. Funding and use of funds

The maximum value of the grant is £6,000. Grant funds must be used solely for the purposes approved in writing and in accordance with the signed grant agreement.

Grant funds must not be used to purchase animal-derived products. Any such materials must be funded from alternative sources.

Funds must be used for clearly defined collaborative activities as set out in Schedule 1 and may be subject to additional reporting requirements.

7. Roles and responsibilities

During the grant period, we will:

- Provide funding in accordance with the signed grant agreement and as set out in Schedule 1, including (where applicable) support for the purchase of agreed animal-free reagents and other approved costs.
- Work with you to agree, develop and share appropriate communications relating to the funded activity and its outcomes.

During the grant period, you will:

- Carry out the funded activity in accordance with the approved proposal and the signed grant agreement.
- Comply with all applicable laws, regulations and institutional policies.
- Obtain and maintain all necessary ethical, regulatory and institutional approvals.
- Provide reporting, information and materials as required under the grant agreement and Schedule 1.

8. Data and intellectual property

All intellectual property and data generated through the funded activity shall remain the property of the Grant Holder(s) and/or Host Institution(s), as agreed between the collaborating parties and set out in Schedule 1.

You grant us a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to use agreed summaries, images and outputs for non-commercial advocacy, fundraising and communications purposes, subject to your prior written approval.

9. Communications and publication

The parties agree that it is important to share learning arising from the funded activity, regardless of outcomes. Material public communications referring to the other party, or communications that use the other party's logo or name in a way that implies endorsement, must be approved in writing prior to release.

10. Confidentiality and data protection

Each party shall keep confidential any information that is clearly confidential or ought reasonably to be treated as confidential.

To the extent the parties share personal data for the purposes of the funded activity, each party will act as an independent controller, will comply with UK data protection legislation (including UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018), and will ensure its own privacy notices cover such processing.

11. Communication

We will use the contact details of the Grant Holder(s), collaborating researchers, and relevant Host Institution contacts to administer the grant. In addition, we may contact you by email about related activities, funding opportunities, events, and other communications relevant to our charitable mission, on the basis of our legitimate interests. You may opt out of receiving non-essential communications at any time.

12. Termination

We reserve the right to suspend or terminate the grant if these Conditions (as incorporated into the grant agreement) or the grant agreement are breached, if funding is misused, or if there are serious concerns relating to ethics, compliance or reputation. On termination we are not obliged to provide further funding beyond properly incurred, agreed costs up to the termination date.

We may require you to repay all or part of the grant if funds are misused, the funded activity is not delivered as agreed without our prior written consent, or if there is a material breach of these Conditions or the grant agreement.

13. General

These Conditions, together with the grant agreement, cover sheet and any schedules, constitute the entire agreement between the parties. Additional collaboration-specific terms may be set out in the offer letter, cover sheet, or Schedule 1. In the event of any inconsistency, those documents shall take precedence.

Nothing in these Conditions creates a legal partnership, joint venture or employment relationship.

14. Governing law and jurisdiction

These Conditions and any related agreement are governed by the laws of England and Wales, and the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction.

15. Signatures

Signed for and on behalf of the Centre for Human Specific Research (Animal Free Research UK):

Title:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Lead Scientist:

Title:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Signed for and on behalf of [Institution/company]:

Title:

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Schedule 1 – Project Details

1. Project title
2. Project summary (2–3 sentences)
3. Parties and key contacts
 - Lead scientist / PI: name, role, email
 - Administrator / admin contact: name, email
 - Centre contact: Jonathan Sheard, jonathan@humanspecificresearch.org

4. Reagents and other inputs to be funded

- List of animal-free reagents and other costs to be funded.
- Any in-kind contributions from suppliers or others.
- Confirmation that animal-derived products will not be funded.

5. Workplan and deliverables

- Brief description of the main experiments or activities.
- Expected deliverables (e.g. data summary, images, slides, short report).

6. Project period and milestones

- Start Date:
- End Date:
- Key milestones (e.g. mid-point check-in, final meeting).

7. Funding and payment

- Total funding amount (up to £6,000):
- Brief cost breakdown:
- Invoicing arrangements (e.g. single invoice at the end / invoice after completion of agreed milestones).
- Invoicing address and any purchase order details if needed.

8. Reporting and meetings

- Reporting requirements (e.g. short written report at the end, any interim update).
- Planned meetings or calls (e.g. mid-point and final).

9. Communications plan

- Planned outputs: short public case study; 3–5 slides for a shared slide deck; optional joint webinar, if both parties agree.
- Any specific communication constraints or approvals beyond the grant agreement.

10. Special terms (if any)

- Any agreed variations to the grant agreement for this project only.