AHRC IAA Application Guidance

The AHRC Impact Acceleration Account represents a new opportunity to support and develop impact and partnership through Arts and Humanities research.

We especially welcome proposals for innovative or creative methods of engagement, and from Earlier Career Researchers (either up to 8 years from completion of PhD and/or Lecturer grade).

# Key Outputs, Outcomes, and Impacts

The key goals of the UofG AHRC IAA Project Funding are to:

* **Increase engagement:** increase the breadth and depth of engagement and impactful activity across the College and between SHAPE and STEM disciplines.
* **Develop partnership:** increase the range and depth of relationships that are relevant to our research expertise and strategic to the College and our partners and develop new ways of working in partnership to extend collaborative activity.
* **Increase researcher mobility** and embed non-academic partners in the University through exchange, breaking down barriers between academic and non-academic contexts.
* **Support translational activities** including an increase in commercialisation, social enterprise, policy development, and educational engagement.

# Application Forms, Deadlines and Process

It’s strongly recommended to contact a member of the CoAH AHRC IAA Team for advice and guidance well in advance of submission.

Please email completed application forms together with any letters of support to arts-iaa@glasgow.ac.uk no later than**5pm on the deadline day.**

Download the AHRC IAA Application Form for projects £7,000 or less.

Please note the following considerations when designing your proposal:

* This fund is competitive, so to maximise chances of success seek advice from the Arts KE & Impact team at the earliest possible stage.
* Projects are expected to begin promptly when funds are awarded and must be complete within twelve months of their going live.
* Please carefully consider the resources that you include in your project budget. These are ordinarily expected to be non-staff items such as consumables, venue hire, travel, or equipment.
* If you do wish to appoint a person to carry out some of the work, you should have someone in mind who will be available within the stated timeframe and must comply with relevant University recruitment policies (it is advised to discuss this with School Ops team well in advance).
* Research Assistants, Research Associates, Research Fellows, LTS and Research-only colleagues are very welcome to apply to this call; however, where appropriate they should discuss with PIs, be mindful of any Funder restrictions on their time, and ensure they have a contract of employment for the duration of their proposed IAA project.
* Cross-College and Cross-Council projects are encouraged.
* These funds are expected to be used to address challenges and opportunities, for example challenges that have arisen in the cultural sector in recent years because various converging pressures. However, we will consider quality proposals for all relevant challenges and opportunities, and we particularly invite proposals in the following areas:
	+ Commercialisation and social enterprise
	+ Policy and legislative engagement
	+ Educational engagement and impacts

# Funding Arrangements

It is viewed as advantageous, where appropriate to the type of relationship/sector, that collaborative partners will contribute to the project either financially or in-kind.

Appropriate partner in-kind contributions could be staff time for undertaking part of the project, access to equipment or venues, provision of materials, consumables, or other items.

# Dates and Durations

IAA projects must specify a proposed start date and project duration. If you think that your project may overrun and would like to discuss an extension, please contact the CoAH AHRC IAA Team.

All projects funded in this round must be completed within twelve months of their going live in all cases. Extensions beyond this date are not possible.

# IP Considerations

Ownership and use of any new intellectual property developed through an IAA project will be negotiated. If an external partner organisation is involved, a signed Collaboration Agreement will need to be in place prior to the project starting. Please contact the University Contracts team for advice and assistance.

# Eligible Costs

IAA grants for standard projects are expected to be in the region of £1,000 to £7,000, depending on the stage of the project and whether partnership development or impact generation activities are being funded. IAA funding does not include overheads, but is designed to be flexible and can cover costs such as:

* University staff to undertake elements of the project;
* consumables, travel and subsistence;
* cost associated with secondments between academia and industry;
* small capital equipment items where appropriate
* access to specialist facilities;
* sub-contract costs;
* training costs (for training related to impact generation activities);
* commissioning expert consultants to undertake specialist tasks such as market analysis, product design or a commercial champion to support commercialisation activity
* dissemination costs, especially if innovative and impact evaluation has been properly considered.

Please note, however, that PI salary costs are not eligible. The IAA will not fund academic research or the development of tools exclusively for use in further research.

Please contact the CoAH AHRC IAA Team for advice on design of activities as well as costing.

PhDs and costs associated with studentships are not eligible for IAA funding.

# Assessment of Application

Project applications will be assessed by the IAA Review Panel, a multi-disciplinary group of senior research colleagues from across the College and beyond. Applicants should write their proposal for a non-specialist audience and avoid using discipline-specific terminology and acronyms.

Application review will consider (not listed in any priority order):

* The link to the research base to be built upon, its quality, and the potential scope and likelihood for planned outcomes to be realised
* Degree of clarity on how funding will be used to achieve impact from research
* Strength of involvement of external partners: projects should be collaborative and ideally co-creative, with alignment of goals between researchers and partners.
* Quality of case made, including assessment of the context/need/opportunity, relevance of the research, appropriateness of planned activities and their relationship to planned outcomes, and consideration of how to build on the project outcomes
* Innovation and experimentation in approaches and methods of engagement and alignment of these with partner/stakeholder needs should be highlighted
* Potential for securing or leveraging additional funding
* Risk involved in the project, in relation to impact potential and its significance
* Full consideration of equality sustainability and responsible innovation.

The criteria used on scoring will be as follows:

Essential criteria which must be in place for a project to be funded:

* Scope for intended impact/partnerships outcomes realistic and clearly outlined
* Link to the research base is apparent, relevant and appropriate
* Equality, sustainability, and responsible innovation are well-considered
* Engagement activities appropriate and well-planned
* Appropriate degree/type of collaboration and/or co-creation with partners
* Activities are achievable and appropriately resourced in relation to time and budget

AHRC IAA priorities which will be considered advantageous:

* Will the activities build capacity (e.g., skills, knowledge, or networks) of researchers in the College
* Potential for new, expanded, or deepened partnerships
* proposal outlines innovative approach or engagement activity
* Potential for impact in areas of commercialisation, policy, or education
* Led by Early Career Researcher (8 years from PhD or up to Lecturer role)