



THE FINANCIAL FORENSIC STUDIES & DIAGNOSTIC LTD (FFSD) SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS 2024

The FFSD Small Research Grant was set up to help researchers in the Nigerian Universities have adequate grants for their research. These grants are provided to cover the cost of the expenses arising from a defined research project.

Funding Status

Open for application

Research Themes

Business Management

Social Sciences

Humanities

Physical Sciences

Education

Life Sciences

Engineering

Information Technology

NOTE: We particularly encourage applications from research areas in Business Management, Social Sciences and Humanities.

Application start date

20/12/2024

Application deadline

29/03/2025

Application review date

10/04/2025

Announcement of Award

15/05/2025

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Duration of Award

The maximum award that can be applied for is #1,000,000 in value and tenable for up to 12 months, are provided to cover the cost of the expenses arising from a defined research project.

Contact details

researchgrants@ffsdgroup.com

Application Submission

To submit an application, kindly [Apply Here](#).

Application Guidance

Guidance notes for the FFSD Small Research Grants competition. Please read these scheme notes carefully. Any incorrectly submitted application will be ineligible for award.

Eligibility Criteria

- Application must be relevant to the theme(s)
- Awards are open to academic researchers in both public and private Universities in Nigeria.

Please note that all applications must have one Principal Investigator (PI), although applications on behalf of more than one person are welcomed. Furthermore, all correspondence is sent through the system only to the individual in whose name the application is submitted on the FFSD Small Research Grants Platform.

The Principal Investigator is responsible for notifying any other parties. If there is more than one applicant, or the research involves other partners, please complete this section, and the relevant sections of the co-applicant personal details and co-applicant career summary. A co-applicant' is a joint director of the project with equal responsibility for the academic management of the project.

- Postgraduate students are not eligible to apply
- Awards will not be made retrospectively: this means that the work for which support is requested must not have commenced before the award is announced.
- Only application submitted with an official university email will be considered.
- The Principal Investigator must be in a full-time employment at least 9 months before the project commences and during the research project with a Nigerian University.
- The Principal Investigator must be based in a Nigerian University.

Application Information

Applications can only be submitted online by completing the online form.



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Before completing the online form, all applicants should check that they comply with the eligibility requirements and ensure all necessary information is presented in the application. These requirements are strictly adhered to, and applications without all the necessary information, or evidence to show the assessment criteria are met, will be rejected.

Applicants should be aware that this application form will be considered by appropriate assessors who will be subject specialists. Applications assessed as being worthy of funding will be submitted to the FFSD Research Awards Committee for final decision on awards. The application will be treated as confidential at all times.

When completing your application, it is recommended that you take note of the following points:

Personal details: When registered in FFSD Small Research Grants, a user has the option to add or update personal information such as contact details, log-in details (including email address and password), interests, research and employment details, at any time. This does not form part of the specific application form for any individual scheme but represents a personal record of your account in the system. Please keep this information up to date.

PDF documents: When uploading PDF documents, please add your name and a heading at the top of every page to show what the document is.

Email addresses: It is essential that you ensure your email address is up to date and actively monitored, or you may miss important notification emails.

Submission: You will not be able to submit your application until you have completed each section in full.

All fields marked with an asterisk* are mandatory.

Completing the Application form

Abstract

Please provide a short abstract summarising your proposed research in terms suitable for an informed general audience, not one specialised in your field. This is a mandatory field and the limit is 300 words.

Proposal/plan of action

The proposal must;

- Clearly specify the context, and research objectives of the proposed study,
- Describe the methodology to be used, and
- Set out a realistic research programme, describing the activities that will take place, and explaining how they will contribute to the achievement of the research objectives

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Costing

The Principal Investigator (PI) is responsible for ensuring that the full costs of the project are understood and captured in detail. This should be uploaded during the application

Planned research outputs/plans for publication/dissemination

Under 'planned research outputs', please only state the type of output expected. Please give more detail about potential publishers etc. under plans for publication, for which the limit is 500 words. In assessing value for money, the assessors may consider the intended outcome as compared with the amount of money sought, although it is fully appreciated that some modes of research are more expensive than others and proposals will not be discriminated against on grounds of cost alone.

Ethical issues

This field is mandatory and must be addressed by all applicants.

Are there any special ethical issues arising from your proposal that are not covered by the relevant professional Code of Practice? Have you obtained, or will you obtain, ethical approval from your employing institution or other relevant authority?

It is not expected that any special ethical issues will arise that are not already covered by relevant professional Codes of Practice. The normal expectation, therefore, will be that applicants should answer the pair of questions with the answers no and no.

If there are any ethical issues arising, but they have already been cleared by approval from a relevant authority, please answer yes and yes.

If any ethical issues arise and approval has not yet been obtained, please answer yes and no, and provide more explanation.

Code of Practice

This Code of Practice describes the standards of transparency by which FFSD abides in administering applications for research awards and other proposals for support, and embodies the principles of equity, integrity and confidentiality for all who are involved in the assessment of proposals. The Code is intended to act as guidance to assessors in discharging the responsibilities placed on them in assessing proposals, and sets out the proper conduct expected of them.

Information for applicants

1. **Application procedures:** For each of its schemes for research awards, FFSD issues guidelines on the information to be supplied by applicants in support of bids for funds,



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details of the criteria against which the application will be assessed, and the process and timescale for assessment of the application.

