

RESEARCH FUNDER CHILDCARE FUNDING POLICIES

University policy

The University allows staff to claim additional childcare costs relating attending a training course or conference. This is detailed in the Expenses and Hospitality policy:

Additional Childcare costs

Childcare costs made necessary by attending a training course or conference that occurs outside of normal working hours (costs that are additional to the routine everyday costs of childcare) can be claimed if the University has requested that you must attend such an event.

External Research Funders

Many major research funders also allow these costs to be charged to the grant. Policies from selected major funders are summarised in the table and detailed in the text below the table. Applicants/grant holders are encouraged to check individual sponsors for details.

FUNDER	ADDITIONAL CHILDCARE COSTS ELIGIBLE	NOTES
UKRI	Yes	As per University policy
Wellcome Trust	Sometimes	Only for staff paid from the grant and only for conference attendance
British Heart Foundation (BHF)	No	
Leverhulme Trust	No	
British Academy	Yes – for some schemes	Check specific scheme notes for details
Royal Society	Yes – for some schemes	Check specific scheme notes for details
EU – Horizon programme	Possibly	Check with Project officer for EU project related events As per University policy for conferences

Specific funder policies

UKRI – included in the guidance on using the full economic costing grant terms and conditions

The costs of additional childcare, beyond that required to meet the normal contracted requirements of the job and which are directly related to the project, may be requested as a Directly Incurred cost if the institutional policy is to reimburse them. However, childcare costs associated with normal working patterns may not be sought

Wellcome Trust

You can also claim costs to cover caring responsibilities if you or any staff employed on your grant attend a conference. This includes childcare and any other caring responsibility you have, provided:

- Wellcome is paying your salary
- the conference is directly related to your grant
- the costs are over and above what you'd normally pay for care
- the conference organiser and your employing organisation are unable to cover the costs.

You can claim up to £1,000 per person for each conference to cover caring costs.

British Academy

(From small research grants scheme guidance): Bids for the cost of child or parent care may be considered if the carer is conducting research away from home and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements. The costs of normal regular childcare whilst at home are not eligible for support.

Royal Society

The Society can provide financial support to Research Fellows for any additional childcare costs that arise when attending conferences, collaborative research visits or invited talks directly related to their fellowship or award. This policy is also applicable to meeting organisers, Chairs and invited speakers when attending a Royal Society organised meeting or event.

This policy covers Research Fellows and anyone who would normally receive expenses to attend a Royal Society organised meeting or event as follows:

- University Research Fellows
- Dorothy Hodgkin Fellows
- FLAIR Fellows
- Industry Fellows
- Newton Advanced Fellows
- Royal Society Newton International Fellows
- Privately-funded International Fellows who are travelling to collaborative visits, conferences/scientific meetings or are an invited speaker at a conference or meeting, which are directly associated with their Fellowship.
- UK and African based principal investigators of a RS-DFID Africa Capacity Building Initiative award, who are travelling on collaborative visits which are directly associated with their award

Requests must be for costs associated with additional care outside of the fellow's normal routine and where alternative care arrangements cannot be made for the travel period.

EU – Horizon programme

The Commission has confirmed that, in accordance with the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement (MGA), the costs for the provision of childcare services during an **event organised as part of a Horizon 2020-funded project**, would generally not be eligible. Such activities, and any associated costs, would not normally be deemed necessary for the implementation of the project, as required by Article 6.1 of the MGA. However, if there are legitimate reasons related to project implementation that require childcare to be provided at a project-related event, this can be discussed on a case-by-case basis with the Project Officer.

In addition, if the beneficiary organisation's usual practice is to pay childcare costs for staff attending **conferences**, then these costs would be considered eligible under Horizon 2020. The organisation would need to ensure that all other general and specific eligibility conditions are fulfilled.

The intention is to continue this approach under Horizon Europe.

Version control

VERSION	KEEPER	REVIEWED
1.0	RES	As funder policies are updated
