

Roslin Foundation Open Call 2026–27

Invitation for Applications – Roslin Institute

The **Roslin Foundation** is pleased to announce its **Open Call for 2026–27**, inviting proposals from researchers across the **Roslin Institute**. This funding opportunity supports innovative, collaborative, and impactful research and business development projects in the biosciences, particularly those aligned with agriculture and biomedicine. To date, the Foundation has funded over **75** projects at the Institute, totalling more than **£17 million**.

Purpose of the Call

The Foundation aims to fund projects that advance its mission of supporting research excellence and translational innovation in bioscience. This call offers researchers the chance to explore ambitious ideas with potential for meaningful scientific, societal, or commercial impact.

It is open to participants in the **Roslin Institute's Core Strategic Programme**, but we also welcome collaborators from across campus. Interdisciplinary collaboration is encouraged, particularly where it strengthens the scientific rationale, enhances translational potential, or accelerates impact.

Proposals must align with the core research themes of the **Roslin Institute**:

Sustainable Agriculture

Improving the health, productivity and welfare of farmed animals while mitigating impacts on the climate and environment.

Infectious Diseases

Improving the detection, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases of animals, and those that pass from animals to people.

Enhancing Health

Leveraging the Institute's unique expertise, infrastructure and resources to understand animal and human health, ageing and disorders.

Proposals should demonstrate clear potential to contribute to scientific knowledge, capacity building, or commercial development.

Projects are expected to act as early stage, high risk, or exploratory studies, generating data, methods, or partnerships needed to underpin subsequent large-scale funding (for example UKRI or other competitive funding schemes).

Opportunity Status:	Open
Funder:	Roslin Foundation
Funding Type:	Grant
Total Fund:	£750,000
Award range:	£50,000 - £250,000 projects > £150,000 must provide compelling reasons why this activity could not be delivered through external competitive funding.
Maximum Project Duration:	3 years projects > 2 years must provide compelling reasons why this is necessary.
Publication date:	8 October 2025
Opening date:	8 October 2025 9:00am UK time
Closing date:	22 January 2026 4pm UK time

Eligibility

Applications are welcome from:

- Principal Investigators and Fellowship recipients
- Professional Services
- Postdoctoral researchers
- PhD students (with supervisor support)

Projects must be based **wholly or partially at the Roslin Institute**, but may involve multi-site collaborations, including with partners and collaborators.

Project partners are expected to provide contributions in cash or in kind, must not request more than 40% of total project costs from the Roslin Foundation, and should provide a statement of support.

Equality, diversity & inclusion

We welcome applications from researchers at all career stages and from individuals across all protected characteristics (as defined by the UK Equality Act 2010), either as project lead or co-lead.

What we will fund:

- Direct staff costs
 - Related consumable costs including couriers
 - Related travel and seminar costs
 - Direct animal costs
 - Computing & data storage costs
 - Partner Costs* – (up to 40% of total eligible costs)
 - Collaborator Costs* (up to 40% of total eligible costs)
 - Subcontracted costs* (up to 40% of total eligible costs)
- *note combined Partner/Collaborator/Subcontracted costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible costs.*

What we will not fund:

- Overheads (University of Edinburgh or otherwise)
- Partner Costs* in excess of 40% of total eligible costs
- Collaborator Costs* in excess of 40% of total eligible costs
- Subcontracted Costs* in excess of 40% of total eligible costs

Project Partners / Collaborators / Subcontractors

for the purposes of this call:

- **Project Partners**
are defined as external, non-legally connected entities. Partners are a formal project participant and expected to sign an agreement as such before the project can commence. Partners are critical to completion of the project. Partners are expected to provide a statement of support. Partner costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible project costs.

*Example of **Partners**: SRUC, other Universities*

- **Collaborators**

are defined as linked entities providing a product or service necessary to complete the project. They do not require a formal agreement prior to project commencement, nor a statement of support and are not legally responsible for delivering the project. Collaborator costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible project costs.

*Example **Collaborators**: LARIF, Edinburgh Genomics, ILRI*

- **Subcontractors**

are defined as third party external individuals or companies not associated with the Roslin Institute, engaged to provide specific services or deliverables under a commercial agreement. Subcontractor costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible project costs.

*Example **Subcontractors**: sequencing services*

Project Information

All applications for funding must meet both the aims of the Roslin Foundation and the core research themes of the Roslin Institute. Further information about the Roslin Foundation can be found on our website

<https://roslinfoundation.com>

The Foundation may provide funding covering up to 100% of eligible project costs.

Payment drawdown profiles will be agreed at time of award and may be varied by agreement with the Roslin Foundation.

Projects must commence between 1 June 2026 and 31 March 2027.

Key Dates

Milestone	Deadline
Call opens	8 October 2025
Notification of Interest (NOI) to Roslin Strategy Group (RSG)	7 November 2025
RSG panel meeting	19 November 2025
Feedback and invitation for full application from RSG to applicants	21 November 2025
Full application submission	22 January 2026
Feedback from Roslin Foundation Scientific Review Committee (RF SRC) to applicants	2 March 2026
Applicant response to RF SRC reviews	13 March 2026
RF SRC full meeting	16-20 March 2026
RF SRC recommendations to Roslin Foundation Board	28 April 2026
Funding decision communicated	11 May 2026

Application Requirements

Applicants must submit the following:

- Completed **Roslin Foundation Application Form** [RFRIAP0125](#) (attached)
- **CVs** of key personnel
- Statement of support from **Partner(s)** if applicable
- Quotes from **Collaborators** and **Subcontractors** (if applicable)
- Relevant **supporting papers** or materials

Review Process

Applications will undergo a four-stage review:

1. **Initial Review:** The Roslin Strategy Group (**RSG**) will review all initial Notifications of Interest.
2. **Feedback and invite for full application:** The **RSG** will review NOIs and feedback on next steps.
3. **Roslin Foundation Scientific Review:** The Roslin Foundation Scientific Review Committee (**RF SRC**) will review and score applications submitted by the **RSG**.
4. **Final Approval:** The Roslin Foundation Board will review the scored applications and make the final funding decisions.

*Applicants will not be interviewed by the Roslin Foundation but will have an opportunity to respond to **RF SRC** comments before final decisions are made between 2 March and 13 March 2026.*

*The **RF SRC** will score based on the following criteria:*

1. *Quality & Feasibility of Project (40%)*
2. *Clarity of Plans for Onward funding (20%)*
3. *Relevance of Project to Roslin Foundation Strategy (20%)*
4. *Impact / Knowledge Exchange (10%)*
5. *Value for Money (10%)*

Submission & Contact

Notes of Interest & subsequent full application forms should be submitted to:

EBCampusResearchsupport@ed.ac.uk

This is a competitive funding round. All proposals must clearly demonstrate alignment with the Roslin Foundation's aims and the strategic research goals of the Roslin Institute. The Roslin Foundation requests sight of the total number and overall value of applications received for this call before review and selection by the RSG.

Applications without the Roslin Institute Director's approval in Section 6 and the Applicant's signature in Section 11 will not be accepted.

We look forward to receiving your applications.