

# Programme Overview

## **BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships**

**£1.1M in funding for business academic partnerships to solve industrially-relevant challenges using STFC facilities**

BBSRC and STFC will support UK bioscience researchers and businesses in accessing and benefitting from access to STFC skills, expertise, capabilities and world class facilities.

# Programme Overview

**BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships**

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**STFC Contact:**

**Annabel Dominey/Ric Allott**

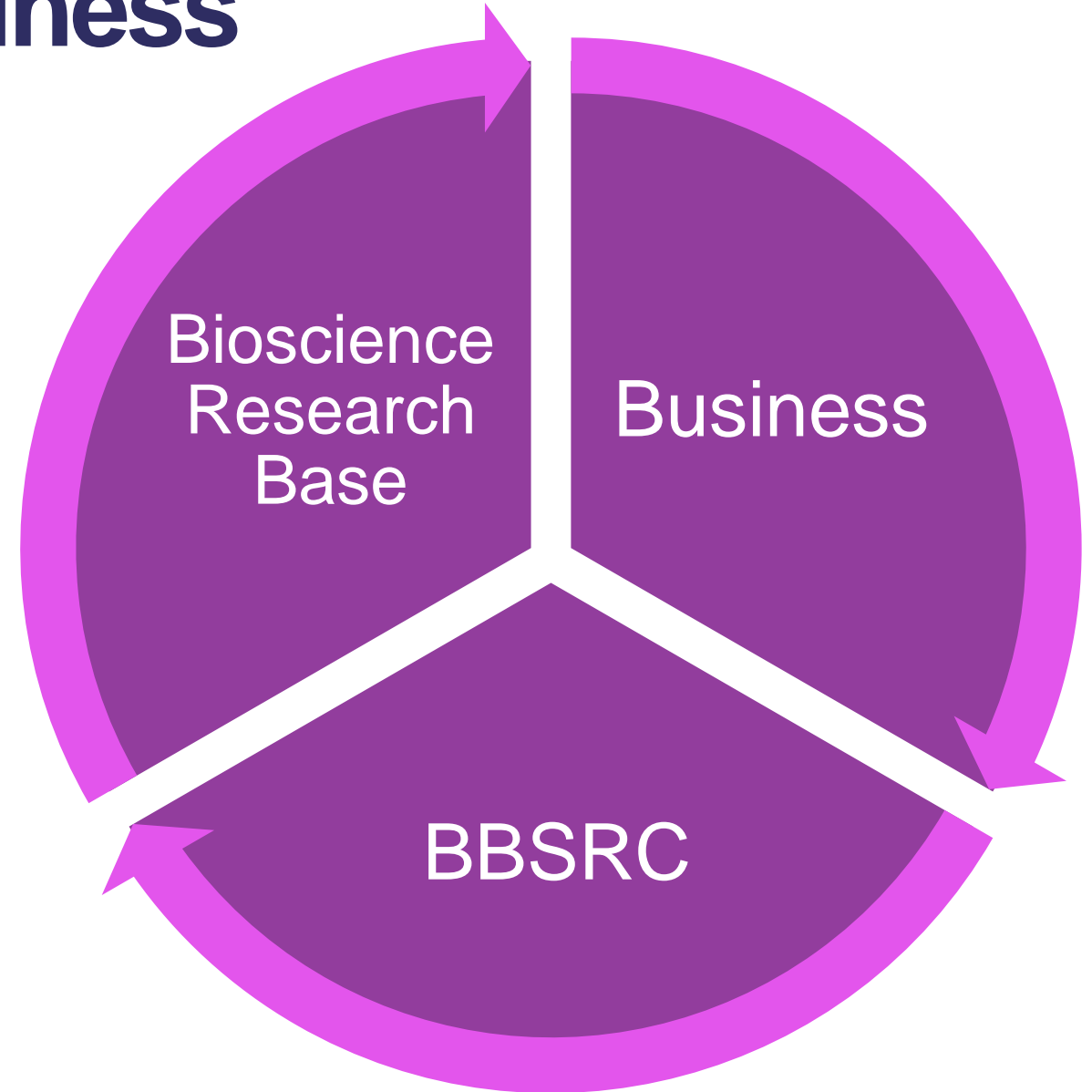
STFC

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# How we work with Business

## BBSRC supports collaboration

- Creating opportunities for engagement.
- Strengthening and developing links with the users of bioscience research.
- Enabling the bioscience research base to respond to industry challenges.



# Introduction

## BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

### Overview

We are inviting applications from UK business and bioscience academic partnerships to access and benefit from STFC skills, expertise, and unique facilities to **solve industrially-relevant challenges**.

The programme supports access to advanced analytical technologies, expertise, and capabilities, at STFC's large-scale facilities in the UK, such as at Harwell and Daresbury, including **neutrons, X-rays, lasers, and high-performance computing**.

The Expression of Interest stage requires companies to submit a 'challenge statement' to describe a problem. An academic partner is only required for the full proposal stage.

