

Biomedical Science Stimulus Award 2018 Webinar Script

Slide	Script
1	<p>Welcome to the webinar for the 2018 Irish Cancer Society Stimulus Awards.</p> <p>This webinar will describe the Stimulus Award for the Biomedical Sciences.</p> <p>If you have any questions, please select the speech bubble on the bottom left of the application window and type your questions. Please note that all questions and answers will be visible to all participants in the webinar.</p>
2	<p>Today we are going to cover the aims of the stimulus award, eligibility criteria, assessment procedure, application procedure, and the application form. Here we will spend time discussing the lay research pitch.</p>
3	<p>The general aims of the Stimulus Awards are to provide an extra injection of funding to allow an existing research project to become highly competitive and impactful. To act as a launch pad for the researcher to pursue large scale extramural funding and to expedite the researcher's career development.</p>
4	<p>There are a number of aims to the stimulus award. It aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To support activities necessary to evolve an existing research project to a point where it can be considered competitive for leveraging large-scale extramural funding2. To support the career development of the early-stage cancer researcher3. To foster national and international collaborations4. To promote innovation and

	5. To further the cancer research knowledge base
5	The eligibility criteria allows for untenured Postdoctoral Scientists who have an existing Biomedical cancer research project. You must be committed to progressing your cancer research career. You must not be tenured for a lectureship position when applying. You must have between 2 and 9 years research experience following the submission date of your doctoral degree. If you are uncertain of your eligibility, please contact grants@irishcancer before applying.
6	Before I go through the application form, I want to bring your attention to the assessment procedure for the Stimulus Award. The deadline for applications is the 24 th October 2018. Applications will be reviewed by an international scientific review panel. They will shortlist the top applicants to progress to stage two. Stage two will comprise of a patient review. The Patient Panel will review the lay research pitch from the shortlisted applicants, which we will discuss later in the webinar. The Patient Panel will choose the successful recipient for this award.
7	I'm going to go through the application form now. To navigate to the online form, go to grants.cancer.ie . Select the Stimulus Award related to Biomedical Science – noted here with the red square. Please ensure you do not select the Social and Allied Health Sciences Stimulus Award as the application forms are quite different. When you have located the Biomedical Science Stimulus Award 2018, select 'apply'.
8	This is the application form. To the left, again noted with a red box, are the sections of the form. You will need to complete each section. Once each section is complete, you will see a small green tick.

9	The first section of the form is the introduction. This section provides you with the objective, funding, and eligibility information. This is the same information as contained in the application guidelines.
10	The next section is the project outline.
11	The project outline is an overview of the project. You will be asked details such as the project title, start date, duration and so on. Please note that projects cannot begin before March 2019 and cannot last longer than 12 months. Please note that the research must take place at an Institution in the Republic of Ireland. This is because research is funded through money raised in the Republic of Ireland.
12	After the project outline, you will be asked to upload your CV . A template is provided on the online system and on our website.
13	After uploading your CV, you will be asked to identify a mentor for your project and state their suitability for you and your project.
14	<p>You must add your mentor to the application and your mentor must confirm their participation. You cannot submit your application unless your mentor has <i>confirmed</i> their participation.</p> <p>Then, once you have submitted your completed application, your mentor must <i>approve</i> the application. Your application will not be reviewed if your mentor has not approved it.</p> <p>Mentor approval must be complete prior to the closing date of 3pm October 24th.</p>
15	You must outline why your chosen mentor is a suitable mentor for you and for this award.
16	Once you have added your mentor, you must then upload a CV for your mentor.

