



British Heart
Foundation

Big Beat Challenge

Outline Application Guidance for Applicants

Outline applications will be assessed to select those that will be invited to progress to full application, with seed funding provided to support the development of the full application. All applications should be submitted through the BHF Big Beat Challenge application portal at <https://bhf.flexigrant.com>

Submission deadline for Outline Application: 14 June 2019

Online Data Entry:

Applicants will be asked to enter the following information online:

- Principal Investigator (PI) details.
- Application title and one sentence description of the main aim in lay language.
- Lead Institution identity and administrative authority name and contact details.
- Lay summary of the proposed work (250 words).
- Selection of Research Activity and Subject codes from standard lists.
- Provision of any additional keywords describing the project.
- Numbers of participating team members (co-applicants), organizations/institutions and countries.
- Anticipated total budget request (in GBP).
- Anticipated additional funding from other sources, if any (in GBP).
- Anticipated award duration (4-7 years).

Case for Support:

In addition, applicants will be asked to upload a **single PDF document** (A4 page size, 1.5 cm margins, Calibri font, font size 11; with PI name and page number in the header), which provides structured information as outlined below.

Section	Content
1 (max 1 side)	Title What is the problem that you are aiming to solve? What is your proposed solution and how does your proposal address the following key Big Beat Challenge criteria? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformational advance • Patient and public relevance • Need for funding at this scale
2 (max 3 sides)	Scientific details of the proposal
3 (max 2 sides)	Individual expertise and/or resource contributions of the PI and team members (co-applicants)
4 (max 1 side)	Key milestones with approximate cost of each milestone
5 (max 1 side)	Provisional plans for management and governance
6 (max 1 side)	Any additional information

Explanatory notes for Case for Support:

General requirements: Applications should be written in English. Costs should be in British pounds sterling (GBP). The PDF document should not exceed 9 sides of A4 (no appendices or letters of support are allowed). Each PI may lead only one application. Participation as team member (co-applicant) in multiple applications is allowed.

Section 1: Summarise the problem or unmet need that you wish to tackle, why it is of patient/public relevance, what your research solution is, how it will lead to a transformational advance and why it needs funding of this scale. **In brief, sell us your big idea.**

Although we recognise that better implementation of current evidence, especially in developing countries, is also a challenge and may result in important gains, this is something that national health systems need to deliver. Proposals based primarily around implementation without a substantial research component are not within the remit of the Big Beat Challenge.

Section 2: Explain the background to your proposal and the current state of the field, your scientific aims, your methodology and indications of feasibility. Explain the key hurdles that you need to (and expect to) overcome. Include brief details of risk mitigation. Provide key references that support your plans but keep them to a minimum. **In brief, tell us what you plan to do and why you expect it to work.**

Section 3: For the PI and each team member (co-applicant): (1) Provide name, institution/organisation, job title and where available professional web site address; (2) Describe individual expertise and/or resource contribution(s) to the project.

In brief, tell us why you are the best team to deliver this project.

Note that further team members may be added if the proposal is shortlisted for full application.

Section 4: Describe the key milestones in the project, how long each milestone might take and approximately how much it will cost to deliver each milestone. A Gantt chart may be included within the space allowed. **In brief, convince us that you have thought carefully about the key steps in delivering the project and the critical stop/go elements.**

Note that the milestones and the Gantt chart may be refined if the proposal is shortlisted for full application.

Section 5: Explain the proposed management and governance structure, including financial management and management of any industry participation with regard to IP and related matters. Are you thinking of setting up a separate entity to deliver the project? If the project is to be led by an industrial entity, explain how it will be managed independently of the commercial interests of that entity. Please note that BHF rules prohibit the involvement of entities connected with the tobacco industry. **In brief, convince us that you have plans for effective and robust management and governance of the project.**

Note that there will be an opportunity to further refine the management and governance structure in dialogue with the BHF (if necessary) if the proposal is shortlisted for full application. Ultimately, the Trustees of the BHF will have to approve any delivery structure consistent with our position as a medical research charity funded through public support.

Section 6: This is an opportunity to include any other information to articulate your vision and support your proposal. For example, describe any complementary secured or potential funding for the proposal from other sources or advise about any commercially sensitive information that has been provided. Please do not repeat information that should be provided in the other sections. **In brief, use this section to tell us of other things that you feel will help to assess your proposal.**

Conditions:

At the outline stage, we are not requesting signatures from team members (co-applicants) or their institutions. By submitting an application, the Principal Investigator and the Lead Institution confirm that they have the approval of all team members named in the application to make the submission.

By submitting an application, the applicants agree to:

- The information they provide to be shared within the BHF and accessed by external individuals for the purpose of assessing the application (all such individuals will be bound by rules of confidentiality) and to be used for the administration of any grant.
- The lay summary and extracts from the application to be used in confidence with potential donors for the purpose of raising funds for the Big Beat Challenge.
- Aggregate data from all applications to be used for the purpose of discussing and promoting the Big Beat Challenge. This may involve publishing some personal information, such as the name and job title of the PI and team members.

If the proposal is shortlisted for full application, additional information on relevant BHF Terms & Conditions, including those related to seed funding to facilitate the development of the full application, will be provided.

Assessment:

All outline applications will initially be considered by an in-house BHF team led by the Medical Director and including input from different areas of the Foundation. Those that are judged not to satisfy the vision and criteria for the Big Beat Challenge and those that are deemed to be less compelling will not be taken forward to the next stage. At the second stage, a Special Panel including current and/or previous chairs/vice chairs of BHF Research Funding Committees and other co-opted members will review, grade and discuss the remaining applications. In parallel, a public and patient group, specially convened for the Big Beat Challenge, will also review and grade these applications. The recommendations from these deliberations will be used to create a list of up to 20 applications, which will go forward to be assessed by the International Advisory Panel (IAP) assembled for the Big Beat Challenge. The IAP, which will include lay representatives, will review, grade and discuss the applications and recommend a shortlist that should be progressed to full application with seed funding support. The process will be overseen by the BHF Board of Trustees, who will approve the final shortlist.

Assessors will not grade applications where they have a conflict of interest.

Outcome:

Applicants will be informed of the outcome on completion of the assessment process, anticipated to be in late 2019. Detailed scientific feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants and there will be no right of appeal.

Please address any queries to: bigbeatchallenge@bhf.org.uk