



# **Royce Industrial Collaboration Programme**

## **Guidance Notes**

The 'Royce Industrial Collaboration Programme' aims to match companies that have research, development, and innovation (RD&I) projects with UK experts in materials science and cutting-edge facilities in a truly collaborative endeavour.

The Henry Royce Institute is looking to support approximately 5 collaborative research, RD&I projects in advanced materials. The total cost of each project is expected to be in the region of £100k.

This document is designed to provide essential information for the programme in the following areas:

- Overview
- Key Information
- Pre-application discussion
- Subsidy Control Intensity
- How to Apply
- Assessment Process
- Assessment Criteria:
- Appendix 1: Royce Research Areas & Drivers
- Appendix 2: Subsidy Control
- Appendix 3: Eligible costs

## OVERVIEW

The programme is designed to support UK businesses requiring RD&I in the area of advanced materials. Awards are intended to provide access to both state of the art Royce facilities, located nationwide, and to world leading UK scientific expertise to address barriers to advanced materials development. Projects could focus on addressing longstanding technical issues affecting a products' performance, an emerging materials challenge preventing or inhibiting new product development, or fundamental characterisation and/or validation of materials used in products.

## **KEY INFOMATION**

- 1. The programme is designed to provide aid under the stipulations of the Subsidy Control Provisions (formerly State Aid) as outlined in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and UK.
- 2. Projects <u>must</u> focus on fundamental research, industrial research, experimental development, or feasibility studies related to RD&I projects to qualify to be aided).
- 3. Collaborative Research is defined as *"a project where at least two partners participate in the design of the project, contribute to its implementation and share the risk and*

*outputs of the project."* It requires joint participation in the design and implementation of the project between the Royce partner and the applicant.

- 4. Applicants to the scheme must be able to define a targeted programme of fundamental or industrial RD&I and identify expertise (and/or equipment) needed in addition to estimating the value to the company of solving it.
- 5. Further details on the rules governing this scheme can be found below and in Appendix 2 and 3 at the end of this document.

## PRE-APPLICATION DISCUSSION

All potential applicants are <u>strongly advised</u> to discuss their projects with the Business Development Manager responsible for the research area associated with the focus of their project prior to applying to the scheme. This will help ensure any applications are within the scope of this programme thus avoiding wasted effort on the part of the applicant. Each Royce research area has their own manager and further details on who these individuals are can be found <u>here</u>.

## SUBSIDY CONTROL INTENSITY

Each project must have a minimum total expected cost of £75k inclusive of all costs such as researcher time, facilities access and other related activities. SMEs, spinouts and microbusinesses eligible to apply to the programme will have their project costs 100% subsidised by Royce and the applicant must complete a *de minimis* declaration.

The limits on aid intensity are also as follows:

	Small or Medium sized	Large enterprise
	enterprises	
Fundamental research	100%	100%
Industrial research	100%	50%
Experimental	100%	25%
development		
Feasibility studies	100%	50%

## USEFUL INFOMATION

- 1. Project durations are expected to be in the range of 3-6 months, with all projects completing by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
- 1 month submission window. Opens Monday 1 February and closes Monday 1 March 2021
- 3. Projects must be completed by 30 September 2021
- 4. Applications should describe a clearly defined materials problem that requires support from Royce facilities and expertise
- 5. Projects can take place at any Royce Partner
- 6. Projects requiring secondment of ACADEMIC personnel to the business premises OR INDUSTRY RESEARCHERS TO THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION are eligible and encouraged for projects lasting at least 3 months

#### HOW TO APPLY?

Following your discussions with a Royce Business Development Manager, applicants should complete the **online application form available here**.

This is designed to highlight the opportunity to Royce and the potential value to your business.

Please complete the application form by 1 March 2021.

#### ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Projects will be assessed and ranked by a panel consisting of business development professionals working at Royce partners and by the Royce Scientific Advisory Board against the below criteria. Any applications deemed out of scope will be rejected and Royce will notify unsuccessful applicants with reasons for their rejection.

#### **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

a) Availability of suitable facilities and expertise to successfully tackle the RD&I project

b) <u>Impact</u>: Identify national (and/or international) challenges which would benefit from the impact of the project, making specific reference to both Royce's grand challenges and sustainability

c) <u>Importance</u>: Explain how Royce's capabilities in terms of expertise and facilities offer value to the project which is not already available elsewhere in the UK

d) <u>Risk</u>: Are the project outcomes susceptible to undue risk which may prevent them from being realised i.e are the deliverables beyond what is realistically possible either with current scientific instruments or projects of the size as submitted

e) <u>Potential value</u> to the organisation (in commercial terms) and value to the wider materials community of successfully completing the project

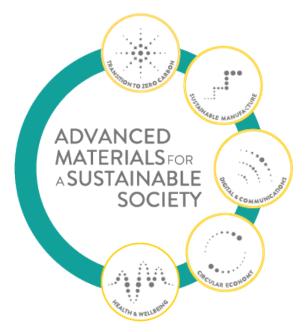
## **APPENDIX 1: ROYCE RESEARCH AREAS**

Application should align with one or more of Royce's core research areas:

- Atoms to Devices
- 2-Dimensional Materials
- Advanced Metals Processing
- Nuclear Materials
- Materials for Demanding Environments
- Chemical Materials Design
- Electrochemical Systems
- Biomedical Materials

#### **APPENDIX 2: ROYCE DRIVERS**

Royce's vision of 'Advanced Materials for a Sustainable Society' encompassing five key drivers that require significant research endeavours to realise a sustainable future. Royce's research areas are crosscutting across these drivers. Applications are encourage to align their application with one or more Royce Driver.



#### RANSITION TO ZERO CARBON

New modes of energy generation, storage and use - from hydrogen to fusion power - and energy efficient devices.

#### SUSTAINABLE MANUFACTURE

Efficient housing, clean transport and transforming foundation industries for clean manufacturing.

#### **DIGITAL & COMMUNICATIONS**

Low energy storage for data, quantum technologies for computing, sensors, and data storage.

#### CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Rethinking the way we use plastic and engage with waste streams, and developing truly degradable materials.

#### HEALTH & WELLBEING

Reducing carbon emissions and enabling clean water production, delivering personalised medicine, and supporting the ageing population.

## **APPENDIX 3: SUBSIDY CONTROL**

Where there is effective collaboration carried out jointly by a commercial entity and a university, there will usually be no indirect subsidy to the undertaking if at least one of the following conditions is met:

The undertaking bears the full cost of the project;

The results of the collaboration which do not give rise to IP may be widely disseminated and any IP resulting from the activities of the university is fully allocated to the university;

Any IP resulting from the project and access rights are allocated between the collaborators so as to reflect adequately their work packages, contributions and respective interests;

The university receives compensation equivalent to the market price for the IP which results from its activities and which is assigned to the undertaking, or to which the undertaking is allocated access rights. The value of any contribution (financial and non-financial) of the commercial party to the costs of the university's activities that resulted in the IP, may be deducted from that compensation.

## **APPENDIX 4: ELIGIBLE COSTS**

Personnel costs: researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the project.

Costs of applicant's instruments and equipment to the extent and for the period used for the project. If such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the project, only

the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, are considered as eligible.

Cost of contractual research, knowledge and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions, as well as costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the project.

Additional overheads incurred directly as a result of the project.

Other operating expenses, including costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the project.

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