# **Chiropractic Research Council: PhD Studentship Application Form**

We are pleased to invite applications for funding toward completion of PhD studies, completed at a UK institution. The feasibility, quality and potential impact of the proposed study are a priority.

The Chiropractic Research Council is committed to supporting research and researchers for the benefit of UK chiropractic patients. We are interested in funding innovative projects that will have significant impact, help to build and develop UK chiropractic research capacity and will ultimately benefit of benefit to UK chiropractic patients and the public.

In particular, we will consider initiatives that:

* + improve the safety, accessibility and delivery of chiropractic care in a variety of healthcare pathways
  + engage practice-based, clinical researchers
  + explore and improve patient care

Collaborative, multidisciplinary initiatives will also be considered.

Available funding:

The CRC is able to provide £9500 per year for each part-time PhD student\*, with appropriate match-funding, for a maximum of 6 years. The CRC will also provide funding for part-time university registration fee to a maximum of £2500 per year and up to £1000 per year (for e.g. travel expenses, publication fees) for a maximum of 6 years.

This totals a maximum of £13000 per applicant per year for 6 years.

We also welcome applications from PhD students who have already commenced their studies. Please give details of your progress, time-line and any other grants/funding that you may have received to date.

Applications will be shortlisted and considered by the Chiropractic Research Council’s Scientific Committee (see assessment criteria below).

Successful and unsuccessful applications will be notified by 1st June 2024.

**Closing date for applications: midnight, 1st May 2024**

**Please email your completed application, plus attachments to:** [**info@crc-uk.org**](mailto:info@crc-uk.org)

(\*priority given to part-time studies but full-time may also be considered).

## **Part A: Applicant Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name and qualifications of applicant: |  |
| Name of department(s) and institution(s) |  |
| Job Title |  |
| Contact address |  |
| Contact email address |  |
| Contact telephone number |  |

## **B: Participants**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PhD Student  (name, qualifications, details of experience to ensure completion of PhD studies, future research ambitions, justification of ability to commit 2 days min/week) |  |
| PhD Supervisor (s)  (name, qualifications, details of expertise in chosen research area, and experience/capacity of PhD supervision) |  |
| Institution  (details of institution, provision of facilities, infrastructure and supportive research environment during the funding period, and continuation beyond the funding period, if anticipated) |  |

## **Part C: Project**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Primary Investigator(s) |  |
| Co-investigator(s) |  |
| Location of project  (if multiple locations, please list) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Working title of project: |  |
| What are the aims of the project |  |
| Project description (details of aim, project plan, research methodology) |  |
| Planned start date and end date, (expected outcomes at end of funding years 1, 2 and 3 (please include a Gantt Chart). If already underway, please include progress report. |  |

## **Part D: Ethical approval and GDPR**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Does the project require ethical approval? | Yes/ No (please delete as appropriate) |
| If No, why has ethical approval not been sought? |  |
| If yes, please list the ethics committees where ethical approval will be/ has been sought. |  |
| Has ethical approval been obtained? |  |
| Has GDPR been considered for the project? |  |

## **Part E: Finances**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total cost of project (please include annual budget plan) |  |
| Amount being applied for from the CRC |  |
| What expenses will be included in the amount applied for from the CRC? |  |
| If the amount being applied for from the CRC is less than the total cost of the project, what provisions have been made to provide for the shortfall? |  |
| Is the project match funded? If so, who is providing the additional funding. Has the grant application been successful?  Please include details of any other additional funding. |  |

## **Part F: Signatories**

Primary Investigator(s):

Sign......................................... Print............................................. Date.......................

Co-Investigator(s):

Sign.......................................... Print.............................................. Date........................

Additional documents required to process the application:

1. Summary CV with 2 references (no more than 1 A4 page) of primary investigator(s).
2. Justification of ability to commit minimum 2 days per week for part-time PhD studies.
3. Overview of the studies intended to be carried out during the PhD, including: clear definition of the research question; description of approaches to answer the research question; explanation of how the study is original, significant and impactful; explanation as to how it relates to the existing literature in the field; explanation as to how it complements and enhances any existing or ongoing studies; explanation of the potential importance of the work. (maximum 2500 words, excluding references).
4. If a student is the primary investigator or part of the investigative team, please include a letter of registration from the institution the student is registered with.
5. If ethical approval is required, please include a letter of approval from the ethics council.
6. A signed letter from the organisation where the research is to be conducted, stating permission to carry out the proposed study.
7. Letter of support for potential academic supervision.
8. Copy of memorandum of understanding or a letter from other successful grant applications for this project.

## **Assessment Criteria**

In judging the applications, the Scientific Committee is asked to consider the following points. You may wish to address these in your application:

**Originality**

Will the project provide new insights into the subject area?

Would the project be valuable in confirming the results of existing studies?

**Importance (clinical or otherwise) of the work**

Is the subject area already receiving much attention i.e. is further support warranted?

Will the project significantly contribute to furthering knowledge in this field?

Will the project ultimately benefit patient care?

**Scientific Reliability**

Is the Project well designed?

Are the methods outlined appropriate to achieve the objective?

Is the sample size justified i.e. not too small to answer the question, or too large, wasting resources?

Is the use of controls appropriate?

Are supporting references up to date and relevant?

**Experience of applicant, facilities and support**

Is the applicant sufficiently experienced and qualified to carry out the study?

Is the applicant’s department, work setting or level of supervision of a high enough calibre to support the project adequately?

**Appropriate use of funds**

Will the supplies or services for which funding is requested provide a valuable contribution to the project, is the funding requested appropriate for the supplies or services detailed i.e. has the applicant given an accurate quotation or realistic estimate?

Has the applicant sourced funding from other sources, or considered co-funding of a project to spread costs?

Is completion of the project dependent on the applicant securing funds from other sources?

Would funding for this Project be available from non-voluntary sources?

**Important information**

CRC grant applications are invited from UK-registered chiropractors, UK chiropractic educational institutions and other UK-based academic institutions engaging in research with chiropractors and/or chiropractic educational institutions.

CRC research grants are NOT available for the funding of undergraduate education, postgraduate education involving taught programmes (e.g. Masters courses), overseas education or training, solely for travel or accommodation expenses, or for the purchase of computer hardware.

CRC grants will also only fund the direct costs of the research project and are not available for any overheads, estates costs, or indirect costs.