

ESRC – New Investigator Grants
Newcastle University – Internal Selection Process

The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funding scheme for early career researchers, “[New Investigator Grants](#)”, is open to support high-quality candidates with a maximum of 4 years post-doctoral experience. Projects will range in duration from 3 to 5 years, with between £100,000 and £300,000 available. There is no deadline for this call, with applications welcome all year round. Both those with and without permanent contracts are eligible to apply, but must have full support from the host institution.

ESRC will only be funding between 30 and 35 grants per year through this scheme, and their expectation is for research organisations to put in place a mechanism by which to ensure only the best quality candidates and projects move forward to be submitted.

The internal procedure for this scheme will be managed by the HaSS Faculty, building on the previous internal process in place for the Future Research Leaders scheme. This will ensure we stand the best chances of success with what will be a highly competitive scheme, whilst ensuring we retain a strong position with regards to ESRC and their expectations with regards to institutional demand management.

The process will consist of 2 internal panel meetings per year (set approximately in October and Easter), which will allow the process to be manageable whilst taking into account there is no yearly deadline for the call. This panel will be chaired by the HaSS Dean of Research and Innovation, with panel members consisting of social science colleagues from all 3 Faculties with experience of ESRC funding and panel membership. **Candidates will be expected to submit the following to allow for proper assessment:**

- **6 page case for support (see ESRC guidance)**
- **2 page CV**
- **2 page mentor CV**

Full support from the respective Research Director and Head of School/Director of Institute will be required for submission to the internal panel. Recommendations from the panel may vary from supporting the proposal to move forward (taking into account feedback); to substantive revisions before the panel reconsider the application at a later date; to an inability to move an application forward for this scheme, with advice and support provided on alternative and preferable funding schemes.

Full details with regards to deadlines will be circulated within a suitable timeframe to all Units within the University for each round.

Please ensure you speak with the relevant Faculty contact before submission and if you have any queries:

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Documents for submission are to be submitted to Wendy Davison (wendy.davison@ncl.ac.uk).