

Yorkshire Cancer Research
Sheffield Pioneers Fund – Round 5
Internal Outline Application Form
Small Grant Award

Submission deadline: Friday 12th December 2025, 5pm

Outcomes to applicants: Wednesday 25th February 2026

Application Process

Before completing this form, please carefully read the Internal Outline Application Guidance Notes for Round 4 of the YCR Sheffield Pioneers Fund.

You can only submit **one** Internal Outline application as the Principal Applicant to the YCR Sheffield Pioneers 2024 Funding Round. *However, you can also act as a mentor/supervisor for **one** fellowship applicant as a co-Lead applicant (or for **two** fellowship applicants if you are not the principal applicant on another application).*

To submit your application:

- Complete all sections of this application form
- Complete the Google form below. The Google form contains questions required for eligibility checking, administration of the scheme, and the reviewing process. You will not need to duplicate information in this form.

<https://forms.gle/LPtrWq27DWDwURQa7>

- Attach this form to the Google form and press submit

If you require any assistance with completion of the form please contact the email address below as early as possible.

ycr_schemes@sheffield.ac.uk

Lead Applicant Name	
Project Title	Click or tap here to enter text.
Proposal duration (months)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Application Type	Small Grant
Start Date <i>Cannot be earlier than March 2027</i>	Click or tap to enter a date.
Academic Age See Academic Age section of the Information for Applicants document for information on how to complete this.	Gross Academic Age (FTE): X years and Y months Net Academic Age (FTE): X years and Y months

Project Details

Please ensure that you remain within the word limits given for each section of the form. This **will be checked** and any **excess words will be removed prior to submission to reviewers**. References and figure headings do not contribute to word counts.

Plain English Lay Summary (450 words) Refrain from using specialist abbreviations and technical terms. This summary should be understandable and clear to members of the public with no specialist knowledge.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Brief background, aims and objectives, methodology (1500 words) Figures may be included in this section or as a separate uploaded document (referenced within this section). If you choose to upload figures, any words in addition to figure headings will be included in this total.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Specialist summary (200 words) The specialist summary should be a clear and concise summary of the detailed research plan described in the section above.
Click or tap here to enter text.
Unmet Need (300 words) What is the unmet need that this proposal addresses? Where relevant please provide evidence of the clinical or market need for the proposed research. This is critical to assess the desirability of the proposed intervention where the aim is to deliver patient benefit. Please note that this section may not be appropriate for non-clinical projects. In such cases, please enter 'Not applicable' in this box and the reason why.
Click or tap here to enter text.
University of Sheffield Strategic Need (300 words) Please clearly state the benefits that this work taking place within the University of Sheffield will yield. You should also outline how the work will lead onto larger pieces of research as relevant to the University's Cancer Research strategy.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Expected Outcomes, impact and benefit (500 words)

What impact could your research have during the lifetime of the Award and beyond? Proposals must deliver against one or more of the five themes within the University's Cancer

Research Strategy:

- Theme 1: Cancer epidemiology, population health and early diagnosis
- Theme 2: Digital health, big data, advanced diagnostic technologies - rethinking the delivery of cancer care
- Theme 3: Translational and precision cancer medicine
- Theme 4: Improving the outcomes for cancer patients
- Theme 5: Enhancing patient experience and voice

Proposals should have a vision and plan to demonstrate impact from the step-change in research excellence in at least one of the following:

- Inform prevention, early diagnosis, better treatments and improved survival rates to prevent cancer-related morbidity and mortality
- Improve the quality of life for individuals (and/or their families) living with a cancer diagnosis
- Address issues relating to health disparities (particularly in our region).
- How the research will develop capacity in Sheffield.

You will be asked to consider this impact and how the output can be effectively measured, captured and evaluated.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Describe your plans to involve patients and/or the public in your research (350 words)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Commercialisation and Knowledge Exchange (300 words)

The following training resources may be helpful for completing this section:

- <https://staff.sheffield.ac.uk/rpi/knowledge-exchange/knowledge-exchange-training-programme>

If you are developing a health intervention you can read about the commercialisation journey here:

<https://staff.sheffield.ac.uk/rpi/commercialisation> and register your idea/ concept here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1y6mhjXqctIVck70bmWCUKSDoz0Vadcbj5LJznJMpeWE/viewform?edit_requested=true.

For more general information about KE support as you develop your application, please see

<https://staff.sheffield.ac.uk/rpi/knowledge-exchange>.

Faculty-specific KE Team contact details are available at <https://staff.sheffield.ac.uk/rpi/knowledge-exchange/ke-contacts>

Please use the following contacts for help, depending on what you are proposing:

- *A collaborative interaction with non-academic external partner(s) - please contact your Faculty Knowledge Exchange team.*
- *A potential new medical intervention e.g. a new therapeutic, diagnostic or medical device- please contact the Commercialisation Team*

(see **Key Contacts** at end of this document)

(1) Please describe what knowledge and other research outputs (e.g. methods, processes, results and/or data) you will create through this project.

Click or tap here to enter text.

(2) Please list any materials/data sets/ questionnaire instruments you will be using from external sources, and whether or not agreements are in place for their use.



