



Grant Application Guidance 2023

Please submit your letter of intent to research@make2ndscount.co.uk by Monday 30 October 2023. Two pages is sufficient. We will check that the proposal is in scope and send you a link to complete a full application. The deadline for full applications is Thursday 30 November 2023.

PROJECT SCOPE

Our mission is to advance an increased quality of life for those affected by secondary breast cancer and we are uniquely placed to make this happen through our research, support and education programmes.

In our 2023 funding call, we are inviting proposals for research projects which deliver tangible near-time benefit to people living with secondary breast cancer. Patient benefit is defined as a positive effect on or change to the care, services, treatment, mental wellbeing or quality of life of the secondary breast cancer community.

Within this call, a variety of project types will be considered that have a clear line of sight to patients. For example:

Excluded	Included
Basic cellular biology Early drug discovery	Feasibility studies Qualitative research

Ensuring the voices of the secondary breast cancer community are heard is a key part of our work. Proposed research projects should be built in partnership with representatives from the community. We are happy to support research teams seeking patient advocates to input into project design.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Lead applicants must be UK-based and employed at a recognised university, NHS hospital or non-profit research institute.
- Co-lead applicants are permitted. If successful, the contracted grant will be held by one lead applicant's institution only.
- There are no restrictions on co-applicants and collaborating partners, however each project team must include a patient advocate, with clear consideration from the outset on how the

project will involve people with lived experience of the issues that are the focus of the research.

- Host institutions must be in a position to comply with all clauses of the [Make 2nds Count Research Terms and Conditions](#).
- Grants will be awarded between £50,000 - £250,000 over a funding period of up to 4 years. Make 2nds Count would encourage applications across this scale that benefit the patient community. Co-funded projects will be considered where evidence of other funding commitments is provided.
- The primary objectives of the project should be achievable in a 3-4 year period, with a project start date no later than 01 October 2024.

HOW FUNDS CAN BE USED

All reasonable costs incurred during the grant period related to the project will be considered. These may include:

- Research costs for work carried out in the NHS
- Patient participation costs such as travel and training
- Studentship costs and salaries of staff who work directly on the grant activities
- Costs for staff training relating to the project
- Costs associated with research dissemination including publications and conferences
- Equipment that is required primarily to complete grant activities

At the end of a grant, a Final Expenditure Report is required and any underspend will be returned to Make 2nds Count.

FUNDING CALL TIMELINE

28 August 2023	Launch of funding call
30 October 2023	Letter of intent deadline
30 November 2023	Deadline for full applications
December 2023	External review
February 2024	Research Committee makes funding recommendations
March 2024	Board of Trustees ratifies final funding decisions Applicants are duly notified

LETTER OF INTENT GUIDANCE

The letter of intent should summarise the project and patient benefits of the proposed research. If you would like to discuss the scope of the funding call and any planned applications, please email research@make2ndscount.co.uk.

After receiving your letter of intent, we will check that the proposal is in scope and send you a link to complete a full application form via our website. Make 2nds Count aims to provide feedback on letters of intent within one week of submission.

A letter of intent must include:

- Brief applicant details
- A project summary including key objectives
- A description of how patient advocates have been involved in the project design
- The needs of the secondary breast cancer community that the project aims to address
- An outline and timeline of the near-time patient benefit that the project will deliver
- Estimated project total cost and funding amount requested from Make 2nds Count

Two pages is sufficient. Please submit your letter of intent to research@make2ndscount.co.uk by Monday 30 October 2023.

WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION

We fund research focussed on secondary breast cancer that aims to deliver direct benefit to the patient community. Our external reviewers and Research Committee judge the strength of proposals based on:

- Near-time benefits to the secondary breast cancer community
- Clinical importance of the research question
- Quality of study design
- Feasibility of project deliverables
- Diversity of patient participation
- Good value for charity funding
- Potential health economic benefits of the work