

The UK Centre for Bioscience is pleased to announce the availability of grants of up to £4,000 for departments with bioscience HE provision. This funding is offered to encourage the development, establishment or validation of innovative learning, teaching and assessment materials or methods, and to encourage pedagogic research in the biosciences. Applications in the following areas are particularly welcome:

- Student engagement
- Flexible learning (to include responding to student needs and changing student populations and diverse modes of learning provision)
- Education for Sustainable Development (with an emphasis on the development of sustainable literacy and skills relating to professional, social, ethical or environmental responsibility)
- Graduate impact

The total funding available for this round is £12,000 and we anticipate funding three or four projects (with a maximum award for individual projects of £4,000).

We welcome proposals from Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and England.

The primary focus of the Teaching Development Fund is to develop and disseminate good practice in bioscience learning and teaching. Funding will not be awarded if the project outcomes and benefits are limited to a single institution. Consequently, if you do not have project partners in at least two other higher or further education institutions you are required to involve 'critical friends' from at least two other higher or further education institutions to maximise the transferability of project outcomes and benefits.

The deadline for the submission of bids is **Wednesday 15th December 2010** with projects expected to start by the end of January 2011. Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Wednesday 12th January 2011. Please note: the development work of the project must be complete and a progress report submitted by **July 2011**.

We welcome enquiries regarding this round of funding. Please email heabioscience@leeds.ac.uk

How to apply

Applications must be made on the current application form, which you can download from www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/TDF/call13.rtf

You may also wish to refer to our guide to bidding for funding which is available online at www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/resources/fundingguide.pdf

You should submit one paper copy (signed) and an electronic copy by e-mail no later than Wednesday 15th December 2010 to:

UK Centre for Bioscience, Room 9.15 Worsley Building, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT.

Tel: 0113 343 3001, Fax: 0113 343 5894, Email: heabioscience@leeds.ac.uk

Selection of successful projects

Applications will be assessed by a minimum of 3 members of UK Centre for Bioscience staff and Advisory Group against the following criteria:

- 1) Alignment of project with the stated priority themes
- 2) With reference to the literature and other work, establishes a case demonstrating a need for the project within the higher education Bioscience community
- 3) Provides clear aims and objectives and indicates how the project will successfully meet the identified need
- 4) Includes evidence of having consulted the student cohort / student course reps on how the proposal might impact and enhance the student learning experience
- 5) Demonstrates the applicability, currency and transferability of the project and the impact the outcomes will have on Bioscience higher education
- 6) Includes a clearly deliverable project plan including proposed start and end dates and milestones
- 7) Provides a detailed plan for how the impact of the project on student learning will be evaluated and evidenced (within and beyond the formal timescales for the project) and provides assurances that the project lead/department will provide the Centre and HE Academy with updates during and beyond the life of the project
- 8) The extent to which the project will enhance the resources/services provided through the UK Centre for Bioscience
- 9) Proposed expenditure is appropriate and justified, and the budget represents value for money

Project outcomes

Production of the following is a requirement of funding:

- *Project abstract*
- *A5 leaflet advertising the project (produced and supplied to the Centre in electronic format within the first month of the project)*
- *Scientific research style poster summarising your project's findings (produced towards the end of the project)*
- *An article for the UK Centre for Bioscience Bulletin (our printed newsletter)*
- *Interim progress reports and a final report*

We encourage you to develop a project blog as a means of providing updates and reflections, and to facilitate comment and input from critical friends and the bioscience community as the project progresses. We also encourage you to submit a manuscript to our peer-reviewed journal [Bioscience Education](#).

Additionally, a selection of the following resources/activities should be delivered as part of the project and will be made available through the UK Centre for Bioscience:

- *Present project outcomes at one or more Centre events*
- *Briefing paper/s*
- *Case study/ies*
- *Guide/s*
- *Teaching resources*
- *Course materials*
- *Conference paper*
- *Journal paper*

- *Web-based material*
- *Workshop session*

Note: We expect all projects to consider and seek appropriate institutional permission for the release of project outputs (e.g. materials, web pages and other resources created by the project) under open licences, to allow for reuse and repurposing by colleagues across the sector. Further guidance is available by contacting Chris Taylor (C.D.Taylor@leeds.ac.uk) or 0113 343 9236.

It is an expectation of our funding that project holders commit to ongoing evaluation of the impact of their work on student learning beyond the formal end of the project and that you agree to provide updates on impact upon request.

Financial arrangements

- The grant is cash limited, can be used for anything necessary for the completion of the project (with the exception of computer hardware and software as noted below), will be subject to the submission of satisfactory interim and final reports and will be administered through the local institution's financial arrangements.
- The amounts of funding available are small - we anticipate funds will be used for things such as buying out a small amount of your own time, covering the costs of employing a student, producing resources etc.
- Purchase of computer hardware and software will not be funded except under exceptional circumstances.
- Any consumables to be purchased as part of the project must be individually detailed in the budget proposal.

As funding is limited we expect to receive more applications than we can fund. Therefore, to maximise return we will be looking closely at value for money in the proposed budget.

Please note: payment of the award will not normally be made up front and will be subject to satisfactory project progress. Payment arrangements will be confirmed in writing in grant letters issued to successful bidders.

Reporting procedures

We will keep bureaucracy to a minimum to reflect the size of the funding. The UK Centre for Bioscience will monitor the funded proposals through the submission of simple proforma-based interim and final reports. We may also ask successful applicants to attend an orientation meeting. In these circumstances, travel costs will be met by the UK Centre for Bioscience.

Support provided by the UK Centre for Bioscience

Successful projects will be allocated a member of the Centre's team to be their main point of contact. The contact may undertake a site visit during the course of the project and will provide ongoing advice and support by telephone, Skype or email.

Accessibility

All teaching materials, web sites and project outputs must comply with appropriate accessibility guidelines such as the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (www.w3.org/WAI/) in order to ensure fulfilment of your obligations under the [Equality Act 2010](#). (Further advice and information is available via TechDis at www.techdis.ac.uk/index.php?p=6_12)