17	This template is different to the applicant CV template. The mentor CV should be completed using the template which is available to download in this section of the online system or from our website.
18	The project summary section of the application is where you will describe the proposed project in detail.
19	<p>First, you will be asked to describe the existing research project which forms the basis of your proposed project. You must describe the background, hypothesis, aims, and results to date of this existing research project.</p> <p>Secondly, you will be asked to outline the proposed project for which the Stimulus Award will fund. You must describe the hypothesis, aims, and objectives for this award in addition to the proposed methodology, and summary/conclusions.</p> <p>Remember, the stimulus Award is intended to enhance an existing research project.</p>
20	The Stimulus Award should act as a stepping stone. As such, you are required to explain how the award will enhance your existing project. The enhancement of a project can be measured by its output.
21	Following the Stimulus award funding period it is expected that you will apply for a competitive research grant to leverage sizable funding from external funding organizations. You will have to provide us with a sustainability plan.
22	<p>You must justify how the Stimulus Award is relevant to you and detail the relevant funding body/bodies to which a future proposal will be submitted.</p> <p>You must detail the eligibility criteria (including applicant eligibility) for the research programme to which a future proposal will be submitted.</p>

	You must Indicate how the Stimulus Award will make you eligible for your selected future proposal and how the Stimulus Award will make your application more competitive.
23	So next we move on to your career development plan. The Stimulus Award not only aims to enhance a research project, but also the career of the recipient.
24	You will be asked to describe the immediate and long-term goals of your career and how the stimulus award will contribute to this.
25	Next I will discuss the Lay Research Pitch section. Which is split into two different sections.
26	The first section is Public and Patient involvement. I will discuss what PPI is and why it is important.
27	<p>What is PPI? PPI stands for public and patient involvement. How people with cancer can interact with research. There are many ways that they can be involved.</p> <p><u>Participation</u>: People with cancer can be recruited into a research study and take part by providing some form of data.</p> <p><u>Engagement</u>: A researcher can communicate and disseminate the research to people with cancer, eg at public talks.</p> <p><u>Involvement</u>: There is where people with cancer are involved with any stage of the research process. The research is therefore conducted ‘with’ or ‘by’ people with cancer.</p>
28	PPI is very important, the Irish Cancer Society are committed to putting patients, families, survivors, supporters and the public at the very heart of what we do. The Irish Governments’ National Cancer Strategy (2017-2026) reinforces this

	<p>commitment. We are working towards embedding PPI in all our research processes.</p> <p>For the Stimulus Awards we are embedding PPI as part of the review process.</p>
29	<p>Next I will discuss the importance of the Lay Research Pitch section of your application. I will give specific guidelines and examples for completing this section.</p>
30	<p>Firstly I would like to bring your attention back to the assessment procedure for the Stimulus Award. Full applications will be reviewed by the Scientific Panel, this will include the lay research pitch. They will shortlist the top applicants to progress to stage 2. Stage 2 will consist of the Patient Panel, they will review the lay research pitch. The Patient Panel will also review the lay research pitch comments and scores provided from the Scientific Review Panel process, and take these into consideration when choosing the final recipient for this award.</p>
31	<p>We have prepared specific guidelines for this section of the application, these guidelines can be found in the Appendix section of the application form and will be discussed in this webinar. You must write the lay research pitch in plain English and it must be understandable to a non-scientific audience. A quick test would be to ask yourself if a 12yr old would understand this pitch. Do not overstate the importance or impact of your findings as you will run the risk of being scored lower before reaching stage two.</p>
32	<p>When writing the lay research pitch you must write it in plain English. Some key guidelines for writing in plain English are as follows. Avoid Technical or Scientific terminology, use everyday words and avoid scientific jargon if possible. Use short clear sentences and paragraphs. Use an active voice throughout.</p>

33	<p>When writing in plain English, do not become casual or unprofessional. For example avoid using the words 'don't' or 'cant'. You must use the correct tone. Ensure all grammar, punctuation and spelling are correct. If there is a lot of information, bullet points can make it easier to digest and follow.</p>
34	<p>Next I will give an examples of Scientific language and plain language.</p> <p>For example, the following is an extract from a scientific abstract “Following treatment of breast cancer cell lines (BT474 and HCC1954) with Drug X, migration and invasion was significantly inhibited”, this is scientific language. When written in plain English, this sentence might read as “When we treated breast cancer cell lines with Drug X, the cell lines used in our study were unable to spread.”</p>
35	<p>You must provide a structured, descriptive and realistic research pitch. Here, you will be asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the problem, issue, or question that you are asking in your research proposal. This is where you will describe the context of your project 2. You should detail why this problem, issue or question is important to patients. This question concerns the impact of your research to patients. 3. Next, describe how your project fits into the broader conversation within this cancer area and what this project adds to that conversation. This question concerns the impact of your research in your scientific field. 4. You must also give details as to how you will publicise your research findings. <p>I will give specific examples with respect to questions 2 and 3.</p>

