

## **British Election Study (BES) 2018-19 Frequently Asked Questions**

This version: 6 November 2018

### **Am I eligible to apply to Economic Social Research Council (ESRC)?**

ESRC research funding is available for universities, colleges of higher education and independent research institutes in the UK approved by the ESRC. See the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) website for further information (<https://www.ukri.org/funding/how-to-apply/eligibility/>). Details of eligibility are given in ESRC's research funding guide (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-funding-guide/>) which you should read carefully before applying.

Proposals can be submitted by people who are not established members of the proposed host institution. In these circumstances by submitting the proposal the Research Organisation (RO) is confirming that, in the event of a grant, they guarantee to provide facilities for you as if you were an established member of staff for the duration of the grant.

### **Can applicants of previous BES grants allocations apply to this call?**

Yes. Members of both successful and unsuccessful teams of applicants can apply through this call. Although, please be aware of ESRC's resubmission policy (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/resubmissions-policy/>)

### **What are the maximum funding limit and maximum duration?**

The maximum funding limit is £2 million at 100% fEC. The British Election Study maximum duration is 60 months.

### **Can I collaborate with international partners?**

Academic international co-investigators from anywhere in the world can be included in proposals in line with ESRC policy; please refer to the guidance on international co-investigators (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/inclusion-of-international-co-investigators-on-proposals/>) and also the Research Funding Guide (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-funding-guide/>). International non-academic organisations can be included as project partners.

### **Can a partner be included as a co-investigator?**

It is up to the applicant and partner(s) to decide on the most effective way to work together to ensure the co-production of knowledge and to directly address the wider impact aims of the initiative. This may involve the partner being included as a co-investigator. However, all co-investigators should make a significant contribution to the scientific direction and conduct of the research. It is the responsibility of applicants to make the case for the proposed partnership and the nature of its arrangement. Please see the guidance on the

inclusion of UK business, civil society or government body co-investigators (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/inclusion-of-uk-business-third-sector-or-government-body-co-investigators-on-proposals/>), and the research funding guide (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-funding-guide/>) for guidance on the inclusion of co-investigators.

### **What format should the partnership with non-academic partners(s) take (if applicable)?**

The relationship with the non-academic partner(s) must be substantive and meaningful; it should involve their direct and full engagement in shaping the research project, although this does not necessarily mean that partner organisation(s) or their staff will be actively involved in conducting the research itself. Applicants are therefore encouraged to seek early engagement with research users in the public and private sectors and civil society organisations in developing proposals.

For non-academic bodies to be considered partners we expect them to actively contribute from the planning of the project through to the economic and social impact of the grant. Applicants must determine and justify the exact nature of any partnership.

### **How do I apply?**

Proposals can only be made through the Joint Electronic Submission System (Je-S) see (<http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/guidance-for-applicants/je-s-electronic-applications/>) for details.

To begin writing your proposal, please select the new document menu and search for and select 'ESRC British Election Study 2018-19' using the call search function. There is call specific Je-S guidance available on our website (<https://esrc.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/british-election-study-2018-19/>) and there is also a help option on the Je-S website (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/Handbook/Index.htm>).

### **When can I apply?**

The closing date for proposals is **16:00 on 13 November 2018**.

### **Why is the call open for four weeks?**

In order to preserve the unbroken funding of the BES since its launch in 1964, a new call had to be issued quickly as the new grant must start by 1 April 2019.

### **What happens to my proposal once I have submitted it?**

Proposals will be sent to introducers for expert comment which will be used for a first selection. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted to attend an interview during the week commencing 14 January 2019, in order to defend their proposal and answer introducers' questions. Funding decisions will be communicated on the week commencing 21 January 2019, in order to have the Grant start the 1 April 2019.

### **Who are the introducers?**

Proposals will be sent to introducers for expert comment. Introducers have been pre-selected by the ESRC officers.

The selection of introducers is subject to certain constraints. We do not normally approach anyone with a research grant proposal currently under consideration, or from the same RO as any of the applicants. We also take care not to overburden individuals with requests.

**Who should I contact if I have an enquiry?**

Please direct all queries to Douglas Walton ([douglas.walton@esrc.ukri.org](mailto:douglas.walton@esrc.ukri.org)) and Sofiane Cherkaoui Malki ([sofiane.cherkaouimalki@esrc.ukri.org](mailto:sofiane.cherkaouimalki@esrc.ukri.org))