

Call for applications: Wellcome Career Development Awards

<https://wellcome.org/grant-funding/schemes/career-development-awards>

Keywords: mid-career researcher, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), experimental medicine, humanities and social science, clinical/allied health sciences, public health, discovery science

Funding and duration of funding: Salary and research expenses up to 8 Years

Funder deadline: 26 March 2026, 17:00 GMT

UCT Intention to submit deadline: In order to receive institutional support, please complete an [intention-to-submit](#) form by **31 October 2025**

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

- Your finance staff will be automatically contacted when you complete and submit the intention-to-submit form
- eRA Internal Approvals forms should reach the Finance Approver step by no later than **12 March 2026**
- Faculty approved eRA forms must reach RC&I by **19 March 2026**

Contacts: Faculty of Health Sciences: fhs.researchfunding@uct.ac.za Other Faculties - internationalgrants@uct.ac.za

The [Wellcome Career Development](#) Awards scheme is soliciting applications from mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders. They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work, and deliver significant shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing.

Research proposals may be in any discipline - including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), experimental medicine, humanities and social science, clinical/allied health sciences, and public health - as long as it has the potential to improve human life, health and wellbeing, and aligns with the Wellcome Trust's [funding remit](#).

Eligibility:

This call is open to mid-career researchers who are already driving their own research and who:

- Have completed one/two substantial periods of research after their initial training.
- May have been appointed to their first permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract within the last 3 years.
- Please review the [Wellcome's Eligibility and Suitability](#) criteria to confirm your individual eligibility.

Award details:

- Grants are available for up to eight years and applicants may request salary (if required) and the resources required for their research programme.
- More information regarding allowable and non-allowable costs can be found [here](#).

Deadlines and submission process:

This proposal requires the PI to complete an online application on the funder portal ([Wellcome Funding platform](#)) as well as requesting institutional approval via UCT's electronic Research Administration (eRA) system, prior to submission of the application.

Important: The call has 3 submission rounds per year, with deadlines in March, July & November.

	March 2026 submission
PI to initiate an eRA proposal approval request and alert their faculty finance staff of the budget support needed	12 February
PI to submit an eRA Proposal Approval request with a draft budget to the Budget Reviewer step on eRA at least 4 weeks before the funder deadline	26 February
PI to submit an eRA Proposal Approval request to the Finance Approver step on eRA at least 2 weeks before the funder deadline	12 March
Approval form and all supporting documents to reach RC&I via eRA at least 1 week before the funder deadline	19 March

Funder deadline: Final submission actioned by RC&I via the funder's portal.	26 March
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Contact information:

- Health Sciences applicants contact fhs.researchfunding@uct.ac.za
- All other faculties contact internationalgrants@uct.ac.za