APM Research Fund
Call for applications for funding
2019

About the APM Research Fund

1. The Association for Project Management (APM), the Chartered body for the project profession research programme aims to advance new and existing knowledge in the delivery of projects, programmes and portfolios. By developing innovative research and sharing its results and findings, APM helps to develop and promote a profession built around learning and collaboration. In this way, research helps to fulfil APM's chartered objectives whilst providing funding, dissemination and promotional opportunities.

2. The APM Research Fund has been setup within the Research Programme to provide funding for small-scale research projects or to provide seed funding for larger research projects.

3. APM welcomes applications to the Research Fund from APM members and the wider project management community to fund research proposals that seek to address key issues that are either directly involved in or related to, the management of projects, programmes and portfolios.

How much funding is available?

4. Proposals will be typically funded at £5,000 each although submissions of a larger scale, ambition and impact will also be considered. APM is happy to consider match-funding or co-funded submissions.

How can APM and the APM Sponsored Research Fund help me?

5. In addition to funding, APM can help provide access to data and research participants who wish to be involved in cutting edge research activities (for example, through access to its corporate partners). APM also aids researchers by providing a dissemination platform for research at its events including its annual conference, publications, journals and media activities.

Eligibility Criteria

6. Applications and proposals are open to UK-residents including: academics and researchers, students, the APM volunteer community and practitioners amongst others.

7. The directed study on *International ethics: projects across boundaries* (see point 9 for details) is also open to non-UK resident academics and researchers. This is the only study open for non-UK residents in 2019.

8. Both individual and collaborative proposals are welcomed.

What should the research proposal contain?

9. APM's research themes and priorities for 2019 are:
   i)   *Digitalisation, Artificial Intelligence and big data in projects*
   ii) *International ethics: projects across boundaries* – this study is also open to non-UK residents
   One study in each of these themes will be funded.

10. Other themes will also be considered for funding and applicants are encouraged to put forward innovative topics which will support the future delivery of projects and which address current challenges.

11. The above themes directly support the APM strategy. For more on the strategy please visit: https://www.apm.org.uk/about-us/apm-strategy

12. Proposals should be succinct (no more than 1500 words) in MS Word or PDF formats.

13. Research proposals should include:
   a) A statement addressing the following points:
   - *The research question you seek to answer*
   - *Past research or previous work related to this subject area (theoretical background)*
   - *Proposed methodology adopted for the research*
   - *The theoretical and practical benefits of the research to APM and the project management community and how these will be measured or evaluated to measure the impact of the research (contribution to theory and practice)*
   - *Relevance of the research to APM's research themes and priorities for 2018*
   - *Predicted timescales of key activities*
   - *Proposed budget and the request for how much funding is required* – will any funding be coming from other sources such as Research Councils, private companies, professional bodies or other organisations? How will the monies be used?
   - *What support will be required from APM?*
   - *Target audience(s)* – preference will be given to those who already have identified targeted populations and/or contacts for their research activities
   - *The research outputs and how the research will be disseminated* - applicants should read the next section **Outputs and conditions on achieving the funding.**

b) Please include the below as a separate file or as appendices:
Basic contact information such as NAME, COURSE TITLE (if applicable), WHERE STUDYING (if applicable or otherwise employer information) EMAIL/TELEPHONE/ADDRESS.
A copy of your CV(s).

Outputs and Conditions on achieving the funding

14. Outputs or materials arising from the APM Research Fund could take many formats from reports and white papers, to presentations at events or in publications such as academic journals or magazines. Consideration should be given to the longevity of the outputs and how they can be best utilised by members of the project management community.

15. Conditions on achieving the funding could include some of the following although the most appropriate outputs from each project will be discussed with the APM Research Manager upon attaining funding:

- A research report for practitioners (mandatory)
- Academic papers or summaries
- Talks or presentations by the researchers/authors at APM events or relevant external events/conferences (one activity mandatory)
- Promotion in the press and/or other media
- Regular updates on activities and progress during the period of APM sponsorship.

16. Please visit https://www.apm.org.uk/Research/fund for examples of current APM Research Fund studies.

Assessment process

17. All applications will be blind reviewed and evaluated by a panel appointed by APM and its Research Advisory Group (RAG). Submitted proposals will be assessed on the following criteria:

a) the quality of the research question and what the research is seeking to achieve
b) any knowledge gaps or emergent themes the research is seeking to address
c) the appropriateness of the methodology and methods adopted
d) practical value to APM, its members and the wider project management community
e) value for money
f) Relevance of the research to APM's research themes and priorities for 2019
g) timescales – preference will be given to proposals which can be delivered fully within 1 year of being awarded research fund monies
h) whether the APM's funding is decisive to the research being produced
i) the merit of the application submitted including its originality and innovation and the points raised in 12a

18. Individuals will be contacted if any further information or clarification around their submission is required. The decision of the Research Advisory Group will be final and feedback cannot be guaranteed.

Intellectual Property and Acknowledge Practice

19. Whereby APM are the sole funder the following position will generally be adopted. Applicants will licence to APM the right to use, modify, edit, manipulate and/or distribute, on an irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide and royalty free basis, any and all IP rights in the Work (including the right to grant sub-licenses and including the right to use any of the Recipient's existing background IP rights comprised on which the Work is based or on which the Work is incorporated) for any or all of the following purposes:

   19.1.   for non-commercial purposes such as submissions to academic journals, research dissemination and for the public benefit;

   19.2.   to inform APM products and services including the Body of Knowledge, Competence Framework, APM guides and qualifications; and

   19.3   for APM content generation such as blogs, articles, research summaries and interactive media

20. The applicant warrants to APM that (1) the material created is original; (2) that the applicant is the first owner of copyright in such material; and (3) that all third party IP rights that are comprised in the Work have been cleared and all consents, permissions or licences that are required from such third parties have been granted.

21. Applicants receiving funding must acknowledge this in all publications. The following text should be included in the funding or acknowledgement section in any published work (including any conference papers or posters) based on or incorporating part or all of the research outputs and works produced as part of this project: "This work was supported by the Association for Project Management (APM) Research Fund." If more than one funder or grant was involved, the text should include the names of all funders in order of contribution.

How do I apply?

22. All research proposals should be sent with the subject line FAO APM Research Fund to research@apm.org.uk

23. Please contact APM research on the above email if you have any questions or would like to discuss your concept ahead of submitting your proposal.

Timetable and payments

24. The following timetable will be used:

12 October 2018	Applications for proposals open
4 February 2019	Applications deadline

By 8 March 2019	Evaluation of proposals by the APM Research Advisory Group Judging panel
18 March 2018	Feedback provided by this date on all submissions
25 March - 26 April 2019	Meetings with successful research leads to take place
13 May 2019	Successful research projects publicised

25. Funding will be distributed on an individual basis once research outputs have been agreed following a meeting with the APM Research Manager.

Further information and contact

26. For more information about APM Research or the APM Research Fund please visit: www.apm.org.uk/research