

Roslin Foundation Open Call 2027–28

Invitation for Applications – Roslin Institute

The **Roslin Foundation** is pleased to announce its **Open Call for 2027–28**, 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 **90** projects at the Institute, totalling more than **£19 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.

The call is open to participants in the **Roslin Institute's Core Strategic Programme**, with collaboration welcomed from across the wider campus. Interdisciplinary collaboration is encouraged, particularly where it strengthens the scientific rationale, enhances translational potential, or accelerates impact.

Proposals must align with the Roslin Foundation's aims and the core research themes of the **Roslin Institute**:

The Lead Applicant must be based within the Roslin Institute; applicants based elsewhere on the Easter Bush Campus are not eligible to act as Lead Applicant.

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:	£800,000
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:	12 October 2026
Opening date:	12 October 2026 9:00am UK time
Closing date:	5 February 2027 3pm 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
- Internal Facility / Service costs
- Partner/Collaborator Costs* – up to 40% of total eligible costs
- Subcontracted costs** - where necessary for the delivery of the project

**Combined Partner/Collaborator costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible costs project costs.*

***Subcontractor costs must be directly related to the project and appropriately justified*

What we will not fund:

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

for the purposes of this call:

- **Internal Facility / Service Costs**

Are defined as charges for access to Roslin institute or University of Edinburgh shared research infrastructure, technical platforms, or

specialist services required for delivery of the project. These costs are eligible where charged at standard institutional rates and directly attributable to the project.

*Example **Internal Facility costs**: LARIF, NARF, RIVF*

- **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, ILRI*

- **Collaborators**

are defined as linked entities providing a product or service necessary to complete the project. They are not legally responsible for delivering the project. Collaborator costs must not exceed 40% of total eligible project costs.

*Example **Collaborators**: Other Universities*

- **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**: external 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 2027 and 31 March 2028.

Key Dates

Milestone	Deadline
Call opens	12 Oct 2026
Notice of Intent (NOI) to EBSMG	13 Nov 2026
EBSMG panel meeting	9 Dec 2026
Invitation for full application from EBSMG to applicants	11 Dec 2026
Full application submission to RF	5 Feb 2027
Reviewer queries and applicant responses	2 Apr 2027
Full Review and ranking meeting	w/c 12 Apr 2027
Panel recommendations reviewed by RF Board	late Apr / early May 2027
Funding decision communicated	By 14 May 2027

Application Requirements

Applicants invited to submit a full application must provide the following:

- Completed **Roslin Foundation Application Form RFRIAP0127** (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
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Review Process

Applications will undergo a four-stage review:

1. **Initial Review:** The Easter Bush Science Management Group (**EBSMG**) will review all initial Notices of Intent.
2. **Feedback and invite for full application:** The **EBSMG** will review NOIs and invite successful applicants at the initial stage to submit their full application.
3. **Joint Roslin Institute / Roslin Foundation Review:** The Roslin Foundation Scientific Review Committee (**RF SRC**) and the **EBSMG** will review and score applications.
4. **Final Approval:** The Roslin Foundation Board will review the scored applications and make the final funding decisions.

Submission & Contact

Notices of Intent and 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 will be provided with the total number and overall value of applications received before review and selection by the EBSMG.

NOIs exceeding one page will not be accepted. Applications without both signatures in Section 10 will not be accepted.

We look forward to receiving your applications.