

## Wellcome Early-Career Awards

### *General information and guidelines regarding the Wellcome Trust:*

These apply regardless of the specific call an applicant is responding to and may be helpful to review before starting an application.

The Wellcome Trust funds transformative research led by early-career, mid-career, and established researchers – supporting ideas from the discovery stage to projects with real-world impact.

Please note that Wellcome applications are highly competitive and involve a comprehensive, time-intensive process. Applicants are strongly advised to consult with colleagues from the Directorate Research Development well in advance, particularly regarding budget planning, contractual requirements, and the necessary institutional letters or supporting documents.

Wellcome supports research across a wide range of disciplines – including the **physical and social sciences, clinical research, and the arts and humanities** – and has committed £16 billion to research funding over the decade to 2032.

The following three worldwide health challenges were identified: [mental health](#), [infectious disease](#), and [climate and health](#).

- [Climate and Health programme](#): Generating evidence and support for policy actions that protect health from climate change.
- [Infectious Disease programme](#): Supporting innovative solutions to infectious diseases in the most affected communities.
- [Mental Health programme](#): Driving new and better interventions for anxiety, depression, and psychosis.

Guidelines are available on the Wellcome platform; you are strongly encouraged to familiarise yourself with the following content prior to indicating your intention to apply:

- [Prepare to apply](#)
- [Managing your grant](#)
- [Funding policies and grant conditions](#)

<p><b>Internal deadline for the following activities:</b> 5 September 2025</p> <p><b>Institutional budget approval:</b> <a href="#">@Sugandren Moodley</a> <a href="#">@Zusake Sokutu</a></p> <p><b>Contract-related matters:</b> <a href="#">@Werner Nel</a></p> <p><b>Supporting/Institutional documents:</b> <a href="#">@Eleanor van der Westhuizen</a></p> <p><b>Wellcome deadline:</b> 30 September 2025, but you are advised to submit your proposal at least 48 hours prior to the closing date.</p> <p><b>Is your research right for this scheme:</b> <a href="https://wellcome.org/research-funding/schemes/wellcome-early-career-awards#is-your-research-right-for-this-scheme?-3b53">https://wellcome.org/research-funding/schemes/wellcome-early-career-awards#is-your-research-right-for-this-scheme?-3b53</a></p>	<p><b>Eligibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhD</li> <li>• No more than three years of postdoctoral experience at the time of the application deadline.</li> <li>• Any discipline – including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM FUNDING <a href="#">POLICIES AND GRANT CONDITIONS</a>), experimental medicine, humanities and social science, clinical/allied health sciences, and public health.</li> <li>• Applicants based in a <a href="#">low- or middle-income country</a> may hold a permanent, open-ended or long-term rolling contract, although it is not a requirement.</li> <li>• You must be able to contribute at least 80% of your research time in support of the project proposed in the award. You should not spend more than 20% of your time on non-research-related activities, for example clinical duties, teaching or administration. If you are in a clinical craft speciality, you may spend up to 40% of your time on clinical duties.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Funding duration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five years (may be less for some disciplines).</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding amount:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your salary and up to £400 000 for research expenses. Certain costs do not count towards the £400 000 research expenses limit.</li> </ul>
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