



**Guidance Notes for Joining the Health Education
England, working across the East Midlands**

Clinical Scholar Gold Award

2017

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This document contains details on applying to Health Education England, working across the East Midlands (HEE-EM) in partnership with the NIHR CLAHRC East Midlands **Clinical Scholar Gold Award 2017**.

Context

HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme

The Health Education England (HEE) and National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Integrated Clinical Academic (ICA) Programme provides personal research training awards for healthcare professionals outside medicine and dentistry. The awards are for those who wish to develop careers that combine both clinical research and research leadership with continued clinical practice and clinical development. Applicants must belong to one of the eligible professions, a list of which can be found [here](#).

Personal awards (Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowships, Clinical Lectureships and Senior Clinical Lectureships) are made following annual competitions. The diagram below shows the full 5 stages of the ICA Clinical Academic pathway, from internship to Senior Clinical Lectureship. It illustrates where the HEE-EM Gold award fits within this pathway.



HEE/NIHR Clinical Lectureship (CL)

The HEE/NIHR ICA CL Scheme represents the early post-doctoral element of the ICA Programme. Applicants require support from both an English NHS healthcare organisation and an English higher education institution (HEI), and should propose to divide their time equally between their clinical and academic commitments. A CL should enable the individual to make a significant contribution to clinical practice whilst supporting their development as a potential clinical academic leader.

Posts are co-funded by the employing organisations, which will provide at least 50% of the Clinical Lecturer's salary. The remaining portion of salary costs, a contribution towards research costs and a contribution towards training/development costs will be met by the scheme.

The HEE/NIHR CL funds:

- 50% of the individual's salary
- The individual's research
- An overseas research visit
- Conference attendance
- Tailored training and development programme.

Clinical Lectureships can be undertaken full time over three years or part time over either four or five years. Applicants must have at least one year's experience of post-graduate practice and hold current registration with the relevant professional council at the point of the scheme.

The Gold Award

The Clinical Scholar Gold Award is designed to support those eligible individuals who hold a relevant PhD in applying for the HEE/NIHR CL scheme or equivalent.

Format

HEE-EM can offer up to £15,000 of funding as a grant to support eligible professionals to prepare a submission for the ICA NIHR CL or equivalent.

The format of this award will be dependent on the individual learning/developmental needs of the applicant. As part of the application form, applicants are required to submit a business case for funding. This case should demonstrate what support and development is required to support their CL application.

The case should include cost estimates.

The following are examples of where the funding may be needed to support development:

- Visiting other research institutes
- Building research collaboration
- Funding for mentorship
- Undertaking research placements at another institute
- Attending conferences and presenting work
- Writing up research papers
- Developing research networks
- Training and leadership skills
- Salary support

This is not an exhaustive list.

Applicants are encouraged to align the content of the award with the requirements of the CL. Further information can be found [here](#).

Expectations

Successful applicants are expected to deliver the following:

- A completed CL application for review
- Attend two panels:
 - Panel 1: with recently successful CLs
 - Panel 2: With senior clinical academics
- Complete a mock interview with the panel
- Engage in the Clinical Scholar network, which may include supporting other clinical academics in their careers
- Representing the scheme at research events

Eligibility

Eligibility criteria for the Gold award will mirror that for the CL.

All applicants must belong to one of the [eligible professions](#).

Applicants must ensure that their proposed research project is compatible with the published NIHR remit and the HEE priorities.

All applicants must currently hold an NHS contract.

Professional Doctorates will be accepted as per [NIHR guidance](#):

Further details about the HEE/NIHR CL scheme can be found on the [NIHR website](#).

Funding

A single payment grant of up to £15,000 can be offered to the Clinical Scholar's organisation to facilitate this award. The applicant is expected to provide a business case in their application form which details how they anticipate the funding will be utilised to support their development needs into a Clinical Lectureship (CL) post.

We are aware that in some circumstances this funding will not be enough to cover expenses and additional costs incurred as well as salary support. In these circumstances it is the responsibility of the employer to manage the amount that can be spent to mitigate any financial risk incurred.

Please ensure that an appropriate organisation (NHS or HEI) has been identified to hold and provide administration for the grant.

Mentor

Applicants are encouraged to identify a suitable mentor. This would ideally be a senior lecturer or a chair with further research skills. The mentor should be someone who can

guide the Scholar to develop a research network and their skills towards becoming a Principal Investigator. Applicants will need to explain in their application why their chosen mentor is suitable. The mentor should not have been their PhD supervisor, however if the applicant would like to be mentored by their PhD supervisor they must be able to justify why.

If a suitable mentor can not be identified by the applicant, one will be allocated.

Mentor payment should be included within the £15,000 grant.

Higher Education Institutions (HEI)

Applicants are expected to identify a lead East Midlands HEI who are willing to support them in the application for a Clinical lectureship and are willing to host if successful the CL. A letter of support should be provided with the application form.

Benefits to the Clinical Scholar

- Support in applying for a HEE/NIHR CL scheme.
- Funding to address developmental needs prior to applying for the award.
- Mentorship from an established academic.
- Support in developing a research career.

Benefits to the NHS/HEI

- Up to £15,000 to support completion of the award
- NHS focused research with potential patient benefits
- Research project work will drive improved outcomes
- Crosses Primary, Community and Secondary Care
- Staff development
- Increases research capability in their organisation

Duration

The format and duration of the Clinical Scholar Gold Award will be determined by the business case set out by the applicant on the application form. The applicant will need to specify their developmental needs, how they will achieve this and how long this will take. Applicants are also required to specify which year they wish to apply for the CL award.

The Gold award should last no longer than 18 months.

Deadlines

Whilst we will review applications interested in applying for a 2017 award, HEE-EM recommends allowing at least a year to ensure a good application can be developed.

HEE-EM Clinical Scholar Gold Awards Application launch: **11th January 2017**

HEE-EM Clinical Scholar Gold Awards Application Deadline: **10th March 2017**

Interviews: **30th March 2017**

HEE EM Clinical Scholar Gold Award Start Date: **10th April 2017**

Useful Links

'Transforming healthcare through clinical academic roles in nursing, midwifery and allied health professions: A practical resource for healthcare provider organisations'. Association of UK University Hospitals (2016):

<http://www.medschools.ac.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Transforming-Healthcare.pdf>

HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme (ICA) for non-medical healthcare professions:

<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/funding-for-training-and-career-development/training-programmes/nihr-hee-ica-programme/>

Health Education England (HEE) Research and Innovation Strategy:

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/research-learning-innovation/research-innovation-strategy>

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Research priorities:

<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/research-and-impact/research-priorities/>