Click or tap here to enter text.

(3) If your proposal involves engagement with non-academic external partners:

(3a) Has ownership of the anticipated research outputs been discussed and are any agreements in place (e.g. Heads of terms, NDAs, MTA, collaboration agreement etc.)

Click or tap here to enter text.

(3b) Describe partner contributions and if they are making financial and/or in-kind contributions.

Click or tap here to enter text.

(4) What further research and development steps you need to take beyond your proposal here to ultimately be able to benefit patients and realise the expected impact (detailed above)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Costings

These are **indicative** Directly Incurred costs – **approval from the RPI pricing team (via the Costing and Award Tool) is not required** at this stage. **Please refer to the supplied ‘YCR Pioneer Costing Calculator Oct 2025’ excel spreadsheet to calculate approximate staff costs.** N.B. Costs should not increase by more than 10% between the outline and Full application stages unless specifically requested by the Internal Review Panel.

Estimated total cost	£
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University of Sheffield Costs

Staff (name/role)	Grade	Indicative Cost
[add more rows as required]		
Non-staff Costs		Indicative Cost
Consumables		
Equipment <£10k		
Equipment >£10k		
Travel		
PPIE		
Impact & dissemination		
Facilities (e.g. specialist laboratory services)		
Open access publication		
Other, Please specify:		

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Costs

It is essential that applications involving STH are registered with the Clinical Research and Innovation Office **as early as possible**; to register your project, please complete a [registration form](#) and return to STH.ResearchAdministration@nhs.net.

N.B. Approved costs are not needed at Outline stage, just an indication of your likely resource needs. Early engagement with CRIO and STH Research Finance is vital so that they can provide enough cost detail to ensure that costs are within 10% of a full costing should the application be invited to stage 2.

Staff (name/role)	Grade	Indicative Cost
[add more rows as required]		
Non-staff costs		Indicative Cost
Consumables		
Laboratory/Sample costs		
Other, Please specify:		

External Collaborator Costs

Staff (name/role)	Grade	Indicative Cost
[add more rows as required]		

Non-staff Costs	Indicative Cost
Other, Please specify:	

Collaborators/Partners

Name	Organisation	Contact Email	Role in project Describe what they will bring to the project in terms of expertise and/or resource
			[add more rows as required]

Prior Submissions

Has this project been submitted to the Sheffield Pioneers Scheme previously?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, which stage was this submitted to?	Outline <input type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the proposal, or a related version of it, been submitted to another funder?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Funder	Date Submitted	Outcome
[add more rows if required]		
Please provide details of how this application has been changed in order to address any feedback received. This should be <u>brief</u> - a full rebuttal is <u>not</u> required. Please note that external reviewers will not see this response. (500 words)		

Please attach all feedback received to the Google Form when submitting your application

Key contacts for support

Scheme guidance

UoS Cancer Research Growth Officer	z.l.lingard@sheffield.ac.uk (Zoe Lingard)
General UoS cancer research queries	ycr_schemes@sheffield.ac.uk
Yorkshire Cancer Research	research@ycr.org.uk

University Cancer Research Strategy

UoS Cancer Research Strategy Manager	r.corcoran@sheffield.ac.uk (Rachel Corcoran)
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Faculty Hub contacts

Faculty of Health Hubs:

Clinical Medicine/Neuroscience	medreshub@sheffield.ac.uk
Dentistry/Allied Health Professionals, Nursing & Midwifery	ahpnm-denreshub@sheffield.ac.uk
Population Health	population-healthreshub@sheffield.ac.uk

Faculty of Science Hubs:

Science Research Support Hub	rs-science@sheffield.ac.uk
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Faculty of Engineering Hubs:

School of Chemical, Materials and Biological Engineering	cmbe-preaward-reshub@sheffield.ac.uk
School of Computer Science	COM-preaward-reshub@sheffield.ac.uk
School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering	EEE-preaward-reshub@sheffield.ac.uk
School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering	MAC-preaward-reshub@sheffield.ac.uk

Faculty of Social Science Hubs:

Education, Information School, Journalism, Sociological Studies, iHuman & CIRCLE	fss-researchhub1@sheffield.ac.uk
Economics, Management School, Politics	fss-researchhub2@sheffield.ac.uk
Architecture and Landscape, Geography and Planning, Sheffield Urban Institute	built-environment-research-hub@sheffield.ac.uk

Faculty of Arts and Humanities Hubs:**Faculty of Arts & Humanities Research Support Hub**artsresearchhub@sheffield.ac.uk**Sheffield Teaching Hospital****Clinical Research and Innovation Office (CRIO)**sth.criogrants@nhs.net**Intellectual Property (IP) and Commercialisation contacts**<https://staff.sheffield.ac.uk/rpi/contacts/ip-commercialisation>**Faculty-facing Knowledge Exchange contacts****Arts & Humanities**l.hilton@sheffield.ac.uk**Engineering**gordon.bishop@sheffield.ac.uk**Health**v.hand@sheffield.ac.uk**Science**k.m.pruszyński@sheffield.ac.uk**Social Science**rachael.black@sheffield.ac.uk