36	<p>Question 2 is Why is that problem, issue or question important to patients?</p> <p>You need to describe the impact your research will have for patients. The public want to be informed about research. You must therefore adequately communicate your research and only state the true impact.</p>
37	<p>Next I will provide an example of an overstated impact and a true impact to guide you in answering question 2: Why is that problem, issue or question important to patients?</p> <p>Just to note that this is a simplified example and is intended to get the concept of true impact across.</p> <p>Abstract reads as follows: “Sometimes treatments can stop working for a patient. It is important that we find other drugs that the patient can then be treated with when this happens. Our research will tell us if the drug we are working on will stop cancer spreading. If it does then this drug could be a treatment for cancer patients.”</p> <p>This is an overstated impact as this is preliminary work in cancer cell lines.</p> <p>The true impact of this work is: “If it does then we will need to test this drug further in other cancer models in the hope that it can then be tested in clinical trials and potentially be used as a treatment for cancer patients in the future.”</p>
38	<p>Question 3 is How does this project fit into the broader conversation within this cancer area and, importantly, what does it add to the conversation?</p> <p>The nature of this ‘knowledge impact’ is specific to each project and can occur over different timescales. For some research, the impact may be direct in the short or medium term.</p>

	<p>For others, the research will contribute to a wider conversation on cancer with impact becoming apparent in the long term.</p> <p>Knowledge impact recognises the contribution that a particular research project has made towards the advancement of science, and to the cancer research knowledgebase.</p> <p>When communicating impact, it is also useful to identify the different means by which your research can be impactful</p>
39	<p>An example of an answer to this question would be: again, please note that this is a simplified example of an answer to this question.</p> <p>“In all the years of breast cancer research, this is the first time that scientists have identified Drug X as an important drug for targeting breast cancer cells in this way. Drug X prevents the breast cancer cells from making a particular protein that they need to be able to spread. This is a very new discovery in the area of cancer research and we are hopeful that other researchers will use this knowledge and this drug to look at other cancer types in the future.”</p>
40	<p>There are many general resources available online. We have provided the links here and in the application form.</p>
41	<p>So next we move on to the Declarations of Support.</p>

42	<p>We have provided a template on our website and on the online system. A letter of support must be completed on headed paper. You will need two declarations of support for completion of your application, one from your mentor and one from the head of your department. Please note that the deadline for submission of applications is the 24th of October 2018, you must ensure that all required documentation and declarations are submitted on time.</p>
43	<p>Next we will discuss the budget section of the application process.</p>
44	<p>The maximum funding for the Stimulus Award is €30,000 over a 12-month period. Here you will be asked to detail and justify the breakdown of costs for your project. A maximum of €3000 may be budgeted for travel/disseminations costs but must be justified within the remit of the Stimulus Award. Please note, final approval of all budgeted costs is at the discretion of the Irish Cancer Society.</p>
45	<p>You will not be able to submit your application until all required fields are completed. The validation summary will list all sections. Any sections that are not fully completed will be detailed.</p>
46	<p>Finally I want to bring your attention to the assessment procedure and the timelines for the Stimulus Awards.</p> <p>The closing date for applications is the 24th of October.</p> <p>All eligible applications will be reviewed by the Scientific Review Panel and the top applicants will be shortlisted. The Patient Panel will review the lay research pitch of shortlisted applicants and will select the recipient of the Stimulus award. The start date will be March 2019.</p>
47	<p>That concludes our webinar for today. Thank you all for attending.</p>

All FAQ's and a link to the presentation of the webinar with audio and transcript will be on www.cancer.ie in the coming week.

If you require any further assistance with the application or if you have specific questions relating to your eligibility, please contact grants@irishcancer.ie