

Additional research funding for universities in FY 2023-24



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Issue Date:	9 February 2024
Reference:	SFC/AN/01/2024
Summary:	Announcement of additional research funding in Financial Year (FY) 2023-24
FAO:	Principals / Finance Directors / Board Secretaries of Scotland's universities and the general public.
Further Information:	CONTACT: Morag Campbell JOB TITLE: Assistant Director DIRECTORATE: Research and Innovation TEL: 0131 313 6530 EMAIL: mcampbell@sfc.ac.uk

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Summary

1. I am writing to announce the allocation of £5.8m of additional research funding.

Background

2. £5.8m of capital funds have been made available in financial year 2023-24 for Scotland, based on the Barnett formula¹. The Scottish Government has decided that these funds should be allocated to Scotland's universities.

Additional funding

3. The Scottish Government has agreed that this additional, time-limited funding should be delivered via the Scottish Funding Council's core grants for research and innovation, and should support research activities, including research training. Recognising that university research and knowledge exchange directly impact the quality of teaching, they have asked that universities give particular consideration to how this is supported where possible. The intent is to enable pursuit of a range of different research and innovation activity, including where it supports teaching, according to institutional needs.
4. Potential activity could include but is not limited to:
 - Research into education and teaching excellence (including school-level).
 - Ensuring students and staff are equipped with the latest knowledge to support entrepreneurialism.
 - Student and staff training.
5. We are distributing this funding in proportion to institutions' [final allocations](#) for AY 2023-24 of REG, UIF and RPG combined. Allocations are shown in Annex A.

Timing

6. This funding is to be spent in the current financial year, FY23/24. The funds may be used for expenditure from 3 October 2023 (the date of the UK announcement) and 31 March 2024.

¹ These funds are available for FY 2023-24 in consequence of the UK Government's launch of its Regional Innovation Fund in October 2023.

7. Funds will be paid to universities in one instalment in March 2024.

Monitoring

8. There will be no separate reporting mechanism for this funding but case studies on its use are welcomed as part of SFC's normal reporting requirements.

Acceptance of funding

9. You are asked to confirm that you wish to accept this funding, by emailing grantacceptance@sfc.ac.uk no later than **Friday, 23 February 2024**.

Further information

10. Please contact Morag Campbell, Assistant Director, Research and Innovation (mcampbell@sfc.ac.uk).



Helen Cross

Director of Research and Innovation

Annex A

Funding allocations

Institution	Combined Research Excellence Grant, Research Postgraduate Grant and University Innovation Fund for AY 2023-24	Institution share of Research and Innovation Grants for AY 2023-24	Additional funding for FY 2023-24
	£ (1)	£ (1)	£ (1)
Aberdeen, University of	19,639,000	6.4%	374,090
Abertay University	1,905,000	0.6%	36,287
Dundee, University of	20,142,000	6.6%	383,671
Edinburgh Napier University	4,696,000	1.5%	89,451
Edinburgh, University of	100,597,000	33.0%	1,916,203
Glasgow Caledonian University	4,543,000	1.5%	86,536

Institution	Combined Research Excellence Grant, Research Postgraduate Grant and University Innovation Fund for AY 2023-24	Institution share of Research and Innovation Grants for AY 2023-24	Additional funding for FY 2023-24
Glasgow School of Art	1,571,000	0.5%	29,925
Glasgow, University of	62,176,000	20.4%	1,184,348
Heriot-Watt University	14,185,000	4.7%	270,200
Highlands and Islands, University of the	4,296,000	1.4%	81,832
Open University in Scotland	314,000	0.1%	5,981
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	1,708,000	0.6%	32,534
Robert Gordon University	1,809,000	0.6%	34,458
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	719,000	0.2%	13,696
SRUC	5,161,000	1.7%	98,308
St Andrews, University of	21,208,000	7.0%	403,976

Institution	Combined Research Excellence Grant, Research Postgraduate Grant and University Innovation Fund for AY 2023-24	Institution share of Research and Innovation Grants for AY 2023-24	Additional funding for FY 2023-24
Stirling, University of	9,152,000	3.0%	174,330
Strathclyde, University of	27,130,000	8.9%	516,781
West of Scotland, University of the	3,538,000 (*)	1.2%	67,393
Total	304,489,000	100.0%	5,800,000

(1,*) Excludes the funding of £100,000 for the University of the West of Scotland for the University Innovation Fund Collaboration Manager post.