

**NIHR Research Design Service East of England
REGIONAL SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE RESEARCHERS**

For health researchers planning to submit bids in 2015, the NIHR Research Design Services East of England (NIHR RDS EoE) has planned a programme of regional support. With the aim of assisting our clients with planning the milestones to be accomplished before they submit this support programme, these regional events will enable researchers to take advantage of advice and feedback that we offer.

Our clients may apply for three kinds of regional support:

1. NIHR two-day workshops

These are designed for novice bidders who have not applied to NIHR before. The workshops provide an outline of the particular characteristics and remits of NIHR bids, and an overview of what is involved. There are 20 places per workshop, total cost £100 for the two days. Please apply directly to Dr Muhammad Waqar at muhammad.waqar@beds.ac.uk or on 01582 743782.

NIHR two-day workshop: 12 March 2015 and 18 March 2015 Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

NIHR two-day workshop: 10 June 2015 and 17 June 2015 Colchester, Essex

NIHR two-day workshop: October 2015 (date TBA) Hatfield, Hertfordshire

2. Bid development one-day workshops

These are for bids at the first or second draft stage and nearing completion. Participants should be the principal investigator and/or one other member of the team. In the morning, participants will give a presentation summarising their research proposal to the other workshop participants and to a panel of RDS Advisers, specialists and lay reviewers. In the afternoon, tables with teams of specialists such as health economists, statisticians and public and patient involvement advisers will be available for the participating research teams to consult on different aspects of their bid. Proposals should be sent to your RDS key adviser in advance of the workshops by dates stated below; priority will be given to those bids nearest to completion.



Bid development workshop: 10 November 2014 - Norwich

Mini-Bid development workshop: 12 December 2014 Cambridge, Essex. Submit proposals by 28 November 2014

Bid development workshop: March 2015 (date TBA) - Norwich

Bid development workshop: 25 March 2015 Takeley, Essex. Submit proposals by 11 March 2015

Bid development workshop: July 2015 (date TBA) - Norwich

Bid development workshop: 6 July 2015 Takeley, Essex. Submit proposals by 22 June 2015

Bid development workshop: November 2015 (date TBA) - Norwich

There are 5 places per workshop. Please consult the RDS East of England central office at rdsc@essex.ac.uk or on 01206 874856 for details.

3. Pre-submission panel

For teams who have their proposals ready and who wish to receive RDS comments near to submission. This panel replicates the NIHR's funding committee and aims to provide feedback consisting of the panel's view of any fixable and non-fixable faults of the proposal and readiness for submission.

The proposers are not required to attend, but should send their completed bids to their RDS key adviser by the date below. Applicants who have not used the RDS to develop their bids are also welcome to submit proposals for feedback from the pre-submission panel. They should submit their bids for inclusion to Dr Muhammad Waqar as above.

The proposals will be reviewed by a panel comprising all advisers and methodological specialists in the region in the same way that bids are considered by NIHR committees. That is, two assessors will lead a panel discussion, and the panel as a whole will then comment on the proposal in terms of its quality and readiness for submission. Key advisers will give feedback to the proposers shortly before submission. Any bid received will be considered that is complete and aiming for submission within a few weeks; the number of places is unlimited.

Pre-submission panel: 15 January 2015 - submit proposals by 5 January 2015

Pre-submission panel: 13 May 2015 – submit proposals by 1 May 2015

Pre-submission panel: 10 September 2015 – submit proposals by 27 August 2015

