



THE GLOBAL GRANTS FOR GUT HEALTH

Terms & Conditions for Applicants

1. These terms and conditions ("**Terms and Conditions**") apply to your application ("**Application**") to The Global Grants for Gut Health programme for a grant for scientific research into the human gut microbiota ("**Grant**"). Springer Nature Limited ("**Grant Administrator**", "**us**", "**we**", "**our**") is responsible for the operation and management of the Grant programme and the funding in respect of the Grant shall be provided by Yakult Honsha Co. Ltd. or one of its affiliates ("**Grant Funder**").
2. To submit an Application you must: (a) be resident in a country where it is lawful for you to apply; (b) be employed by a university, research institution or any other not-for-profit organisation; (c) hold a doctorate or medical degree (e.g., PhD, PharmD, MD); and (d) have at least five years' postdoctoral research experience at the time of application.
3. Applications from (a) Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, Syria, Russia/Ukraine or where otherwise prohibited or restricted by law as updated from time to time; (b) any individual named on Specially Designated Nationals lists as updated from time to time; (c) directors or employees (or members of their immediate families) of the Grant Administrator or the Grant Funder or any affiliate of the Grant Administrator or the Grant Funder; and (d) members of the Grant panel, shall not be accepted. The Grant Administrator reserves the right to verify the eligibility of Applications.
4. The Grant programme will only consider research proposals for scientific research projects that advance understanding of the impact of the gut microbiota on human health.
5. You may apply to the programme for any amount of research funding up to a maximum of one hundred thousand US dollars to cover the direct costs of the research project for a period of one year. In addition, you may apply for up to 10% of the total requested direct costs of research (maximum ten thousand US dollars) to cover indirect costs or institutional overheads ("**Indirect Costs**") at the host institution for a period of one year. Indirect Costs include but are not limited to ongoing costs associated with running a university, research organisation, laboratory, etc.
6. Research projects will last for up to one year from the start date of the project.
7. The Application process is open for entries between 11.59 PM EST on 31 August 2018 and 11.59 PM EST on 30 November 2018. The Grant Administrator anticipates that the review and consideration period for each Application will last four months.
8. The Grant Administrator accepts no responsibility for any Applications that are incomplete, illegible, corrupted or fail to reach the Grant Administrator by the closing date for any reason. Proof of posting or sending is not proof of receipt. Entries via agents or third parties are invalid. The Grant Administrator will only consider Applications submitted via the website at the following URL: <https://proposalcentral.altum.com/grantopportunities.asp?GMID=182> ("**Website**"). No other form of entry is permitted. Please keep a copy of your Application as we will be unable to return entries or provide copies of your Application once submitted.
9. The Grant Administrator may at its sole discretion disqualify any applicant found to be tampering or interfering with the entry process or operation of the Website, or to be acting in any manner deemed to be disruptive of or prejudicial to the operation or administration of the Application process. Only one entry per eligible person. Multiple entries will be deemed to be invalid and may lead to disqualification.

