

RESPONSIVE MODE GRANT FUNDING

The Foundation is inviting ideas for proposals addressing areas within the broad remit of the Foundation. We are seeking projects with a clear element of originality, not routine research nor repetition of existing research.

Proposals must have relevance to our mission to ‘*search, demonstrate and influence, providing evidence, solutions and ideas that will help to overcome the causes of poverty, disadvantage and social evil*’ and be within one or more of our overarching themes:

Poverty: *to examine the root causes of poverty and disadvantage and identify solutions*

Empowerment: *to identify ways of enabling people and communities to have control of their own lives*

Place: *to contribute to the building and development of strong, cohesive and sustainable communities*

We are interested in proposals that read across with poverty, place and empowerment as well as proposals that fall within one or the other as it is often those ideas between the themes that are most interesting.

JRF’s remit is UK wide and we are interested in all four countries of the UK and their different approaches to policy and practice.

Responsive grant funding

The purpose of this call is to encourage original ideas within the JRF’s remit. We are particularly interested in ideas that are outside of our defined programmes of work, although we will consider ideas that

complement our current programmes. (Details of current programmes are on the main JRF website). We view this as an opportunity to capture new or emerging issues in policy or practice, to generate imaginative ideas or capture different perspectives or fresh thinking on known issues. In short, we are looking for inspired proposals. These may be relatively small to enable groundwork and the development of thinking to take place or fully worked up proposals.

Our preference is to fund projects that have a wide significance, beyond the local or routine and have the potential to influence policy or practice.

Budget

Our capacity to fund projects costing more than £100,000 is limited. Our main goal is to seek a few high quality projects which provide fresh thinking and are methodologically sound.

We do not have any preconceptions about the design of proposals. However the suggested design must be appropriate to meet the aims of the proposed project. We are open to funding innovative designs. Our focus is on value for money rather than cost per se.

How to apply

There is a two stage process with the first stage being a short written outline proposal. The purpose is to save the time of both applicant and the Foundation, by ensuring that only applications that have a reasonable chance of success reach the full application stage.

More than one application per organisation or individual is permissible but each idea needs to be on a separate form.

Outlines – of no more than 1,500 words - must be submitted on the [accompanying template](#) (with the format unchanged). All relevant

information must be contained within the template. Any information outside of the template will not be considered nor will any information that exceeds the word length.

Due to the anticipated volume of outline proposals expected, we are unable to answer any email or telephone queries about this funding stream from potential applicants.

At this stage we are primarily interested in:

- ensuring that the idea is fresh, from a different perspective or dealing with an emerging issue.
- fully understanding the issue or question you wish to address
- clear objectives and aims for the project
- indication that the design and methods will be appropriate to address the objectives (we are not expecting this section to be fully detailed at this stage).
- an indication of cost (we are not expecting detailed costings at this stage, just a 'ball park' figure)
- an indication of whether the project has capacity for positive influence

Our remit is to further policy and practice change within the UK. Applicants may wish to draw on an international perspective where this enables a greater understanding of this remit, or where an international element contextualises the project. JRF do not have a history of funding comparative studies involving significant amounts of fieldwork outside the UK.

The outline will initially be considered by an Assistant Director of Policy and Research and two other members of JRF staff with relevant knowledge and expertise. On occasion external advice may be sought if required at this stage. The Director of Policy and Research and Director of Communications will review and agree the outline proposals to invite to submit a full proposal.

Having considered your outline we will advise you whether the Foundation wishes to progress to considering a full application or not. Due to the number of outlines anticipated it will not be possible to give feedback on unsuccessful outlines for this call.

Full proposals, should you be invited to submit one, will be assessed against the Foundation's usual criteria for assessing proposals ([see application guidelines](#)). Full proposals will be subject to both internal and external assessment prior to a recommendation for funding or not to the December meeting of Trustees.

Who can apply

The JRF accepts proposals from any organisation or individual and does not restrict its funding to any particular sector. Of importance is the idea, an appropriate and robust design and the ability to deliver at an appropriate cost.

The timetable for proposals is as follows:

Deadline for receipt of **outline** proposals: noon on Monday, 27 July 2009

Notification of shortlisted proposals: Friday, 21 August 2009

Deadline for receipt of **final** proposals: Friday, 2 October 2009

Trustees' Meeting: Tuesday, 8 December 2009

Requests for an extension to these deadlines cannot be considered.

**Three hard copies of the outline proposal should be sent to:
Philippa Fairburn, Joseph Rowntree Foundation (Policy and**

Research Department), The Homestead, 40 Water End, YORK
YO30 6WP.

In addition, please send an electronic copy of your outline to:
expressions@jrf.org.uk

You will receive an automatic notification response.