**African Research Leaders**

<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/african-research-leaders/>

Keywords: Health Systems in Developing Countries; International Health

**Funding amount and duration of funding:** Awards will provide support for **up to five years** and the requested amount should **not exceed £750,000 in total.**

**Funder deadline: 24 April 2024**

**UCT Intention to submit deadline: 08 March 2024** if you intend applying, so the Research Office may plan support accordingly.[intention-to-submit form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=NUNFkk5Wz0ywsCREW4wD92CwtLvM71FMidkTBV3jmRVUMzNMNlpRNVpTWjNSV01PRFYyM1JBVThOSCQlQCN0PWcu&wdLOR=c278AEE22-BB92-4809-99D8-212E4786CA54)  for FHS applicants, please fill in this [FHS Intention-to-submit-form](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=NUNFkk5Wz0ywsCREW4wD9w5l8ODCORVGnCwCUscMt89UOVRWWlZaUlZNVldZMFZSQzc0U0IxQ1pOUCQlQCN0PWcu&web=1&wdLOR=c799CE1D5-08BB-4690-999B-6DB3739C9558)

**UCT Internal deadlines:** Approval via UCT’s electronic Research Administration (eRA) system is **REQUIRED** prior to submission to the funder. Applicants should:

* Complete the Intention to submit form and inform their faculty finance/budget reviewers by no later than **08 March 2024**
* eRA Internal Approvals forms should reach the Final Faculty Approver step by no later than **10 April 2024**
* Faculty approved eRA forms must reach RC&I by **17 April 2024**

**Contacts: Faculty of Health Sciences:** [FHS.ResearchFunding@uct.ac.za](mailto:FHS.ResearchFunding@uct.ac.za) **Other Faculties -**  [internationalgrants@uct.ac.za](mailto:internationalgrants@uct.ac.za)

**Award details:**

The Medical Research Council and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office invite applications for its African research leaders call. This supports global health research and the strengthening of research leadership across sub-Saharan Africa. The aim to attract and retain rising star individuals who will lead high quality research on key global health issues pertinent to SSA. Researchers should be supported by an enthusiastic local research environment and by a UK-based partner as part of a partnership between the African and UK institutions.

**Eligibility:**

You can apply for this funding opportunity if you:

* have, at a minimum, a PhD and three years’ post-doctoral research experience, or an MD plus an MSc with three years research experience.
* have some evidence of independent funding as a project lead or co-lead.
* be building a track record of independence in their selected field and demonstrating promise as a future research leader (at a minimum to be demonstrated by at least five publications as first or last author within the last three years)
* For more details on institutional and individual eligibility, please see the [**MRC eligibility requirements**](https://www.ukri.org/councils/mrc/guidance-for-applicants/check-if-you-are-eligible-for-funding/).

**How to apply and Key dates**

* **UCT Internal requirements**

*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.*

* + Applicants to contact their faculty finance/budget reviewers no later than **13 March 2024**
  + [eRA Internal Approvals forms](http://www.researchsupport.uct.ac.za/rsh/era/internal-process) should reach the Final Faculty Approver step no later than **10 April 2024**
  + Faculty approved eRA forms must reach UCT’s Research Contracts & Innovation (RC&I) office by no later than **17 April 2024.**
* **Funder submission**

*This funding opportunity is being ran on the new UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Funding Service so please ensure that as the PI you create your account on the new submission portal. You cannot apply on the Joint Electronic Submissions (Je-S) system.*

* + Application deadline is **24 April 2024**
  + Confirm you are the project lead and then,
  + Sign in or create a [**Funding Service**](https://funding-service.ukri.org/OPP392/apply/431/account-details/62749)account.
  + For more details see *“How to Apply”* section[**HERE**](https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/african-research-leaders/)
* **Contact information:** 
  + Health Sciences applicants contact [FHS.ReserachFunding@uct.ac.za](mailto:FHS.ReserachFunding@uct.ac.za).
  + All other Faculties contact [internationalgrants@uct.ac.za](mailto:internationalgrants@uct.ac.za).