Arts and Humanities Impact Accelerator Fund – February 2023 Call

What is the Impact Accelerator Fund?

The Impact Accelerator Fund aims to enhance the non-academic impact of arts and humanities research. The Fund supports projects that develop productive, sustainable relationships with collaborators and research users in the private, third, or public sector to enable research impact. For this call, up to £15K (including VAT) is available for short projects which need to be completed by 31 July 2023.

Who can apply?

The Arts and Humanities Impact Accelerator Fund is open to Principal Investigators employed within any University department with project proposals within the AHRC remit (p. 91). Applicants do not need to have previously held AHRC funding to be eligible. Interdisciplinary projects with a major arts and humanities component are also welcome.

What costs are eligible?

Funding can be used to support a wide range of activities, including but not limited to:

- Activities targeting policy, business and the third sectors
- Performances of dramatic or musical works
- Exhibitions & public engagement activities
- The production of software, websites etc
- Engagement with schools/educational institutions
- Incoming and outgoing placements (artist in residence or outgoing secondment)

This fund is for IMPACT activities only. Primary research cannot be supported.

Awards can cover research staff costs and associated project costs. For this call, please only include staff costs where the RA has been identified and available to commence work on the project. The funds requested should be appropriate for the grant duration and the resources required to realise the project’s objectives. Buyout of teaching and costs associated with publishing a journal article, are not eligible. If your application will include funding for staff, please contact bwilk@essex.ac.uk to ensure staff costs are correctly costed before submitting your application a minimum of 3 working days in advance of the deadline. Please do not contact REO Pre-Award for costings.

How to apply

Please complete the application form and return to policy-engagement@essex.ac.uk. The deadline for applications is 6 March. Applications will be reviewed by a panel and outcomes are expected to be communicated w/c 13 March. Please discuss your application with your Research Impact Officer prior to submission.

Post award processes

Successful applicants will be allocated a faculty code to spend against and the deadline for spend against the code is 31 July 2023. No spending is permitted after this date (please note that there is no facility to rollover unspent funds into the next financial year). All recipients will be required to complete a short report at the end of the funding and all engagement and impact activities, and any outcomes and impact should be documented on the RIS-Impact Module.

Standard university ethics processes apply to all funded projects. Applicants should demonstrate that the ethical implications of their project have been considered, particularly in relation to human participants. Ethics review will continue to operate through the University’s Ethics Review and Monitoring System (ERAMS), where applications for ethical approval are submitted. For this call, if your application will require ethical approval, please be prepared to submit this as soon as possible after outcomes are communicated, you cannot receive a cost code to begin the project until you have obtained ethical clearance.

Impact Accelerator Fund closed call (February 2023)