



Researcher Development Fund 2020/2021

Guidance Notes

PLEASE NOTE: This initiative is intended to develop your skills for career development, and to develop the wider research culture at the University. This funding is **NOT** designed for funding research projects directly.

About the Researcher Development Fund Competition

The Researcher Development Fund Competition has been established to support researchers who are pro-actively identifying their own development needs and that of the research community and culture.

Funding is available for initiatives which support personal, professional and career development for researchers. Awards are intended to enable doctoral students and early career research staff to initiate, design, manage and deliver new professional development activities for their peers which will in turn develop the skills and experience needed to progress their own careers.

Examples include:

- Creating a Research Seminar Series
- Developing a writing group or other development group
- Holding a short symposium on a particular research method or research area
- Creating resources (for example videos, study guides, webpages) that support research skill development

The awards will support short-term, well-defined initiatives that develop and deliver transferable skills, training experiences and/or resources to the applicants' peers across departments. Collaborative applications are encouraged.

To understand the kinds of skills and attributes that this funding is aimed at supporting and developing, please refer to the [Vitae Researcher Development Statement](#) which is a national document derived from the Researcher Development Framework. It is endorsed by all UK Research Councils and other major funding bodies.

Award Amount

Awards up to **£1,500** are available

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be:

- Registered on a Doctoral Degree at Edinburgh Napier University

OR

- Post-doctoral researchers who hold a current contract of employment to conduct research at Edinburgh Napier University.

OR

- Hold a current contract of employment as a member of academic staff at Edinburgh Napier University at Lecturer level.

CRITERIA

- You must be able to manage your normal study/research/work-load when undertaking the additional activity for which you have applied.
- If successful you will be required to write a report and contribute to the RIO blog at the end of the project. The report should detail where possible the impact of the event together with your experiences of managing the project. Successful applicants will also be asked to report on their project for the RIO blog. A template for the final report and blog contribution will be sent to successful applicants.
- The initiatives **must be completed by 31st July 2021**.
- The application must be signed off by the School Director for Research and also have the support of the immediate Supervisor/PI/Line Manager.
- An individual may lead on only one application; however, s/he may also take part in a consortium/joint application (but should not be the named lead).

Application Process

Completed application forms should be emailed to Angela McNaughton, Research & Innovation Administrator a.mcnaughton@napier.ac.uk, **by 5pm on Monday 1st February 2021**.

Selection Process

Applications will be assessed by a panel chaired by the University's Research Developer and will include the Convenor of the Research Degree Committee and relevant academics.

The Panel reserves the right to consider the distribution of the Researcher Development Fund across the University. The Panel also reserves the right to offer partial funding for applications. Applicants may be asked for further information, or to amend their

application. The decision of the panel is final. However, you are encouraged to seek feedback on your application.

Further Information

For further information and questions, please contact Angela McNaughton, Research & Innovation Administrator a.mcnaughton@napier.ac.uk.