



CAI Research Project Grant 2017

Draft Call Details and Eligibility

Objective:

The CAI Research Project Grant is intended to support specific research projects in the specialty of Anaesthesia, intensive care or pain medicine, undertaken by Irish trainees working in Ireland, with at least one of their supervising co-investigators being in a permanent consultant post in Ireland.

Scope:

The scope of eligible projects may involve relevant basic science, the application of basic science in anaesthesia, intensive care and pain medicine, clinical research including clinical outcomes research, or translational research. Scope may also include pilot clinical studies, feasibility work for large interventional studies, ethical implications of research in Ireland, economic evaluations of interventions, prospective observational studies on a national scale and educational research.

Eligibility:

The grant application must come jointly from at least two individuals:

- One must be a consultant in Anaesthesia, intensive care or pain medicine or equivalent in a permanent post in Ireland, who will be Principal Investigator (PI) and who will supervise or co-supervise the project;
- The co-applicant will be a CAI trainee working in Ireland, or a recent graduate of the Irish training programme. Any other collaborators who will contribute to the project must also be named. Up to five other co-applicants who will contribute in a specific way to the project may be included.

Setting:

The main body of the work must be undertaken in Ireland. It may be in a university science department, in an academic clinical department, or a clinical department of Anaesthesia, intensive care or pain medicine. Collaborative projects involving co-operative research between a basic-science department and a clinical department or between clinical departments undertaking a trial will also be welcomed.

Funding:

- The award shall not exceed €70,000. Whether this is disbursed over one, two or three years shall be at the discretion of the applicant in consultation with the CAI peer reviewing subcommittee.
- This funding may be used for salaries (including Superannuation and USC / PRSI

contributions), laboratory consumables, items of equipment, or for a combination of these expenses. University “overheads” expenses shall be limited to 10% of the total funding awarded.

- A proposal may be submitted to CAI for this award, even if it is under review simultaneously by another research funding agency.
- Where co-funding has been obtained *a priori*, this must be declared in the application.
- In the event that CAI approves a project for funding, and the proposal also receives funding simultaneously from another agency, CAI will seek to co-fund the project with the other agency.
- In circumstances where more than one project is deemed of sufficiently high standard to merit funding, and where funding for the first ranked proposal amounts to less than the total amount made available by CAI, the academic committee may use its discretion to fund or part-fund the second or third ranked submissions.
- Where an approved project exceeds one year in duration, a portion of the agreed funding will be withheld in order to ensure appropriate governance. This will be at the discretion of the peer review subcommittee.

Reporting:

At the completion of the project if it has been conducted within 12 months, or at not less than 12 monthly intervals if a multi-year project, the applicants must jointly submit an annual report on the progress of the research project to the academic committee of CAI. At the completion of the project, a final report including research outcomes (national and international presentations, published abstracts and full peer reviewed manuscripts) must be submitted. The applicants will be expected to present their work at a CAI academic meeting, such as the annual scientific meeting.

Successful applicants are precluded from re-applying for another grant from CAI until the existing project has been discharged to the satisfaction of the academic committee.

How to Apply:

Complete the specific (downloadable) CAI project grant application form, and use further pages to provide:

- A full and detailed description of the research project in 2,000 words (plus references).
- A detailed justification of the CAI Project Grant support requested. This includes any consumable items.
- A list of any resources, including financial, that the host institutions for the project will provide.
- Evidence of Research Ethics Committee approval or Animal Ethics Committee approval where relevant. This is not necessary for submission, but will be required before any grant is disbursed.
- An abbreviated curriculum vitae (one side A4) of the Principal Applicant, the Trainee Applicant and all Collaborators to be provided.
- The Head of Department (unless he or she is the Applicant) and an appropriate officer of the institution administering the grant must sign a declaration on the application form that they are willing to facilitate the study and administer the grant in their institution.

Publications arising from the award should acknowledge the support of CAI.

Other Work:

Any individual employed by the grant will be expected to devote the proportion of his or her time indicated in the application to the research project. The CAI accepts no liability in a claim for compensation for unfair dismissal or a redundancy payment arising from the expiry of the award; contracts of employment will, therefore, normally require the prospective employee, to waive the right to exercise such claims.

The Peer-Review Process:

- Applications shall be made by email to CAI with a designated deadline: late applications will not be processed;
- The Academic Committee of CAI shall appoint a peer-review committee which will consist of two members from its own ranks (one of whom shall be deemed Chairman of this peer-review subcommittee) and two external reviewers, who will usually be from another jurisdiction, e.g. UK. Any member with a conflict of interest cannot be part a peer reviewing subcommittee;
- Submitted applications will be made available to members of the peer reviewing committee who will independently score each application under the following headings:
 - Originality / Novelty;
 - Importance / Relevance to the specialty;
 - Design & Methodology including statistical methodology;
 - Value for funding requested.
 - Feasibility within timescale.
- The Chairman of the peer review subcommittee will collate the comments and scores of all four reviewers and rank the projects in order of merit. At this subcommittee's discretion, the leading applicants may be interviewed to discriminate between closely-ranked applicants or to satisfy themselves about particular aspects of an application.
- The peer review subcommittee may require changes to the applicants protocol or research work plan before awarding the funding, where this peer review process has indicated that the scientific quality of the research would be enhanced by doing so.