**University of Glasgow Innovation Cluster Development Fund**

**Application Form**

The Innovation Cluster Development Fund (‘The Fund’) is a new, exciting short-term and time-limited opportunity to provide agile support and resource that can contribute to the next stage in an innovation’s commercial development journey.

The Fund is open to all academic staff at the University of Glasgow (including post-doctoral researchers and PhD students[[1]](#footnote-2)) and prospective University spin-outs.

Supporting projects that align to the emerging University of Glasgow innovation clusters (Health & Life Sciences, Critical Tech, Energy and Net Zero, Creative Arts and Social Sciences and Social innovation), this early-stage Fund will assist project leaders to validate and mature innovations that may have potential for a spin-out venture or worthy of exploration through other commercialisation routes.

Completed application forms (**in Microsoft Word format**) must be submitted electronically to the University of Glasgow's Innovation mailbox:**innovation@glasgow.ac.uk****by 12:00 (noon) on 3 February 2025.** Late applications will not be considered.

**Note:** It is important that you **read and understand the** [**Application Briefing Document**](https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/ris/ieed/innovation/trainingopportunitiesevents/cluster%20fund/) before completing your application. Please confirm you have done so by checking this box [ ]

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| **1. Applicant (PI)** For definition of Early Career Researcher, please see Applicant Briefing Document  | Name of Principal Investigator:  E-mail Address of Principal Investigator: School / College: Are you applying as an Early Career Researcher: yes/no   Gender (optional):  |
| **2. Project Start Date and Duration** (please refer to Fund guidelines): |   |
| **3. Funding Requested**: (please refer to Fund guidelines): | £ **[Add Total Requested from The Fund here]**[Note: A full project budget breakdown should be added to Section 13] |
| **4. Short Project Title**: (max. 15 words)  |   |
| **5. Non-confidential/Public Summary**: (max 200 words) please provide a non-confidential summary of the project in lay terms.  |
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| **6. Confirm the stage of maturity of your project/innovation:** |
| * Idea stage, no further development yet ☐
* A working version, but not tested with users yet ☐
* A product/service validated by users ☐
* A market-ready product or service ☐
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| **7. Problem Overview:** Please provide a brief description of the problem (including its scope, scale, and severity) and describe the unmet (or poorly met) need you are trying to address. (max. 400 words)  |
|   |
| **8. Your Solution:** Please provide a non-technical (as much as is possible) description of your idea, including the impact your solution will have. Include relevant diagrams and photos if available. (max. 1000 words)  |
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| **9. Project Plan, Activities and Resources:** Please describe the work packages (e.g. technical and commercial) you think need to be completed to enable you to take your proposal to the next phase in its commercial development journey. Examples of work packages enabling progress towards investor readiness might include: * Customer / market / venture opportunity validation
* Assessing competitive advantages and unique selling points
* Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) credentials (i.e. measurable environmental / social impacts) - [See definition here](https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/business-guidance/guidance-articles/sustainability/what-is-esg-a-guide-for-smaller-businesses#:~:text=ESG%20%E2%80%93%20short%20for%20Environmental%2C%20Social,transparent%20and%20accountable%20it%20is.)
* Develop prototype / preliminary testing
* Intellectual property protection
* Identifying an entrepreneurial lead
* Business / financial plan; investor deck

Please provide details of the activities that will be undertaken throughout this project for each work package, and who will undertake the work. [If applicable, please provide an overview of all project collaborators and the roles and responsibilities of each partner within the project].Justify why the requested resources are needed and explain how they will be used.  Please include key milestones, their timelines, major risks associated with the work and the success criteria (including go/no-go decision points, if relevant).  Please describe the expected outcomes and impacts. Please also include information on potential next steps beyond this award (including plans for follow up funding). (max. 1000 words) |
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| **10. Intellectual Property (IP) and competitor landscape:** Please describe existing IP (source and ownership) and any competing technologies or products in the area. Please include information of any dependency your project may have on other people or organisations. *Where do you see the potential for generation of new IP. Please note, successful applicants may be asked to make a formal invention disclosure, if not already done so*. (max. 600 words)  |
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| **11. Conflict of Interest Disclosure:** **All Applicants must declare any conflict of interest below:** Conflict of interests are defined as per [University of Glasgow conflict of interest policy](https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/strategy/ourpolicies/conflictsofinterest/). If no conflict of interest exists, please type n/a in box below.  |
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| **12. Confirmation of the above conflict of interest disclosure** **Name(s) and Date(s)                                              Signature(s)**  |
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**13. Funding:** Provide a breakdown (e.g. sub-contract; staff; consumables, travel, other)

