



UK-China Partnership Innovation Challenge Fund GSK Pharmacoeconomics Grant

Introduction

The British Council UK-China Partnership Innovation Challenge Fund is an initiative of the British Council China to enhance education links between the UK and China. It will provide seed-funding for UK institutions to partner with China in developing innovative ideas that contribute to the public good and create opportunities for individuals, while delivering real benefit to the UK education sector.

The GSK Pharmacoeconomics Grant is a new challenge fund designed to support UK-China educational collaborations in the healthcare sector. Co-developed by GSK and the British Council, the fund will support knowledge transfer between the two countries, seek out innovation, and nurture sustainable partnerships. Funding is provided by GSK and administered by the British Council China.

The bidding for the fund is now open to UK organisations and institutions involved in international education who are interested in this opportunity. The necessary application documents are attached to this guidance note.

Strategic objectives

China's healthcare sector is currently going through a period of reform, with broad-ranging plans to increase the overall scale of the Chinese healthcare system, standardise training and increase the level of private and overseas investment. These reforms will take China in directions where the UK already has strong experience. One such area is pharmacoeconomics, the scientific study to evaluate the cost and effects of a pharmaceutical product, which serves to guide optimal healthcare resource allocation.

This challenge fund will provide seed-funding for UK institutions to partner with China to develop an initiative in the field of pharmacoeconomics that:

- contributes to the public good and supports China to better meet its healthcare challenges
- creates significant impact and brings lasting benefits to individuals
- delivers benefits (educational and commercial) to the UK education and healthcare sectors.

Grant

A grant of **£80,000** will be awarded, which should cover the whole project duration. The project in receipt of the funding will be expected to start in December 2016 and run for a maximum of **two years** (until December 2018). Only one project will be selected and funded.

Proposed budgets should be inclusive of all activities required to fully achieve the project's stated goals, including dissemination and translation activities. Administration costs of the selected institutions must be incorporated into the original project budget and should aim to be no more than 5% of the overall budget. Payments will be made in instalments.

Assessment criteria and process

Project proposals will be assessed based on the information provided in the application form. Shortlisted applicants may be contacted for further information about their proposals. A final decision will be made by the Project Board.

Proposals will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- *Alignment with strategic objectives and priority areas (weighting 30%)*
 - Project bids must show a clear understanding of and fully address the strategic objectives.
 - Project bids need to demonstrate the ability to generate outcomes that are of benefit to the wider public.
 - Project bids must clearly explain what kind of opportunities they will create for individuals in the UK and China, and how this will be achieved.

- *Potential to deliver target outcomes and impacts (weighting 40%)*
 - Project bids must clearly explain what the project will achieve and how this will contribute to creating opportunities for individuals and/or increasing collaboration between the UK and China.
 - Project bids must propose a realistic action plan to achieve the target outcomes, with defined impacts that can be monitored and evaluated.
 - Project bids must demonstrate measurable, tangible and sustainable impacts that bring value to the UK and benefits to the UK education sector. Projects that principally benefit one institution will not be considered.
 - Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate significant growth potential for the UK, innovative services and/or products, access to other sources of funding, and partnerships with Chinese organisations.

- *Capacity to deliver on time and within budget (weighting 30%)*
 - Projects must be led by a team with the skills and experience necessary to successfully deliver the proposed work.
 - Proposals must have a clear budget plan that can be realistically executed.
 - Proposals must fully address the operational requirements.

After the final result is announced, the British Council China will enter into an agreement with the successful institution. Funding will be administered after the agreement is signed and the selected institution must submit a declaration confirming they have received the funds.

Operational requirements

Applications must meet the following operational requirements:

Value for money:

The project must achieve the best possible outcomes with the funding and resources available, while ensuring funding and resources are used effectively, economically and without waste.



Deliverability:

The project must incorporate a credible delivery plan with realistic milestones to complete the different elements of the project on time and within budget. This will require a team with relevant skills and experience.

Affordability and sustainability:

The project must be affordable in relationship to the total amount of funding available and be financially sustainable with benefits that can endure beyond the funding period.

Monitoring and evaluation plan:

The project must have a clear monitoring and evaluation plan. The plan should explain what the key performance indicators are and how monitoring will be carried out. Tangible milestones should be set, with an explanation as to how they will be measured.

Who can apply?

The grant is open to all UK organisations involved in international education, including:

- higher education institutions
- research institutes
- organisations involved in education or health policy
- private organisations offering education services and/or products (private organisations not offering education services and/or products must partner with an education institution). Private organisations who apply must be recognised by relevant UK or Chinese authorities.

How to apply

Please complete the attached application form and send it along with all supporting documentation to partnershipfund@britishcouncil.org.cn by 23:59 pm GMT on **30 October 2016**. Any enquiries about the grant or the bidding process can also be sent to the above email address.

Timetable

23 September 2016	Issue calls for proposals
30 October 2016	Deadline for applications
7-8 November 2016	Announce the winning proposal
9-18 November 2016	Agree and sign the funding contract
21-30 November 2016	Issue funding
December 2016	Launch of the project



Monitoring and Evaluation

The selected project will be expected to provide quarterly progress updates and annual achievement reports based on the milestones agreed upon at the time of approval. A project manager from the British Council China will monitor the project. The British Council will also commission a third party to carry out independent evaluation of the selected project after completion of the project.

A detailed record of activities, including important communications, documents and expenditures should be kept in case an external audit is carried out.