**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - GUIDANCE**

SRUK and WSF Joint Grant Call 2023

Scleroderma and Raynaud's UK (SRUK) is the only UK charity dedicated to improving the lives of people with scleroderma and Raynaud's phenomenon. We envision a world where no-one has their life limited by scleroderma and Raynaud's. The World Scleroderma Foundation (WSF) promotes and supports global research into all aspects of scleroderma and is committed to improving the quality of life for scleroderma sufferers and their families.

SRUK and WSF are pleased to work together once again to promote innovative and high-quality research by new and established investigators in fields related to scleroderma.

Under this joint winner-takes-all call, one award of £150,000 will be made to an innovative and collaborative team.

Proposals may be basic, translational, or clinical in nature but must be relevant to the areas of causes, early diagnosis and detection, or treatment and care.

Funding available: £150,000 GBP for 1 project

Eligibility criteria:

* Applications may be submitted by non-profit organizations, public and private such as universities, colleagues, hospitals, and laboratories.
* Projects must be collaborative involving a minimum of 2 research centres, one of which must be in the UK.
* The proposal must clearly delineate the pathway to patient benefit.
* Awardees/ lead host institution must have signed and returned SRUK’s standard Terms and Conditions by 21st February 2024. The winning team will be announced at the World Scleroderma Congress in March 2024.
* The winning team must present an abstract of their preliminary or final results at the World Scleroderma Congress 2026.

The first stage of the call, the Expression of Interest, opens on 1st May 2023. The deadline to submit the Expression of Interest Form is **31st July 2023, 1pm**. Successful applicants will be invited to submit a full application in September 2023.

**Stage 1: Expression of Interest (EOI)**

**Guidance on Completing the Expression of Interest Form**

**Section 1: Administrative Details**

This section asks for basic details about the applicant, the research project, and where the research will be based.

**Institution and Address** – This field should be completed with the name of the institution where the applicant is currently based.

**Department –** This field should be completed with the department where the applicant is currently based.

**Total funding requested –** Please insert the total funds requested. Applicants should be aware that only directly incurred costs may be applied for.

**Proposed starting date –** Must not be earlier than 31st March 2024.

**Project duration –** Please indicate the expected duration of the project.

**Section 2: Project Proposal**

This section asks for details about the proposed research project, including the lay and scientific abstract, background about the problem which will be addressed, aims and objectives, methodology, costs, and outcomes.

**Project title –** Please provide the title of the proposed research project.

**Co-applicants, institutions & their role within the project –** Please list the applicants, their organisations along with a brief description of their role within the project.

**Plain English abstract (300 words) –** In this section a lay abstract of the proposed research should be provided which is accessible and interesting to the scleroderma and Raynaud’s community.

**Scientific abstract (300 words) –** Please provide a scientific summary of the proposed research.

**Scientific/clinical problem and proposed solution (300 words) –** What clinical aspect of Scleroderma or Raynaud’s will this project address? What is the current scale of the problem and the current limitations in clinical practice/scientific knowledge? How will your research advance this area?

**Research aim(s) (200 words) –** Please outline the overall aim(s) of your proposed research.

**Research objectives (300 words) –** How will you be achieving your research aims?

**Proposed methodology (500 words) –** Please describe the methods that will be used to investigate the objectives of the project.

**Estimated costs and brief justification (250 words) –** Please provide a breakdown of costs required for the research project, and a brief justification for the costs to be incurred.

**Anticipated outcomes (300 words) –** Please outline your predicted results and the wider impact this work will have within this research field. Include the impact and potential benefits that the outputs of this project may have for those living with Scleroderma and Raynaud’s.

When completed, please send the Expression of Interest form to ‘grants@sruk.co.uk’.