**Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity Research Fund**

***Information for applicants***

The Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity Research Fund (GCHC Research Fund) is a conduit for Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity to support high quality research with the ultimate aim of improving children’s health. The phrase ‘children’s health’ has been used in its broadest sense to include the health and well-being of the foetus, neonate, infant, child, adolescent as well as the long-term outcome of a person with a condition originating in childhood. Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity has made generous contributions to the support of students and young researchers nationwide over several years, in particular, the funding of research projects, PhD studentships, clinical research training fellowships and summer student bursaries. This portfolio of research support has enabled a number of students and young researchers to undertake clinical and scientific projects, and in many cases has been the start of academic careers. Since 2017, the Charity has also supported the development of an Office for Rare Conditions in Glasgow which has now started administering the GCHC Research Fund. Going forward, applications that focus on conditions that are rare or have a low prevalence will be particularly welcome.

GCHC Research Fund awards are advertised UK-wide and should attract the best scientists. All applications over £5000 shall be subjected to external peer review and shall be prioritised on scientific merit and research strategy. The costs will require to be approved by the finance department of the employing institutions who will need to agree to administer them.

Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity Research Fund is accredited by the Association of Medical Research Charities and follows the AMRC good practice guidelines. The Charity is on the eligible funder’s list in Scotland (CSO-approved) and England (NIHR-approved) and therefore successful eligible projects can request NHS support costs additional to the maximum grant amount.

**Conditions of the Grant**

* Only applications submitted by a recognised Higher Education Research Institute and/or Medical Institution will be considered.
* For all grants, the project must demonstrate benefit to healthcare of children and newborns.
* Current GCHC Research Fund grant holders (PI/Main supervisor) may not apply as the PI/Main supervisor on an application until the current project ends. Grant holders may apply as a co-applicant or co-supervisor.
* GCHC Research Fund will require updates from the applicant demonstrating how the grant benefited themselves and the home institution and enabled significant advances in science/medicine and children’s or pregnant women’s health.
* These updates are currently in the form of a written report to be submitted to the GCHC Research Fund office at 6 monthly intervals after receipt of grant using a report template available from the GCHC Research Fund Co-ordinator. A final report must be submitted within 6 months of the end of the project.
* Grant holders are required to report outputs annually via a prescribed report template.
* Failure to provide updates will exclude the applicants from making further applications for a minimum of 5 years from the date the report is due.
* Grants awarded are final and do not include overheads.
* Grants cannot be awarded retrospectively.
* All unspent funds must be returned to Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity within 6 months of the award end date.
* The decision of the GCHC Research Fund office is final and not subject to appeal.
* GCHC Research Fund will not accept resubmissions of the same project in the following year.
* GCHC Research Fund reserves the right to publish brief details of the successful applicant’s project on its website and in any appropriate Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity publications.
* Incomplete applications will not be considered.
* Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity must be acknowledged in any publication that arises from the funding.
* The award holders shall be encouraged to present their work at the annual Glasgow Paediatric Research Day.
* Applications will be acknowledged upon receipt. If you do not receive an acknowledgement, please contact the GCHC Research Fund office (details below).
* Travel costs for conferences on Project Support Grants and PhD Studentships must not exceed 3% of the amount being requested.
* Travel costs for conferences are not eligible on Small Project Grants.

**Assessment criteria**

Applications are assessed by expert peer reviewers on the basis of the following criteria:

**For All Applications**

* Benefit to main applicant's career
* Benefit to institution
* Benefit to the health of newborns or children
* Overall scientific value
* Likelihood of achieving desired goals if supported

**Additional criteria for studentships and scholarships**

* quality of the candidate
* scientific quality of project
* quality of supervisor
* appropriateness of research environment

Detailed reviewer’s guidance and scoring criteria are available on the GCHC Research Fund website ([www.glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org/about-us/our-research](http://www.glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org/about-us/our-research)).

**Eligibility Criteria**

**Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity PhD Studentship**

Open to any graduate wishing to undertake a PhD

**Summer Scholarship**

Undergraduate student at a higher education institute

**Small Project Grants**

Only available to early stage researchers (within 8 years of PhD/Higher medical degree).

**Project Support Grants**

Available to all researchers from any background

**Types of award**

Applications are considered under the following categories. Funds are awarded in each category only if sufficiently high calibre applications are received for consideration.

* **GCHC PhD Studentship** of three year’s duration for an early career graduate in any field to undertake a supervised research project in children’s health. Part-time PhDs are eligible subject to specific conditions. Maximum value £70,000. Up to one award per year.
* **Summer Scholarship** of six to eight week’s duration for an undergraduate student at a higher education institute in a medical or biological field aiming to conduct a summer project related to children’s health. Maximum award £1440. Up to two awards per year.
* **Project Support Grants** for research proposals aimed at improving children’s health and which is likely to lead to a successful application for external, peer reviewed research project funding. Grants will be awarded to a maximum of £40,000. Nursing and AHP apprenticeship applications are also considered in competition with other project support applications. Up to four awards per year.
* **Small Project Grants** for research proposals in the field of children’s health. Grants will be awarded up to £5,000 for preliminary research that that has the potential to lead to a peer reviewed publication.Only available to early stage researchers (within 8 years of PhD/Higher medical degree). Up to four awards per year.

**Indicative Timetable**

Application calls and deadlines are staggered throughout the year for the different grants.

**See call text for specific deadlines for submission.**

For further information please contact

**Shannon Mullen**

Glasgow Children’s Hospital Charity Research Fund

Office for Rare Conditions

Direct Line: +44 (0) 141 451 5843

E-mail: shannon.mullen@glasgow.ac.uk

Web: [www.glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org/about-us/our-research](http://www.glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org/about-us/our-research)