**Development Awards**

**Introduction**

The NIHR Applied Research Collaboration Oxford and Thames Valley (ARC-OxTV) aims to develop the research skills of health and social care professionals and researchers in the Thames valley area by:

* Supporting growth in applied health and care research
* Supporting career development across professions and disciplines
* Promoting equity of access to training
* Supporting the development of the next generation of applied health and care researchers.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) has provided funding for the ARC-OxTV to run Development awards. These awards are to directly support applicants to prepare future applications for NIHR career development and enhance their chances of making a successful application to an NIHR career development scheme in the future.

NIHR Career Development Schemes Individuals should developing an application for are listed below.

**Predoctoral level**

* Pre Doctoral Fellowship (for methodologists only) (PF)\*
* Pre Doctoral Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship (PCAF)\*
* Pre Doctoral Local Authority Fellowship Scheme (PLAF)\*
* In-Practice Fellowship (IPF) Doctoral Level\*

**Doctoral level**

* Doctoral Fellowship (DF)
* Doctoral Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship (DCAF)
* Doctoral Local Authority Fellowship (DLAF) Postdoctoral Level

**Postdoctoral level**

* Development and Skills Enhancement (DSE) Award 3\*
* Advanced Fellowship (AF)
* Advanced Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship (ACAF)
* Advanced Local Authority Fellowship (ALAF)
* Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation (EME) and Advanced Fellowship (EME-AF)
* Population Health Career Scientist Award (PHCSA)
* Senior Clinical and Practitioner Research Award (SCPRA)\*
* Research Professorship (RP)
* Senior Investigators (SI) Other career development awards

**Other career Development awards**

* Clinical Academic Research Partnerships (CARP)

\*There are schemes that already include support to prepare a further application for funding, and therefore a clear justification would be required to explain why individuals are not applying directly to those schemes. These schemes are the Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (PF), Pre-doctoral Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship (PCAF), Pre-Doctoral Local Authority Fellowship Scheme (PLAF), In-Practice Fellowship (IPF), the Development and Skills Enhancement (DSE) Award and the Senior Clinical and Practitioner Research Award (SCPRA).

**Eligibility:**

The awards are open to of the following professionals across the Thames Valley region.

* Regulated Healthcare Professionals (Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals, Pharmacists and Healthcare Scientists)
* Social work and public health professionals
* Researchers in methodology
* Researchers based in local authority settings

To be eligible for one of these awards you will need to provide evidence that you have the following:

1. Support from your line manager to undertake the award

2. A keen interest in research

3. Mentorship from a named research supervisor (identified by you\*)

4. Ability to start the programme before 31st March 2025, and complete it on time (within 12 months).

*\*Please get in touch if you would like support with this*

**How can the funding be used?**

Successful applicants can use the award to cover the following activities:

* Salary costs for individuals. To provide dedicated time to enhance an application for NIHR Career Development Funding. Or to buy out time from current clinical or practitioner responsibilities to prepare an application for NIHR Career Development funding.
* Appropriate supervisory and mentoring costs that an individual may require to support their application for NIHR Career Development funding.
* Training and development for the individual that is associated with enhancing a planned application for NIHR Career Development Funding.
* Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) on an application for NIHR Career Development Funding. All support should be in line with the NIHR public contributor payment policy and be specifically associated with preparing an application for NIHR career development funding.
* Any costs associated with accessibility and any reasonable adjustments required to support the development of an application, as a result of a health condition or disability, or caring responsibilities (beyond usual care costs).

The ARC-OxTV undertakes applied research. The OxTV will be more able to support Proposals that align with Oxford and Thames Valley ARC themes:

* Changing Behaviours for Better Health and Preventing Disease
* Helping Patients to Manage Their Own Conditions
* Mental Health across the Life Course
* Improving Health and Social Care
* Applied Digital Health
* Novel Methods to Aid and Evaluate Implementation

[**https://www.arc-oxtv.nihr.ac.uk/our\_work**](https://www.arc-oxtv.nihr.ac.uk/our_work)

If you would like advice or support with your application, or directing to appropriate members of the ARC-OxTV contact. [Katherine.tucker@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Katherine.tucker@phc.ox.ac.uk)

**Application process:**

Please submit an application and completed checklist (see below) and all corresponding documentation to: [arc\_oxtv@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:arc_oxtv@phc.ox.ac.uk) by 5:00 pm on Friday 25th April 2025.

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| --- | --- |
| **Key dates: Closing date for applications:** | Friday 25th April 2025 (5pm) |
| **Interviews:** Online | From week commencing 5th May 2025 |
| **Award period:** | Usually, May 2025 onwards and completed within the next 10 months (end March 2026). |

Application Checklist

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Area of research interest:** |  |
| **Contact details** | **Email:**  **Mobile:** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | | | **Submitted (yes/no)** |
| **1. Background**   1. Professional or research background (see eligibility) ………………………………………………………… | | |  |
| **2. Brief Curriculum Vitae confirming the following:**   1. Employment or connection with health or social care in the Thames Valley region. | | |  |
| **3. Application/Cover letter including:**   1. Reason for applying for the award and why the research can help your care and practice (max 400 words). 2. What experience you have had to date in research (max 300 words). 3. What skills and qualities you have, which make you suitable for the award? (max 300 words) 4. The outcomes that you hope to achieve by the end of the award (max 300 words). 5. Your choices of supervisor and/or mentor usually at one of the ARC-OxTV collaborative partner organisations (max 400 words) 6. A training plan to support your learning that will be gained through the duration of the award (max 300 words). 7. The chosen research area and how the application will be developed over the award period (300 words) 8. Is there anything else you would like to add to support your application? (max 200 words) | | |  |
| **4. Letter of support from Line Manager**. | | |  |
| **5. Letter of support from a clinical research supervisor if postdoctoral** | | |  |
| **6. Illustrated alignment of project with respective themes and clinical needs.**   1. With NIHR priorities 2. Team/service clinical/care priorities and needs. | | |  |
| **7. A detailed spending plan for the £20,000 maximum budget for the award period** | | |  |
| I can confirm that I meet the criteria for the award and I have submitted all of the evidence described above. | | | |
| **Signed:** | **Date:** |  | |

Once completed please send to [arc\_oxtv@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:arc_oxtv@phc.ox.ac.uk) by 5pm on Friday 25th April 2025