2. **Data Protection Act:** Applicants are required to submit the application formally online to indicate that the information provided therein is, to the best of their knowledge, complete and accurate. Applicants should be aware that information they provide will be stored and circulated as necessary for the assessment procedures to be followed. Successful applicants should be aware that the information they provide on the application form may be copied to the relevant authorized assessors. Application forms will be retained for ten years in the case of successful applications, and two years in the case of unsuccessful applications, and may be consulted by FFSD in the event of future applications being submitted. Details of award holders (including name, institution, project details and amount of award) will be used to compile published lists of award-holders which will be made available on the Internet, and to produce statistical and historical information on FFSD awards. Submitting the online application form constitutes the applicant's agreement to all terms, conditions, and notices contained in the Notes for Applicants.
3. **Data monitoring:** Personal information provided by applicants will be used for monitoring and statistical purposes only, and at no stage will it form any part of the assessment process.
4. **Equal opportunities:** FFSD is committed to a policy of equal opportunities in that applicants will receive equal treatment, regardless of race, colour, religion, gender, age (except where the conditions of the scheme specify otherwise) or disability.
5. **Ethics policy:** FFSD requires the research it funds to be conducted in an ethical manner. The following considerations apply to all proposals: accurate reporting of findings and a commitment to enabling others to replicate results where possible; fair dealing in respect of other researchers and their intellectual property, honesty to research staff and students about the purpose, methods and intended and possible use of the research and any risks involved; confidentiality of information supplied by research subjects and anonymity of respondents (unless otherwise agreed with research subjects and respondents); and independence and impartiality of researchers to the subject of the research. Additionally, proposals may raise one or more of the following considerations: the involvement of human participants; the involvement of human remains (e.g. traceable to living descendants); the use of non-human animals; destructive analysis of historic artefacts; research that may result in damage to the natural or historic environment; and the use of sensitive social, economic or political data. Wherever necessary, appropriate consent should be obtained from or on behalf of participants or others affected by the research. Applicants should indicate whether their proposed research raises any special ethical issues, and whether their application has been approved by the institution's Research Ethics Committee or other relevant authority.



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6. **Assessment process:** All applications are judged on their academic merit through a stringent process of peer review by appropriate experts. Recommendations are passed to the relevant awarding committee for final decision on awards.
7. **Outcome of applications:** Applicants are informed by email of the outcome of their application. Feedback is not provided on applications, except in cases where external evaluation may have been sought. Applicants are informed in the notes of guidance whether feedback can be expected as a feature of the scheme. FFSD is regrettably unable to enter into correspondence concerning the decision of the awarding committee.
8. **Conditions of awards:** Recipients of awards are made aware of the regulations governing the scheme in which they have been successful and are required to adhere to those regulations.
9. **Appeals:** The competition for research awards is intense and many high quality applications may not receive support. All applications receive careful scrutiny by the assessors, in the context of competing claims on available funding. Appeals may therefore not be made against the academic judgement of FFSD's assessors, panels, or Committees.

Information for assessors

10. **Confidentiality:** Those who undertake the assessment of applications are required to give an undertaking that all information which they acquire in the discharge of their duties be kept confidential and not be transmitted to any persons other than in accordance with the prescribed procedures for the selection process. All reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that such information is kept in a secure place and in due course disposed of in a secure fashion. Information provided to assessors in an application for funding may only be used for the purposes of evaluating the proposal in accordance with FFSD's guidelines.
11. **Conflict of Interest:** Those who undertake the responsibility of assessing applications for funds, either in writing or through membership of awards committees, are required to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest and observe the following guidelines:
observe the following guidelines:

If assessors are unsure whether their ability to assess a proposal is compromised in any way, they should inform the office of the relevant circumstances so that guidance can be sought on individual cases. A log of such incidents shall be retained for the regular scrutiny of FFSD's Research Committee.

12. **Fair evaluation:** Assessors are normally drawn from subject-specific experts across the globe, and it is expected that they will be able to evaluate the proposals sent to them. In cases where individual assessors feel unable to offer an informed view on a proposal, they may request that papers be sent confidentially to other members of the Committee so that they may consult about the merits of the proposal.

Submission of application

The organisation will only process complete, submitted applications.

Assessment criteria: Assessors will evaluate the proposal on the basis of its academic merit, taking into account its originality, the scholarly importance of the research proposed, the suitability of the methodology, the feasibility of the research programme, the specificity of the scheme of research, the presentation, and intended outcomes.

Assessors will evaluate the ability of the applicant(s) to undertake the proposed research, taking into account their track record in terms of publication, their academic age and stage of career. Backlogs of publication (including any reasons given by applicants) may be taken into account in assessing the current proposal.

The primary assessment of quality will be based on the specific research objective of the proposal, and whether the methodology and research programme outlined are likely to lead to successful achievement of the objective. The details of how the objective will be achieved - whether through research visits, use of research assistance, workshops, or any combination of eligible activities/costs - will be assessed only in relation to each individual application. No preference will be shown between individual or collaborative modes of research. There are no quotas for different types of application, and no comparisons will be made across applications on the grounds of their operational and financial specifications.

Outcome of application

Once your application has been submitted, and it has been approved, you will not be contacted again by FFSD until the decisions have been made. Results are issued by email.

Applicants in any doubt about their eligibility or any other aspect of their application are advised to contact researchgrants@ffsdgroup.com, where the admin would be pleased to assist.