

## Rapid Response Impact Fund 2024-2025

### Guidance notes

#### What is the Rapid Response Impact Fund?

The Rapid Response Impact Fund aims to enhance the non-academic impact of research. This is a rolling fund to provide short-term, smaller amounts of funding, up to **£2,500** (including VAT), **allowing researchers to respond quickly to opportunities for impact**. The purpose of this fund is to support activities related to timely opportunities that require a quick turnaround. The Fund supports activities that help to build relationships with stakeholders and research users in the private, third, or public sector to enable research impact.

Please note that the rapid response element of the call refers to the impact activities being responsive and needing to be undertaken quickly (not pre-planned activities where the work could occur any time).

#### Who can apply?

The Fund is open to Principal Investigators employed within any University of Essex department/school.

#### What costs are eligible?

This funding is for **impact activities only**. Primary research cannot be supported. Awards can cover research staff costs for those working directly on the project and associated project costs. The funds requested should be appropriate for the grant duration and the resources required to realise the project's objectives. **If your application will include funding for staff, please contact [impact-programmes@essex.ac.uk](mailto:impact-programmes@essex.ac.uk) to ensure staff costs are correctly costed.** Please do not contact the REO Pre-Award team for costings.

#### How to apply

Please complete the Rapid Response Impact Fund application form and return to [impact-programmes@essex.ac.uk](mailto:impact-programmes@essex.ac.uk). This is an open call therefore applications can be made at any time. We expect decisions to be made and notification of outcomes within three weeks. 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 **30 June 2025**. 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. **You cannot receive a cost code to begin the project until you have obtained ethical clearance.**