



European Proposal Support Fund

Aim

The aim of the European Proposal Support Fund (PSF) is to facilitate the preparatory work leading to the submission of proposals to the European Commission Framework Programme that contain a substantial UK arts and humanities research component. The funding is for travel and subsistence etc to facilitate meeting partners across eligible EU countries to draft a collaborative proposal.

Eligibility

Applicants to the AHRC Proposal Support Fund must be UK arts and humanities researchers who would ordinarily be eligible for AHRC funding^{1,2} and the proposed project must be underpinned by a strong UK arts and humanities research component.

The fund is aimed particularly at areas of the [Socio Economic Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\) Work Programme](#) where there is significant relevance to arts and humanities research.

Applications to the Proposal Support Fund are not limited to the areas of the SSH 2013 Work Programme. Applicants can identify other areas that require **multi-country involvement** in other FP7 funding opportunities beyond SSH and apply to this fund however; approval from the AHRC must be sought prior to submission. Please note funding opportunities from the European Research Council (ERC) and Marie Curie Actions are not eligible due to timings and/or eligibility/aims of the activities.

Costs

Eligible costs relate solely to the preparation of the application to the European Commission (EC) to a maximum of **£10,000**. This funding is not intended to support small research projects/scoping studies.

Eligible costs relate solely to the costs of meeting partners and networking to create a proposal to the European Commission Framework Programme, e.g. travel, subsistence, meeting rooms, catering. Costs relating to applicant's time, overheads, equipment, estates and indirect costs cannot be included.

If you are intending to apply for support to apply to other areas of the European Commission Framework Programme other than SSH you must contact AHRC for a decision on eligibility.

No costs that are incurred before an award is made can be included.

¹ Applicants to the AHRC PS fund do not necessarily have to be the lead applicant on the proposed European Commission Proposal, however we expect applicants to have a significant role in the proposal.

² Applicants must meet AHRC criteria for Principle Investigator and be from an organisation that is eligible for Standard Grant Funding. Please see the AHRC funding guide for further guidance
<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/FundingOpportunities/Documents/Research%20Funding%20Guide.pdf>



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Application procedure

All applications should be submitted to AHRC by **21st August 2012**. Applications need to be completed using the [application form](#) (adhering to the specified format and all word limits) and emailed to Pete Henly p.henly@ahrc.ac.uk by the deadline. No hard copy is required.

On submission, applications will be checked for eligibility. Those applications deemed ineligible will not be assessed.

Evaluation

An assessment panel comprising AHRC staff including the AHRC's Director of Research and Head of International will assess eligible PSF proposals.

- Applications will be assessed under the following criteria:
- Conformity of the proposed project to the work programme and call for proposal
- Strong UK Arts and Humanities Research Component³
- Expertise and track record of the proposer
- Appropriateness and mix of the proposed partners
- Actual costs that are necessary to prepare and submit a proposal
- Benefit of the proposed project to the UK arts and humanities research community

Outcomes and Payment of Awards

Outcomes will be communicated to applicants in mid-September. Awards will not be administered using the research councils JeS system. If successful, a purchase order will be raised to the applicant's organisation, and the UK Research Organisation will invoice AHRC for costs incurred up to the value of the award. All awards will have a defined end date in February 2013 in line with the closing date of the European Commission SSH Programme. The AHRC must be invoiced within 3 weeks of the end date of the award. To claim the grant it is mandatory that an eligible proposal is submitted to the European Commission.

Monitoring & Reporting

The AHRC will contact you with regard to obtaining a final report describing the outcome of the work and status of the project.

Queries regarding AHRC PS Fund

Please contact Pete Henly p.henly@ahrc.ac.uk or Lucy Parnall l.parnall@ahrc.ac.uk

Help and Support in Preparing your European Commission Proposal

Please do not contact the AHRC with queries regarding European Commission Funding. The UK (and other EU countries) invests in a network of National Contact Point (NCP) for FP7 funding, whose role is to advise applicants.

The SSH National Contact Point is Samantha McGregor <https://ktn.innovateuk.org/web/fp7-socio-economic>. All other NCPs are listed here http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html

³ We recognise that areas of the commission's work programme are multi-disciplinary, and the proposals to the commission need to reflect this. We expect proposals to bring together appropriate expertise, this requirement is for the PSF applicant to be a UK arts and humanities researcher, and that part of the project involves arts and humanities research will take place in the UK. We recognise the relative balance of disciplines will vary.