

LSE Cities Seed Fund for Urban Research 2017/18 – call for applications

The Management Group of LSE Cities will consider seed fund applications to support preparatory work likely to lead to larger grant proposals. Applications will be considered for future research that is linked to one of the core themes of LSE Cities [research](#):

- Cities, Space and Society
- Cities, Environment and Climate Change
- Urban Governance

Grants are intended to support and facilitate research related to supporting future grant applications. This can include research assistance, research-related travel, data, or workshops for research collaborations. Funding is not available for conference attendance or conference or seminar organisation.

Applications are open to those at Assistant Professor/Assistant Professorial Research Fellow level or above, whose continuous employment demonstrates a substantial long-term commitment to the School, and who would be employed for the duration of the grant. Applications for funding will be considered up to a maximum amount of £10,000.

Decisions will be made by mid-October 2017, with funding available for projects to start at the end of October 2017, running until December 2018. Applicants should make due allowance in specifying starting dates. Funds will not be provided for work already done. The opinion of an external referee may be sought in exceptional circumstances.

Further information is available from the LSE Cities Centre Manager, Andrew Sherwood (a.sherwood@lse.ac.uk).

Further information about LSE Cities is available at lsecities.net.

The current deadline for applications for grants is: 30 September 2017

Proposals (max 3 sides including budget) should address the following:

- Context and aims;
- Activities and outcomes (including timeline);
- Contribution to the wider project aims and objectives;
- Personnel (please include a short biography);
- Budget (describing how the funds will be spent).

Completed grant application forms should be returned to Andrew Sherwood (a.sherwood@lse.ac.uk)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Applications are invited for activities to take place until 31st December 2018.
2. Salary costs should be obtained from the Research Division. You may also wish to consult it on other financial details. Use of School computing facilities should be discussed with the School's IT Services.
3. Funds awarded will be administered centrally by LSE Cities. LSE Cities will also provide administrative/communications support if required, as well as desk space for researchers if needed.
4. Grants must be used solely for the purposes set out in the award letter. Any request to transfer funding to different budget lines should be discussed with LSE Cities Centre Manager.
5. Any staff costings should factor in additional costs arising from pay awards implemented by the School.
6. A short Final Report (max. 2 sides), including a statement of final spending, should be submitted within three months of the end of the grant period. If appropriate, a write-up of results will be considered for publication in the Centre's working paper series.
7. If you are applying for research or other staff costs please check the generic role profiles when considering on which Band/Step you should appoint. These can be found under the hourly paid research and support staff pages of the LSE's Human Resources website: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/intranet/staff/humanResources/Home.aspx>
8. Please note that goods and services imported from abroad are usually subject to VAT of 20%, and this should be included in the budget.
9. LSE Cities requires successful applicants to comply with the LSE's Research Ethics Policy. Information on the LSE's Research Ethics Policy is available online: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/intranet/researchAndDevelopment/researchDivision/policyAndEthics/ethicsGuidanceAndForms.aspx>
10. Investigators are expected to publish the results of research in the normal way and acknowledgement of LSE Cities assistance should be made in all publications, a copy of which should be sent to the Centre Manager.

CRITERIA APPLIED IN GRANT AWARDS

Applications are considered on both the intrinsic merit of the proposed research and the value for money that the proposal represents. Applications that do not clearly explain what the objectives are or what methods will be used are unlikely to be approved. Applications that do not make clear why large budget items (such as overseas trips) are essential to the research may be rejected or be awarded with only reduced funding.