ICURe FAQ?

explore

Who is ICURe for?

Entrepreneurial leader (EL) - is the one who gets a group to truly operate as a team; creating collaboration and high performance that sparks more innovation."
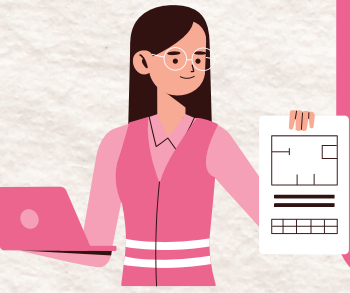
Principal Investigator (PI) - is the individual responsible for the preparation, conduct, and administration of a research grant, cooperative agreement, training or public service project, contract, or other sponsored project.

Business Advisor (BA) is a professional who provides clients with expertise in various aspects of business, such as development, management or financial security.

Technology Transfer Officers are dedicated to identifying research that has potential commercial interest and strategies for how to exploit it. They are usually created within a university in order to manage IP assets of the university, and the transfer of knowledge and technology to industry.

Public Sector Research Establishments (PSRE) support government by providing science advice to policymakers, by acting as a strategic capability in policy delivery and by delivering critical science services for government, business, and society.

UKRI

Innovate UK

ICURe FAQ?

explore

What is ICURe Explore?

ICURe EXPLORE is a 12-weeks full-time market exploration programme. It provides financial support up to £35,000 for an Entrepreneurial Lead's salary, assumption testing, and customer discovery activities. This programme is aimed at helping research teams from across the UK to explore technology applications and test value propositions.

Who is eligible?

ICURe Explore is open to research teams in the UK excluding those from incorporated and/or trading companies. This includes, but is not limited to, UK researchers in a public or academic lab, a research institute, an incubator, or a national facility.

Can anyone be an Entrepreneurial Lead?

Yes, This can include but is not limited to, Ph.D., technician, PDRA, fellowship, and group leader positions. However, please note that ICURe Explore is a full-time commitment for three months and if recommended for ICURe Exploit, you will be expected to commit full time for a minimum of a further 15 months. The Entrepreneurial Lead is expected to be on the payroll of the new company funded through the IUK business grant.

I am a Ph.D. student, am I eligible?

Yes, you are eligible. If you are accepted on ICURe Explore, or recommended at options roundabout to spinout, it is your responsibility to negotiate the terms & conditions with your university and funder as these are full-time commitments.

Who should my team consist of?

Your team should consist of:

- Entrepreneurial Lead
- Principal Scientific Advisor often Senior Researcher/Principal Investigator
- Business Adviser (usually independent of your host institution)
- Technology Transfer Officer (TTO) or if PSRE your institutional equivalent through extensive market engagement globally.

What if I can't find a Business Advisor?

If you are unable to find an appropriate business advisor prior to application, we can help with recruiting an appropriate individual from a relevant industrial sector.

I am a non-UK national, can I participate in ICURe Explore?

Yes, provided you have the necessary visas allowing you to travel and work in the UK. NOTE: To be eligible for an Innovate UK business grant to spin out (if recommended), all recipients of funding must be resident in the UK for tax purposes and have the appropriate permissions to work in the UK.

Am I eligible for ICURe Explore if I own the IP or if it is shared with a university/research organisation?

You are eligible to apply but will need to demonstrate that you have an appropriate team to support the commercialisation process.

Would IP that is being developed between a university/PSRE and company be eligible?

Yes, if the new IP is wholly owned by the University/PSRE and not in the business environment (privately).

UKRI Innovate UK

ICURe FAQ?

explore

Would IP that is due to be licensed to an external company be considered?

No, as the company is already established.

Team formation

You can have multiple PI's involved with the project and they can share the role and if one is unavailable, the other can step in. However, please note that only one PI is funded for any travel costs and accommodation for team members to attend ICURe events such as bootcamp, training days and options roundabout if delivered in person.

Interviews

Interview dates are provided on fs6 application form. Please note where possible a range of interview dates will be given and these are likely to be shortly after application close date since programme start dates can be within 1-2 weeks of application close.

Would combined student and University IP be considered?

Yes, but only with the full support of the host University TTO or research team in PSRE.

Budget Administration

The university will likely set up a project code to receive ICURe funds under an existing cost centre code. A new procedure is now in place to assist Universities and PSREs in managing their digital testing and business advisor payments. Universities and PSREs can have partial or full control of their budgets. For the Teams, The Helix Way can directly book digital testing, LinkedIn premiums etc. They can also pay the BA directly at the end of the programme. This will be discussed at the Bootcamp.

How much Funding am I eligible for?

There is a cap of £20k for the salary over the 3-month period, incl. University Pension and NI contributions. If the EL is a PhD Candidate their funded scholarship may be paused for the duration of 3-month involvement in ICURe. The University will need to create a post for the duration of the ICURe project again usually against an existing project code. They can then charge any salary costs to the ICURe project code, once setup.

In person Events

PI & EL are mandatory for in person, IUK travel budget will cover their costs in getting to venue so they need to make their own booking and claim back. IUK will cover accommodation and delegate fee for food when at venue for both EL and PI.

Options Roundabout- four team members (EL,PI,BA & TTO) are all expected to attend and IUK travel budget will cover their costs for travel costs and accommodation. Any additional team members may attend the options roundabout (e.g. additional PI) but additional members the cost won't be covered.

ICURe Explore – ICURe Programme

ICURe | LinkedIn

ICURe (@ICUReProgramme) / Twitter