The expression of interest will be assessed based upon **whether STFC can offer a solution to the problem, the nature of the partnership, or how you will identify a partnership, and the benefit of solving the problem and/or potential for impact**.

# Introduction

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships



## What support is available?

Funding type	Grant
Total Fund	£1,100,000
Award range	£10,000 - £100,000
Earliest start date	1 April 2023
Expected duration	Up to 1 year
Latest end date	31 March 2024

BBSRC and STFC will cover 100% of the facility costs, and 80% of the full economic cost of the academic component.

# Business partners

Partnerships to address crop pest and diseases in UK agriculture and horticulture

## Who can be a business partner?

Expression of interest stage is industry-led.

To be an eligible business for funding you must:

- be a UK based business registered at Companies House
- have a manufacturing base for the relevant product in the UK or provide the relevant service in the UK
- intend to exploit the results in the UK

Subsidy control rules apply.

# Business partners

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships



## Company contribution?

A contribution will be required from business partners, for each award.

**This contribution will be a percentage of the STFC facility costs,** dependent on the size of the business.

Academic costs are covered at 80% FEC.

Company size	STFC facility costs	Academic costs	Business contribution	Business contribution	Total project value
Large	£30,000	£20,000	50 %	£15,000	£65,000
Medium	£30,000	£20,000	40 %	£12,000	£62,000
Small	£30,000	£20,000	30 %	£9,000	£59,000
Micro	£30,000	£20,000	30 %	£9,000	£59,000

Contributions from business partners can be in-kind or in cash

# Business partners

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## What counts as in-kind?

In-kind contributions should **meaningfully contribute** to the objectives of the project and be justified in the application.

Examples of potential contributions include:

- Salary of employees for hours worked on the project, including:
  - preparing for experiments
  - time spent at the facilities undertaking experiments
  - analysing results
- Experimental material



# Scope

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## What is in scope?

The focus of the programme is to assist academic-industry collaborative R&D partnerships in accelerating the **development of new products or services requiring further research and innovation at proof-of-concept stage**.

Business applicants must articulate how solving their challenge will create wider economic, societal, or commercial outcomes, and routes to market or use.

We will not fund projects about:

- market analysis
- fundamental research which is not industrially relevant
- standard testing and measurement services readily available commercially or via academic partners



Biotechnology and  
Biological Sciences  
Research Council

# Scope

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## What is in scope?

This pilot funding will support academic-industry collaborative R&D partnerships for industrially-relevant research and innovation about **bioscience and biotechnology in BBSRC's remit**.

BBSRC funds research in areas including **plants, microbes, animals, and tools and technologies underpinning biological research**. BBSRC also funds research into:

- **Humans:** including human physiology, cell biology, genetics and genomics if it's relevant to understanding normal human function (but not if it's focused on specific human diseases or abnormal conditions)
- **Animal diseases:** but not studies primarily involving animal models of human disease and human toxicology, including drug toxicity
- **Pharmaceuticals:** development of novel therapeutics for example, the effects and interactions of drugs with cells and cell components like enzymes, receptors and drug transporters.

# Scope

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## What is in scope?

This pilot funding will support academic-industry collaborative R&D partnerships for industrially-relevant research and innovation about **bioscience and biotechnology in BBSRC's remit**.

### For example:

- A project investigating the structure of drug molecules using X-rays **would not be in remit** because this as it relates to drug discovery which is not in BBSRC's remit
- However a project exploring the structure of drug molecules using X-rays to understand how they pass across the cell membrane **would be in remit** as this relates to bioscience for an integrated understanding of health

For further information please see the BBSRC website, or email: [business.unit@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:business.unit@bbsrc.ukri.org)

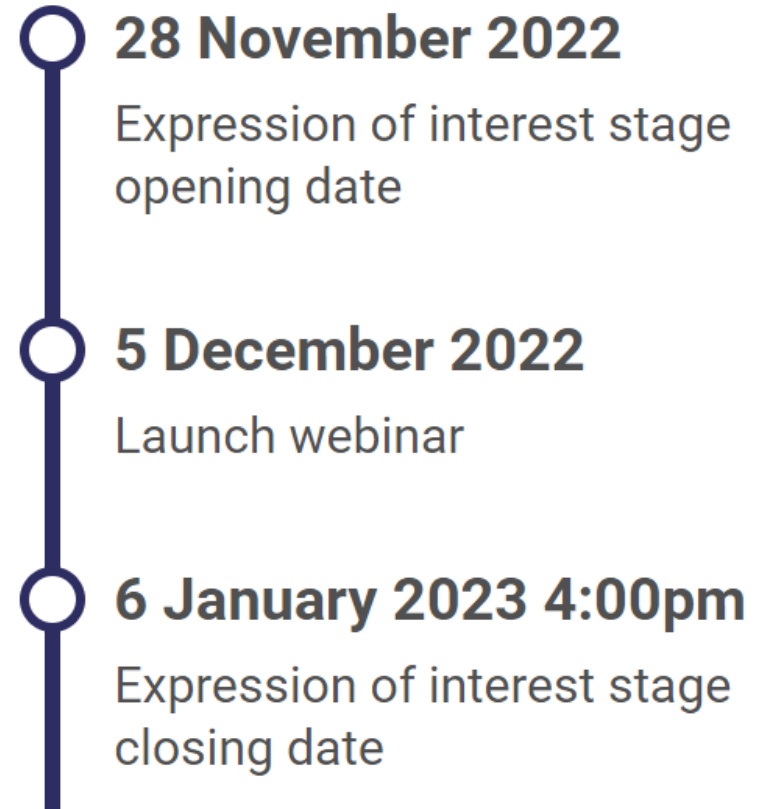
# Making your application

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## How to apply?

