

Small Research Project Grants

Application form

We recognise that not all impactful research requires large-scale, multi-year funding. Through our Small Research Grant Programme, we support innovative projects that advance understanding of Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) and improve the clinical care and management of people living with the condition.

We welcome applications from UK-based institutions for original and relevant clinical and social care research. Funding may be used for exploratory studies, pilot projects, or proof-of-concept research that generate new insights and lay the foundations for future, larger-scale investigations. Collaborative projects within the UK are encouraged.

The programme is intended to support standalone research projects and is not available as bridging, extension, or supplementary funding for existing grants, research programmes, or studentships. Current MSA Trust grant holders may apply; however, any proposal must be distinct from and independent of their existing funded research.

Applications for Small Research Grants can be submitted at any time but will only be reviewed quarterly. Please refer to our website for expected timelines. **If you are unsure whether your project is in scope, please [contact us](#) to discuss.**

Funding available: Up to £10,000 per project

Project duration: Single-year or multi-year proposals are eligible

Before applying, please review our [Research Strategy](#)

All applications are handled confidentially by the MSA Trust and its Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP). Where additional specialist expertise is required, applications may be referred to an independent external peer reviewer.

We recognise that applicants may use AI tools to support research and the preparation of their application. As a funder, we adhere to the Research Funders Policy Group's joint statement on the [use of generative AI tools in funding applications and assessment](#). Applicants are expected to follow this guidance when using AI and remain fully responsible for the accuracy, integrity and originality of all content submitted.

Please use this template as a guide.

- Text should be in a font size no smaller than 11 pt
- Section 9 (Project overview) should not exceed two pages
- You may delete the instructional text to conserve space

You may include one additional page for references and relevant preliminary data, provided this information is clearly cited within the main pre-proposal narrative.

Please submit your pre-proposal to research@msatrust.org.uk

1. Project title			
2. Research Priority (please refer to the MSA Trust Research Strategy 2025)	☐ Understanding clinical progression of MSA ☐ Developing an evidence base to inform and improve clinical care for people with MSA ☐ Symptom Management ☐ Mental Health and Quality of Life		
3. Project location			
4. Project start date			
5. Project duration			
6. Lead applicant (please provide CV)			
Name			
Institution			
Address			
Post held*			
Email		Telephone	

7. The Collaborative Team Please name the individuals who will be involved in the project. Note: The MSA Trust strongly encourages collaborative projects among two or more institutions.		
Name	Institution	Email address

8. Costings			
Basic Salary	£	Recurrent expenses	£
London Weighting	£	Materials/consumables	£
National Insurance	£	Other	£
a) Total salary costs	£	b) Total recurrent costs	£
c) Equipment costs	£	Total costs requested (a+b+c)	£
Explanation of costs requested Please refer to the Terms and Conditions (sec 3 point 8) for further explanation			

9. Project overview

- Please present your proposal using no more than two pages, in Arial font size 11 or larger.
- Include any additional resources available to support the research
- Please consider how your research may lead to patient benefit
- You may include one additional page for references, as well as tables or figures containing key supporting data. All supplementary material must be referenced within the main proposal narrative.

Signature of Lead Applicant		Date	
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*Lead applicants must be employed by the Institution listed. Honorary members are not eligible to apply as a lead applicant

Project overview

1. Purpose and background

2. Project plan

3. Expected outcomes