

Leukaemia UK John Goldman Fellowship Follow-up Fund guidelines 2026

Overview

John Goldman Fellowships are aimed at promising, early-career researchers who are seeking research independence and who have a passion for science and a desire to translate scientific advances towards patient benefit or into clinical practice.

The Follow-up Fund is to support John Goldman Fellows following the end of their Fellowship to further establish their careers towards independence, or if newly independent, to help them to develop their own research and research group further.

Scope and what we're looking for

Applications must focus on leukaemia and/or precursor conditions such as myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) and Clonal Haematopoiesis of Indeterminate Potential (CHIP). Of note, applications related to precursor conditions must focus on the progression of such conditions to leukaemia in order to inform approaches or interventions to prevent leukaemia from developing from that precursor condition. Leukaemia UK will **not** fund new applications on lymphoma or myeloma.

Leukaemia UK's Follow-up Fund will fund only novel, clearly defined projects, and will not financially supplement existing research projects. There is no requirement that a Follow-up Fund is directly related to the work of the John Goldman Fellowship or other previous Leukaemia UK funding received.

However, successful applications must be able to demonstrate:

- An innovative research proposal
- Scientific excellence and potential for translation and future patient impact. Directly translational projects, or projects where there is a clear line of sight to (subsequent) translation are particularly encouraged
- Progress during the course of (and after, if applicable) the John Goldman Fellowship in relation to:
 - scientific achievements with respect to the aims and outcomes of the Fellowship, and subsequently
 - career progression – either towards achieving independence or developing as a recently independent researcher

Eligibility and timing

A John Goldman Fellowship and its Follow Up Fund cannot run concurrently, but we want to ensure the possibility of continuity from one to another if the latter is awarded.

Therefore, applications are invited from:

- Current John Goldman Fellowship holders whose award will finish within 12 months after the application deadline: i.e. completion of their Fellowship before 8th July 2027 for the 2026 JGF Follow-up Fund round deadline.
- Former John Goldman Fellows who have not received prior Follow-up Funding and whose John Goldman Fellowships have finished up to three years prior to the current application deadline: i.e. completion after 8th July 2023 for the 2026 round of JGF Follow-up Funding.

Fellows who finished more than three years before the current application deadline, or who have previously received JGF Follow-up Funding are encouraged to apply for our Project Grants for 2026. *Please check Leukaemia UK's website for important information about the future of Project Grants after 2026.*

Other grants secured from other funders will not be considered prejudicial to consideration for LUK Follow-up Funding. All applications will be considered on their scientific merit and the potential for the applicant's career establishment and progression.

Definitions for a Follow-up Fund application

Lead applicant: The 'Principal Investigator' for the proposed research must be an eligible John Goldman Fellowship awardee. The Lead applicant will have overall responsibility for the project and must be affiliated with a UK research centre, which will be deemed as the 'Host Institution' for contractual purposes.

Joint applications can be submitted, but the Lead applicant must be the previous John Goldman Fellow. A **Co-applicant** is an investigator who will contribute to the research project but need not be affiliated with the 'Host Institution'.

Host Institution: A non-profit research centre of excellence within the UK that will provide the facilities for carrying out the proposed research project.

What can be requested

Grants are for up to £250,000, to span a maximum of three years. The grant may be used for salary and direct costs of the project, but it will not support equipment costs or indirect costs such as institutional overheads. Consumables costs are capped at £15,000 per year.

Lead applicants who have not secured salary sources elsewhere since the award of their John Goldman Fellowship can request their own salary in the Follow-up Fund application. Otherwise, funding could support a post-doctoral scientist or clinician scientist, research assistant or research technician who could be named on the application, if already identified. Funding for PhD students is not permitted.

The application should provide financial information as to how the award will be utilised, corroborated by the relevant finance department.

Applications

Applications must be submitted via the new [Leukaemia UK Funding Management System](#), and will be subject to expert review by members of Leukaemia UK's Expert Review Panel, independent external expert reviewers, and people with experience of leukaemia. The application review process is summarised below; full details can be found on [the Leukaemia UK website](#).

Initial Assessment: Applications may be rejected following an initial assessment after which the applicant will be informed accordingly.

- Applicants must comply with the eligibility criteria.
- The proposed research project must be within the 'scope' previously described. Applications must be properly completed and signed, and page and word limits must be strictly followed.

Expert review: Applications that pass the initial assessment will be sent for expert review to be:

- Assessed and scored by at least five members of Leukaemia UK's Expert Review Panel
- Assessed and scored by at least two independent external expert reviewers
- Assessed by lay, patient member(s) of Leukaemia UK's Patient Experience Advisory Panel who provide input and opinion but who do not score applications

Applicant feedback: We aim to provide feedback to applicants following the outcome.

Closing date

The closing date for receipt of applications is **midday on 08 July 2026**. All applicants will be contacted with the outcome of their applications by **22 December 2026**.

Please contact research@leukaemiauk.org.uk with any questions.

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