



## **British Skin Foundation Studentship Application Guidelines**

The British Skin Foundation is a unique charity committed to raising funds for skin disease research. Since its re-launch in 1996, it has raised and distributed more than £12 million in research grants to over 350 projects throughout the U.K and R.O.I. The BSF relies completely on non-statutory funding, usually donated by industry, trusts, the BAD and members of the public.

The British Skin Foundation annually distributes funds to U.K based skin disease research. The BSF Trustees call upon the services of a panel of specialists called the Grants Advisory Committee (GAC) whose task it is to judge the quality and standard of the applications. The committee is made up of 20 members representing the British Skin Foundation, British Association of Dermatologists and the British Society for Investigative Dermatology. The committee in turn call upon the expertise of referees from the relevant areas of study.

Application forms are available from April with a closing date of Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Completed applications are forwarded on to the Grants Advisory Committee and referees in September. Grants will be awarded in late November and applicants are advised by the end of the year.

### **Completing the Application Form**

Applicants are reminded that project proposals will only be accepted via the BSF online application portal. Applicants should also note that the Grants Advisory Committee considers clarity and accuracy, especially with regard to spelling, to be very important.

- A BSF Studentship is available to any U.K or R.O.I based research institution seeking to fund dermatological research at a PhD Student level
- No more than one application can be submitted by a Principal Investigator per application round. Applications will not be accepted from a PI who currently holds a Large Grant as a PI
- Applicants are expected to demonstrate the value of the project to dermatology
- The BSF Studentship is a fixed amount of £85,000 (£28,333 per year for 3 years) No 'top-ups' or extensions are available for any reason
- The maximum duration of the BSF Studentship is 3 years (although this may be extended by negotiation where there are issues around flexible working or career breaks/maternity leave)
- The BSF Studentship must be activated within 12 months of the award letter
- The BSF Studentship funding is claimed by authorised finance departments submitting invoices at quarterly intervals
- A scientific and a lay report are to be submitted, both mid-term and upon completion
- The British Skin Foundation's support to be mentioned in any relevant papers or presentations and copies to be forwarded to the BSF office
- As of 2017 the British Skin Foundation will no longer be able to provide feedback for unsuccessful grant applications

## **Project Summary**

### **Title of Project**

This is best kept as brief and clear as possible. Applicants are asked to consider that the BSF use these titles for fundraising work among potential donors that do not necessarily have a scientific background.

### **Abstract of Research**

Concise, clear and kept within the 250 word limit – there is more than enough space to go into further detail later.

### **Principal Investigator**

The Principal Investigator must be the supervisor of the project and have overall responsibility for it.

Please explain the justification of the Principal Investigator by their qualification, expertise and role in the team.

Applications will not be accepted from a Principal Investigator who currently holds a BSF Large Grant as a PI. We encourage successful applicants to use BSF funding to enable them to apply for further funding to large funding bodies. If the PI on an application has held a BSF Large Grant as a PI in the previous 5 years, this will disadvantage the application to a relatively small, but definite, extent. If the PI on an application currently holds a BSF Large Grant as a co-applicant, this will disadvantage the application to a very minimal, but definite, extent.

### **Co-Applicants**

Space is provided for up to 4 co-applicants. If you have more than 4 co-applicants, please email [admin@britishskinfoundation.org.uk](mailto:admin@britishskinfoundation.org.uk) with the details.

### **Other Research Support**

If the Principal Investigator has been a participant in a grant from the BSF within the last 5 years (from the date of the first invoice from your finance department received by the BSF office) please complete the section at the end of the page.

### **Value to Dermatology**

Please explain the value of the project to dermatology briefly but concisely.

### **Proposed Project**

Please outline the proposed project using the headings shown. Tables, figures etc. may be uploaded on this page of the application if needed (maximum of 2 pages, no references please).

### **Certification**

It is vitally important that this section is completed. Applications lacking the relevant signatures will not be accepted. If those signing are not present to sign the same form, please upload a second signature page in this section. Electronic signatures will be accepted.

If you wish to add your support or find out any further information about the British Skin Foundation, please go to our website [www.britishskinfoundation.org.uk](http://www.britishskinfoundation.org.uk)

For queries, please contact Sarah Clinch  
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