10. Your Application will be treated as confidential except that you consent to the Grant Administrator sharing the Application with the Panel for the purposes of review and with the Grant Funder in the event that the Application is awarded funding.
11. Nothing in the Terms and Conditions shall cause the ownership of any intellectual property rights belonging to one party to be transferred to the other. By submitting your Application you licence and grant to the Grant Administrator an irrevocable and transferable right to use and reproduce such content for the purpose of administering the Grant Application without attribution or liability. You agree not to assert any moral rights in relation to such use where the moral rights in respect of the content are yours to assert. You warrant that the materials contain no copyright materials, have not been copied, in whole or in part, from any third party and you have full authority to grant these rights.
12. You confirm that your Application is your own original work, is not defamatory and does not infringe any laws, including but not limited to privacy laws, whether of the UK or elsewhere, or any rights of any third party, that you have the right to give the Grant Administrator and the Grant Funder permission to use it for the purposes specified herein, that you have the consent of anyone who is identifiable in your Application or the consent of their parent, guardian or carer if they are under 18 (or the applicable age of majority), it is lawful for you to apply and that you agree not to transfer files which contain viruses or any other harmful programs.
13. All personal data submitted by applicants is subject to and will be treated in a manner consistent with the Grant Administrator's privacy policy accessible at <https://www.nature.com/info/privacy> ("**Privacy Policy**"). By participating in the Application process, you hereby agree that the Grant Administrator may collect and use your personal information and acknowledge that you have read and accepted the Privacy Policy. By applying for the Grant you consent to the use of personal data by the Grant Administrator for the purposes of the administration of the Grant and the Application process and any other purposes to which you have consented.
14. You are responsible for ensuring that your Application is approved and signed by an authorised officer ("**Signing Official**") at the lead institution ("**Lead Institution**").
15. The Grant shall be awarded as follows: Applications shall be assessed by an independent, international expert panel (the "**Panel**"). The Panel will be made up of researchers active in the field of human microbiota research. The Panel will review your Application ahead of a meeting during which the Panel shall determine which applications best address the aims of the Grant program and are, therefore, most worthy of funding and in what amount. Any decision made by the Panel will be final and binding and no further communication will be entered into in relation to it.
16. The winner(s) of the Grant shall be notified via an initial email notification from the Grant Administrator to the winner and to the nominated Signing Official at the Lead Institution. The Grant Funder will then issue a formal offer letter to the Grant winner ("**Grantees**") and to the nominated Signing Official at the Lead Institution that includes a separate grant agreement. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by the Grant Administrator no later than four months after the close of the application window. The Panel's decision is final and we reserve the right not to correspond on any matter.
17. All Grantees and Lead Institutions will be required to enter into a separate grant agreement with the Grant Funder ("**Funding Agreement**").
18. The Grantee undertakes that it will use the Grant for the purposes for which the Grant is awarded. Any significant variance from the information detailed in the research proposal must be approved by the Grant Administrator and the Grant Funder. The Grant funds can be used to cover the following direct costs of research: (a) salaries of the principle investigator and other team members; (b) travel and subsistence for team members as required to deliver the project; (c) the costs of consumables, materials, supplies, software and small, non-capital equipment (up to ten thousand US dollars) required to deliver the research project; (d) publication costs; (e) ethical approval and other licence fees; and (f) consultancy and subcontracting fees. Any unspent Grant funds must be returned to the Grant Funder.

- 19.** You are responsible for ensuring that all the necessary licences and approvals in respect of your Application and the research produced from the Grant funds have been obtained. You must ensure that you follow good research practice and formal procedures in order to be considered eligible by the Grant Administrator for applying for a Grant.
- 20.** Grantees are responsible for complying with all the necessary ethical, legal and regulatory requirements and other applicable guidelines in order to conduct and develop the research project including but not limited to the Declaration of Helsinki and the NC3Rs 'Animal Research: Reporting in Vivo Experiments' (ARRIVE) guidelines.
- 21.** Payments will not be made in respect of the Grant until the successful applicant has formally accepted the Grant, and the Funding Agreement. The Grant Administrator shall not be liable in the event that Grantees and/or the Grant Funder fail to agree to or sign the Funding Agreement.
- 22.** Neither the Grant Administrator nor the Grant Funder will act as an employer with respect to the Grant.
- 23.** All Grantees are required to submit mid-term and final reports as further detailed in the Funding Agreement.
- 24.** Grantees agree to participate in and co-operate with promotional activities relating to the Grant that may be instigated and/or organised by the Grant Administrator. Grantees agree to acknowledge funding in publications and other forms of communication including media appearances and press releases. Grantees should acknowledge the source of funding as: 'The Global Grants for Gut Health, co-supported by Yakult and Nature Research'. All Grantees will be interviewed by the Grant Administrator as the basis of Q&A articles on funded projects.
- 25.** Grantees are free to publish results arising from the Grant in the most appropriate journals. Grantees should acknowledge the source of funding as: 'The Global Grants for Gut Health, co-supported by Yakult and Nature Research'. There is no expectation or requirement that research will be published in a journal owned or managed by Springer Nature. Where manuscripts are submitted for publication in Springer Nature journals, the Grant Administrator does not and will not intervene in manuscript selection by journal editors. The editorial decisions of any journal editor are discretionary and based on the quality and suitability of a manuscript for that journal and as such are entirely independent of the Grant Administrator.
- 26.** The Grant Administrator and the Grant Funder will hold a meeting to bring the Grantees together and showcase research funded under the programme. Grantees will be expected to attend these meetings in order to present their findings.
- 27.** The Grant Administrator reserves the right to cancel or amend these Terms and Conditions as required.
- 28.** Other than for death or personal injury arising from negligence of the Grant Administrator, so far as is permitted by law, the Grant Administrator hereby excludes all liability for any loss, damage, cost and expense, whether direct or indirect, howsoever caused in connection with the Application or any aspect of the Grant. All activities are undertaken at your own risk. Your legal rights as a consumer are not affected. These conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Disputes arising in connection with this Agreement shall be subject to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.
- 29.** By clicking "Submit" for your Application you accept these Terms and Conditions.

Last updated: 31 August 2018