

## Context

The Research Design Service South West (RDS SW) works with people developing grant applications for applied health research providing, in particular, methodological advice and related support.

Our aims are to increase the number of high-quality applications to open national peer-reviewed funding competitions.

To further this, we are running one-day seminar and support events to highlight NIHR funding opportunities. The aim is to help participants understand how to improve their chances of success and allow them to turn good applications into excellent ones.

Competition for these grants is fierce and the events aim to help participants understand how to improve their chances of success.

The events do not provide detailed training in research methodology, rather they more generally covers the issues involved in developing a successful grant application.

We have a particular interest in supporting applications to NIHR research funding streams, and these events will be particularly useful for people wishing to apply to these streams. However, they will be relevant for anyone thinking of applying to other funders such as

national charities, providing it is for applied health research.

## Morning seminar session

Simon Goodwin, RfPB Programme Manager for the South West, will be joined by RDS advisers to give presentations on what makes a good grant proposal.

Topics covered at the events will include:

- what does the NIHR (and in particular RfPB) look for?
- the application as a marketing document: selling the topic, selling the method, and selling the team
- the team
- clarity of description and explanation
- feasibility issues
- identifying and avoiding potential pitfalls.

Delegates will be expected to be familiar with basic research skills (for example, searching and critically appraising the literature) and we will not be spending a lot of time on methodological issues.

## Afternoon support session

Researchers currently developing, or considering developing, a proposal for submission to NIHR for funding are invited

to take advantage of a one-to-one appointment with RDS advisers to discuss their proposed study. These will be held after lunch and in order to book a one-to-one appointment you will need to select the appropriate option on the online registration form. We will then contact you to arrange your appointment. You will also be asked to provide a brief summary of your proposed research in advance.

The team leading the events has a wealth of experience in working collaboratively to develop grant applications for open, national, peer reviewed funding streams. They are also peer reviewers for national grant giving bodies.

## Who is it for?

The events are open to health and social care professionals and academic partners working within the South West.

## Where and when?

The events will be held on:

Thursday 27 April 2017 at  
University of Bristol

Wednesday 28 June 2017 at  
Bournemouth University

## How do I register?

Places are **limited** and will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. In order to secure your place at one of these events, please complete the online registration form available on our website at: [www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk/events.htm](http://www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk/events.htm)

The **deadlines** for receipt of registrations are:

Bristol 1pm, 17 April 2017

Bournemouth 1pm, 19 June 2017

## Cost

There is no charge for these events and refreshments and lunch will be provided.

## Contacting the RDS South West

If you wish to find out more or request our services, please contact us at:

RDS South West  
Musgrove Park Hospital  
Research Office  
The Old Building  
Taunton, Somerset  
TA1 5DA.

Tel: 01823 342792

Email: [rds.sw@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:rds.sw@nihr.ac.uk)

Web: [www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk](http://www.rds-sw.nihr.ac.uk)



**National Institute for  
Health Research**

# NIHR Grant Applications - seminar & support event

27 April 2017  
University of Bristol

28 June 2017  
Bournemouth University

Research Design Service  
South West

*Research by design*

