**CRUK CITY OF LONDON (CoL) CENTRE DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**INFO FOR APPLICANTS, 2020 call**

This document provides summary information on the new CRUK City of London Centre Development Fund including guidelines for application.

Faculty interested in submitting a proposal for the Development Fund to support their project should read the document, and submit a completed project proposal form by **Monday 10th February 2020**.

**1. Overview**

* The new CRUK City of London (CoL) Centre will bring together researchers from the CRUK centres at UCL, Barts/QMUL, King’s College London and the Francis Crick Institute to develop a world class hub for cancer biotherapeutics.
* A key objective of the Centre is to stimulate collaborative research through the provision of pump-priming funds to support cross-institutional CoL Centre pilot projects. The aim of these awards is generate preliminary data to leverage further funding.
* Five Development Fund awards (up to £25,000) will be awarded to cross-institutional projects aligned with CoL Centre strategic priorities. Projects are expected to commence in April 2020.
* Five Development Fund awards (up to £25,000) will be awarded to cross-institutional projects aligned with the CoL Centre Childhood Cancer theme. Projects are expected to commence in April 2020.
* For more information on the centre activity visit our webpage <https://colcc.co.uk/>

**2. Research project requirements**

The research project proposals for the Development Fund should:

* Address at least one of the *centre’s research programmes*, with a possible focus on childhood cancer (further info in appendix 1 and in the Centre webpage <https://colcc.co.uk/research-programmes/>). The centre aim is the development, manufacture and precision application of biological therapies and it is organised in three programmes;
* Developing biological therapies
* Cross-disciplinary approaches enhancing biotherapeutics
* Cancer evolution and tumour heterogeneity: targeting biotherapies
* Utilise at least one of the *centre’s infrastructure cores* (further info in appendix 2)
	+ - Advanced cellular engineering
		- Antibody and recombinant protein engineering
		- Tumour microenvironment
		- Cell and vector manufacturing
		- Imaging and image-guided therapy
		- Computational
* Be *multi-disciplinary* and include a link to physical sciences (computational biology, maths, physics, chemistry, engineering)
* The project should show *collaboration across the centre’s* *partner institutions* (Barts/QMUL, Crick, King’s, UCL)

**3. Timeline**

Call for applications November 2019 – February 2020

**Application deadline Monday 10th February 2020**

Selection of projects March 2020

Project start date 1st April 2020

Project proposals will be reviewed by a multi-disciplinary, cross-institutional panel to ensure they span the breadth of the centre and fall within the Centre’s research strategy. Projects will be ranked on criteria such as scientific quality, strategic relevance, feasibility and translational potential.

Faculty will be informed if their project will be funded by the end of March 2020.

**4. How to apply for the CRUK CoL Centre Development Fund**

* Identify a faculty member from a different Centre institution to yourself to develop a collaborative research project proposal. Please see appendix 3, CRUK CoL Mailing list, to help with this.
* Complete the appropriate attached *Development Fund Application Form* and return to: cruk.cityoflondoncentre@ucl.ac.uk by **Monday 10th February 2020**.
* Please direct any questions to Cristina Aguilera, CRUK CoL Centre Senior Project Manager: cruk.cityoflondoncentre@ucl.ac.uk

**CRUK City of London Centre Development Fund Application Form**

Applications should not exceed two pages (excluding figures and references) and should be in Arial font, size 10.

1. **Project Details**

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| **Principal Investigator****(Name, Department)** |  |
| **Co-Investigator(s)****(Name, Department)** |  |
| **Project Title****(Should be understood by a non-specialist)** |  |

1. **Brief summary (maximum five lines)**

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1. **Background**

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1. **Proposal (including a breakdown of requested costs)**

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1. **Please describe how this project aligns with the City of London Centre strategic priorities**

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1. **Please explain how the Development Fund will help to secure longer term funding to support the project and/or the City of London Centre’s strategic direction**

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1. **Describe whether, and if so how, this funding will help to support national and international partnerships?**

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1. **Describe the likelihood that this work will result in patentable results, or lead to them in the future.**

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1. **Please include five key references**

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1. **Please advise if you have applied to other CRUK Centre funding schemes with the same project (for a development fund and/or studentships).**

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In addition a brief CV of the applicants should be provided (maximum one side) with up to five recent and relevant papers.