

Tips

All research grant-making organisations have finite resources and are looking for the people and projects that will help to deliver against their aims and objectives. As a charity, a member of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC) and a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) non-commercial partner, the Scar Free Foundation has to ensure that our research is relevant to NHS policy and impacts on the end user (patients and the public).

Below is some general advice for those considering applying for funding from the Scar Free Foundation, on how to put together your Elective application. In preparing this advice we have reflected on our experiences of running this scheme for the past 8 years. Please read the below guidelines if you are planning to apply:

- Supervisors are typically senior researchers and clinicians and are busy people with many demands on their time. If you wish to apply to undertake an Elective project supervised by a Foundation Supervisor or one, it is recommended that you approach them as early as possible to ensure you they have a chance to consider your application. Last minute approaches are generally not favourability reviewed.
- The upper limit for funding is £1,200. Please do not ask for more than this. If the Elective funding is for part of a larger sum of money, please make this clear in your application and let us know your other sources of funding.
- It is suggested that you learn more about us as an organisation – what the Scar Free Foundation and the is trying to achieve, why we have these aspirations and how we are going to achieve our goals – much of this can be found in our website and in our research strategy
- When framing your research question, it is important to consider whether your research questions align to the disciplines the Electives are designed to support.
- Our expert reviewers will consider the scientific merit and feasibility of your application. Please ensure that what you are proposing is achievable in the Elective timescale of 6-8 weeks.

When preparing your application, it is important to ask:

- Have you demonstrated a good knowledge of the subject under investigation and made a case for undertaking a project in this area?
- Have I described the study methods I am going to use and are they the appropriate for my project?
- Have I clearly demonstrated that I have thought through all the potential pitfalls and built in contingency plans, if appropriate?
- Is my Elective application a good fit for the research priorities of the Scar Free Foundation?