



VALIDATE Small Equipment Grant Application Guidance

Summary

The VALIDATE Network aims to accelerate vaccine research and development for complex intracellular pathogens that cause diseases significant to low and middle-income countries (LMIC), with a focus on *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Leishmania spp*, *Burkholderia pseudomallei* and *Mycobacterium leprae*. VALIDATE also aims to facilitate Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and career progression amongst its members.

To support these aims, small equipment grants are available, of up to £10,000 per laboratory, to help LMIC VALIDATE members purchase essential small equipment laboratory items (e.g. microscopes, centrifuges, incubators, freezers, fridges, pipettes, waterbaths etc) that will improve their research.

Applicants must be a VALIDATE Associate or Investigator member, based in an LMIC.

Please see the further details below about this award and how to apply. Please submit your application form and associated documents to the VALIDATE Network Manager at VALIDATE@ndm.ox.ac.uk. Do contact the Network Manager at the same address with any queries about the form or the application process.

All awardees will be expected to provide a short report following their award, for inclusion in VALIDATE outcomes and publicity.

Details

Funding eligibility

Applicants: must be a VALIDATE Associate/Investigator member, based in an LMIC (see below).

LMIC: to be considered 'LMIC' you must be based for your work at an organisation in an LMIC country. A list of LMIC countries can be found [here](#); all listed countries (in any column) are eligible.

Activities supported: the purchase of small laboratory equipment item(s), up to £10,000 (including shipping) per laboratory. VALIDATE funding can be used in conjunction with other funding to cover purchase of equipment that is more expensive than this – if this is the case please explain where the additional funds required will come from in your application.

Please ensure you explain how each item will benefit your laboratory and your research, including exactly what research you plan to use each item for. Research must be with [VALIDATE's remit](#) and focused on [VALIDATE's core pathogens](#).

Application process

There will be one round only for this type of VALIDATE grant – the call deadline will be advertised on the VALIDATE website.

Complete the application form as directed on the form itself, sticking to the word limit where stated. Ensure you complete all sections, and that you attach the necessary supporting documents (stated in

section 7 of the application form). All documents should be in English. Extra documents/appendices will not be accepted.

The application form and associated documents must be submitted **as one pdf** to the VALIDATE Network Manager at VALIDATE@ndm.ox.ac.uk. You will receive acknowledgement of your application within 48 working hours of submission. All applications received in the funding round will go to the VALIDATE Management Team for competitive assessment. Management Team members will not input into discussions about an application where they have a conflict of interest (see below for details on conflicts of interest). The VALIDATE Scientific Advisory Board ([SAB](#)) has oversight of VALIDATE's processes to ensure transparency, fairness and consistency. You will be notified by email of the Management Team's decision.

Payment of Awards

Payment can be made in two ways:

1. **Your host Institution purchases the equipment and is reimbursed by VALIDATE:** a detailed invoice listing costs incurred and the Institute's bank details should be submitted, as well as confirmation of receipt of the equipment item(s). Costs will then be reimbursed to the Institute.
2. **VALIDATE organises the purchase and shipment of the equipment on your behalf.**

Publicity and Data Protection

Copies of applications may be made available to the VALIDATE Management Team, NMB and SAB who will use information provided for review and post-award administration (all have signed confidentiality agreements). Observers from CTVD and our funders, the UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), may sit in on the review process and see applications. VALIDATE, CTVD, MRC and BMGF may choose to publish non-confidential details of awards, awardees, and information of training provided.

Conflict of Interest

Examples of a conflict of interest include:

- Employed by the same department in the same institution as the applicant/host
- Close active collaboration impacting on the application being reviewed
- Holding a current position on the governing body of the applicant organisation
- Personal/family relationship with the applicant