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| **Project Costs**  | **Details**  | **Costs (£)**  |
| Staff Resources  |   |   |
| Consumables (please list equipment separately)  |   |   |
| Travel  |   |   |
| Sub-Contractors   |   |   |
| Other |  |  |
|   | **Total Direct Costs**  |   |

***UofG staff buy-out/appointments:*** If applicable, and for staff buy-out, please fill out the Small Grants Costing Template to assist with costings for UofG staff buy-out/appointments and attach this to your application. The Application Form and Costing Template can be downloaded [from the website](https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/ris/ieed/innovation/trainingopportunitiesevents/cluster%20fund/) and must be returned in Microsoft Excel format.

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| Please provide details of any other grants you have had or have, to develop the solution described in this application e.g. Translational Research Initiative, Impact Acceleration Accounts, Glasgow Knowledge Exchange Fund, SE High Growth Spin Out Programme, other?   |   | £  |
| **Spin-Out Enterprises / Separate Legal Entities ONLY (i.e. outwith University of Glasgow). Referring to the Subsidy Control provisions within the Award Letter and Terms & Conditions, please detail here any Subsidy or Minimal Financial Assistance received\*\*\*:** |
| *[Detail any Subsidy or Minimal Financial Assistance received in this Box] – max 300 words]* |
| **\*\*\*Please note – subsidies or minimal financial assistance may include:**(a) any minimal financial assistance awarded to You under the Subsidy Control Act 2022; (b) any subsidies granted to You under the transitional arrangements pursuant to the Trade and Co-operation Agreement (“TCA”) between the UK and the EU; (c) de minimis aid granted under the Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013; (d) any COVID related payments You have received in respect of Your activities, and (e) any other public sector funding received by You (and which includes Your group companies) in total in the preceding 3 years from a UK or EU public authority (NB this must not exceed the limits in the Subsidy Control Act 2022 (£315,000) |
| **10. Alignment to the UN SDGs (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):**Through the [UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) we have a [collective mission across the University](https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media_1125175_smxx.pdf) to use our science, research, innovation, teaching and community action to effect change at a local and global level. We frame our impact in the form of case studies to demonstrate our progress towards the SDGs. Please indicate each SDG relevant to your project, below:**SDG 1** – no poverty ☐ **SDG 2** – zero hunger ☐ **SDG 3** – good health and wellbeing ☐ **SDG 4** – quality education ☐ **SDG 5** – gender equality ☐ **SDG** **6** – clean water and sanitation ☐ **SDG 7** – affordable and clean energy ☐ **SDG 8** – decent work and economic growth ☐ **SDG 9** – industry, innovation and infrastructure ☐ **SDG 10** – reduced inequalities ☐ **SDG 11** – sustainable cities and communities ☐ **SDG 12** – responsible consumption and production ☐ **SDG 13** – climate action ☐ **SDG 14** – life below water ☐ **SDG 15** – life on land ☐ **SDG 16** – peace, justice and strong institutions ☐ **SDG 17** – partnerships and goals ☐  |

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| **15. Signed by Applicant**   |   |
| **16. Name and Date**  | **Signature**  |
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Thank you for the completing this form and best of luck with your application. Successful applicants will be notified of the outcome on or around **17 February 2025**.

1. Please see Fund Guidance - In the case of PhD students, to be eligible for Fund monies, a Principal Investigator (UofG employee) Budget Holder must be identified for the Project; and PhD students must assign any and all intellectual property rights arising from the Project to the University of Glasgow. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)