Eligibility and application requirements

1. Applicants must be RSC members (Associate Member or above) and must hold an independent research contract at a UK or Republic of Ireland higher education institute or research institute for the duration of the project.

2. Projects are 12 months. Up to £10,000 will be awarded to the successful applicant for chemicals and equipment, equipment access and contribution to salary of applicable staff assisting the applicant in respect of the Project. Salary costs should not replace or reduce institutional or funding agency support for departments and are intended to cover short term extensions to complete research projects impacted by Covid-19 or to initiate new research directions.

3. Applications are limited to two per department and MUST be authorised by the head of that department prior to submission.

4. All applicants will be required to obtain a referee report as a part of their application. This referee should assess the scientific content of the research proposal submitted.

5. Applicants are required to provide information on:
   a) The nature of the research in which he or she desires to engage and of the scientific results expected to follow there from.
   b) The approximate full cost of the research and a breakdown of the manner in which it is proposed to spend any grant that may be awarded. This should include quantities and approximate costs for each item.
   c) What sources of financial assistance are normally available to the applicant for research, whether these are available in this instance and to what value.

3. Applicants may not seek funding for conference attendance or other forms of travel within their RSC Research Enablement Grant application.

4. Applicants must not be currently holding another active Research Enablement Grant (i.e. previous Research Enablement Grant holders must have completed and sent us their project reports before they can begin another Research Enablement Grant application).

5. Institutions are encouraged to allow the maximum number of applicants they can over a 12 month period. If an unsuccessful applicant from the previous round wishes to apply again, their new application should be substantially different than the previous.

6. The applicant is solely responsible for ensuring he/she is not under any obligation which prevents him/her from applying for and for receiving the funds applied for, whether obligations imposed by the home organisation or otherwise. Furthermore the applicant is responsible for clarifying the position relating to intellectual property rights (“IPRs”) of the research undertaken with funds received by way of this Grant. For the avoidance of doubt, the IPRs in the research will not belong to the RSC.

Application assessment process

9. The selection and awarding process will be based upon a proposal by a candidate to undertake specified work at a specified organisation. This proposal will be assessed by the RSC acting through a group appointed as the Research Enablement Grant Assessment Panel or as the RSC otherwise directs.

10. Any changes to the specified work after the award of a grant must be approved by the RSC.

11. The RSC (acting as set out in clause 11) has oversight of the awarding process and will seek clarification or further information relating to decisions if they deem it to be necessary.
Successful grant applications

12. The awarded funds will be paid in a single payment to the home organisation (being the university or research organisation by which the Grant recipient is employed), upon successful application and following successful visa application (where necessary). No funds will be paid directly to the Grant recipient from the RSC. It will be expected that the home organisation administers payments to the Grant recipient. Applicants should contact the RSC directly to discuss any anticipated complications.

13. Should there be exceptional circumstances, wherever possible the RSC will allow a Grant to be deferred with the permission of the home organisation. No extra funds will be released in this eventuality.

14. Applicants must inform the RSC of any changes to the application as soon as possible. If the applicant (as Grant recipient) receives any extra funding towards the activity outlined in the Grant application, whether before any award of funds or during the Grant, the RSC must be notified forthwith and the RSC reserves the right to reclaim a proportionate amount of the Grant.

15. Grant recipients must comply with all applicable laws, regulations and codes of ethics and/or conduct including those of the recipient’s home organisations. Furthermore, the recipient must not act in any manner which may bring the RSC and/or the home organisations into disrepute.

16. Grant recipients must comply with the RSC’s Branding and Publicity Guidelines as may be amended from time to time, including the use of the RSC logo, which the recipient may request from the RSC.

17. The RSC reserves the right to carry out any relevant checks including verifying the recipient’s RSC membership status and contacting their home organisation to confirm identity of an applicant and the legitimacy of an application.

18. During the term of the Grant, the RSC reserves the right to reclaim any unspent funds under any circumstances.

At the conclusion of the grants

19. The Grant recipient will be expected to submit to the RSC a report outlining the outcomes of the work. This should include scientific outcomes, proposed future steps and wider benefits to the applicant and others working on the project, including (but not limited to) publications, new job/promotion, new grants, etc. This should be authored by the Grant recipient. Over the longer term, the RSC will ascertain from the recipient whether the Grant led to further benefits. The RSC will provide a standard form to capture this.

20. The Grant recipient will be expected to submit to the RSC a short financial report outlining the breakdown of funds spent. Any unused funds remaining at the conclusion of the Grant should be returned to the RSC. The financial report should be submitted to the RSC together with the scientific report.

21. Grant recipients will be expected to give due acknowledgement to the Royal Society of Chemistry in any scientific papers published as a result of research carried out during the visit, and to give due acknowledgement of support in any scientific presentations (both oral and poster) as appropriate.