**Academy of Medical Sciences Springboard – Round 6**

The Academy of Medical Sciences [Springboard awards](https://acmedsci.ac.uk/grants-and-schemes/grant-schemes/springboard) are aimed at biomedical researchers at the start of their first independent post to help launch their research careers. The scheme was set up in 2015 as a way for the Academy to support early career researchers who have yet to receive significant research funding and transition to independence.

This is the first year that applicants from the University of Westminster are eligible to apply.

The award is for up to £100,000 over two years, to cover direct research expenses and professional development within a defined research project, as well as access to the Academy’s mentoring and development programme. The project must display innovation, and clear plans for the applicant’s career progression.

Applications can address a broad range of topics: experimental or theoretical approaches, basic laboratory research, clinical application or healthcare delivery. The project must demonstrate clear relevance to human health.

To be eligible you must:

* Hold an academic post that incorporates research
* Be in your first independent position
* Be within four years of appointment to this position.
* Have an appointment which covers the length of the award.

In addition, you cannot:

* Hold a clinical contract of any kind
* Or be in receipt of substantial research funding as a principal or co-investigator exceeding £150,000.

The University must conduct an internal triage process as we can only select up to four applicants to submit to the scheme. If you meet the eligibility criteria and would like to be considered, please complete and send this pro forma describing your research proposal, along with a 2 page CV to [h.patel@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:h.patel@westminster.ac.uk) by **midday** on the **6 May 2020**, using the subject line: AMS Springboard proposal.

The Springboard champion, Professor Brendon Noble, and deputy champion, Dr Nina Smyth, are happy to be contacted if you would like to discuss your proposal.

Applications will be assessed internally, and successful applicants selected to submit a full application to the Academy will be notified by 18 May 2020.

The timetable is as follows:

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| **Activity** | **Date** |
| Internal call advertised | 7 April 2020 |
| Internal deadline for applications | 6 May, midday |
| Successful applicants notified by Research Office, and Academy informed | 18 May 2020 |
| Full application form opens in Academy portal | 20 May 2020 |
| Deadline for invited submissions through the portal | 24 June 2020 |
| Academy conducts assessment of all eligible applications | August - October |
| Academy selection panel meeting to confirm awards | November |
| Outcomes are released by Academy | February 2021 |

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| **Applicant name** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Phone number** |  |

**Eligibility questions:**

* 1. **Current post title:**
  2. **Current post start date:**
  3. **Is this a fixed term appointment?** Yes / No (delete as appropriate)
  4. **Appointment end date:**
  5. **Is this your first independent salaried research position?** For the purposes of this scheme independence is defined as your first group-leader position you have held at any institution, where you are line managed and not supervised.

Yes / No (delete as appropriate)

* 1. **What is the source of funding for your current post’s salary (institutional / external body)?**
  2. **Do you currently hold any kind of clinical contract, including an honorary contract?** Yes / No (delete as appropriate)
  3. **Do you have research hours allocation?**

**Proposed research questions:**

* 1. **Title of proposed project:**
  2. **Primary subject area of proposed project:**
  3. **Please provide a short a short summary of your research proposal suitable for a lay reader, not a specialist in your field (max. 200 words):**
  4. **Please provide further details of your proposed research activities (max. 600 words**): This should include aims and objectives of the research, why it is important, and the plan of investigation including methodology and design.
  5. **Please describe how a Springboard award would help you realise your career aspirations (max. 300 words).**