Expression of interest stage:

- Industry-led stage
- Submit via email by company
- Challenge statement (500 words)
- Indicate any ethical considerations
- No workplan required
- **No Academic partner required**



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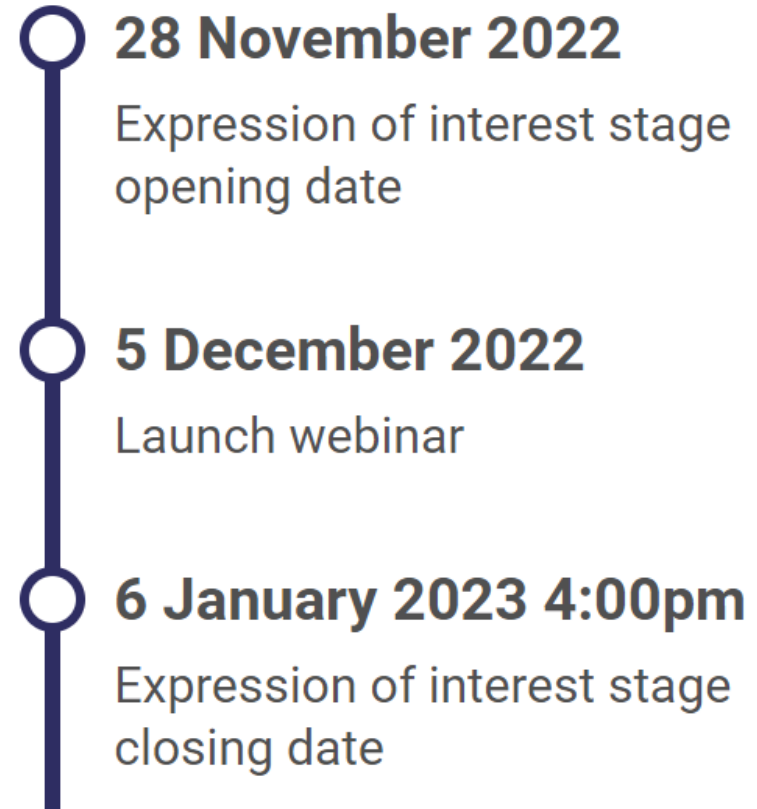
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# Making your application

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## How to apply?

### BBSRC STFC facility access fund for bioscience partnerships

#### Expression of interest - Application Form

*The BBSRC STFC facility access fund for bioscience partnerships is designed to accelerate the development of new products or services requiring further research and innovation at proof-of-concept stage, through STFC Facilities and expertise. The programme is not designed for fundamental research which is not industrially relevant (see **note 1**).*

#### **To apply for funding:**

Complete the sections below. The Challenge Statement should be limited to approximately 500 words.

Once completed please forward to: [business.unit@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:business.unit@bbsrc.ukri.org)

# Making your application

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## How will your application be assessed?

Challenge statements will be assessed by the panel on the following 3 questions:

1. Can STFC potentially offer a solution for the work that is required?
2. Do you have an ongoing relationship with an academic research partner and if so, what is the nature or structure of that partnership and how does it relate to the proposed challenge? If there is no pre-existing partnership, how will you identify and build a relationship, in the time available, in a way which will enable effective collaboration for the challenge you have outlined?
3. Does the proposed idea have a clear benefit and, or, potential for impact?



# Making your application

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## How to apply?

**Academic partner  
required!**

Full proposal stage:

- Academic-led stage
- Submit via JeS by academic lead
- Proposal form
- Case for support
- Data management plan
- CVs of named applicants (2 sides A4)
- Full proposal stage application form



# Making your application

BBSRC STFC facility access funding for bioscience partnerships

## How will your application be assessed?

Invited applications at the full proposal stage will be assessed against the following criteria:

- scientific and technical excellence and partnership: the extent to which the proposal describes a scientifically excellent approach, the extent to which the partners benefit from the proposed work, and the potential for knowledge exchange
- potential for impact: the extent to which the proposal demonstrates a clear pathway or mechanism towards a realistic set of anticipated benefits, including evidence of value for money
- suitability of STFC to solve the problem: the extent to which STFC has the relevant expertise and facilities to tackle the problem
- project work plan: is the approach described in the proposal logical, reasonable, and clearly defined?

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