NDA Research Promotion Scheme General Terms and Guidelines

# 1. Introduction

The National Disability Authority (NDA) is an independent statutory body which was established to provide evidence-based expert advice to the Government on disability policy and practice and to promote Universal Design in Ireland.

Including disability in research is a key strategic priority for the National Disability Authority (NDA). The Research Promotion Scheme aims to deliver quality new research on specific themes relating to disability. This scheme runs every two years, subject to funding.

# 2. Application process

Applications for funding are required to use the standard RPS Application Form, which should be read in conjunction with the Call for Proposals document (available at the time of the Scheme launch).

The application process from the Call for Proposals through to evaluation, interviews and award stage takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

# 3. Eligibility

Proposals under the Research promotion Scheme are invited from the following:

* research institutions and agencies
* academic departments in recognised third-level institutions
* DPOs
* representatives of user/advocacy groups
* service providers

The scheme is open to researchers based throughout Europe but the research findings must have application in Ireland.

NDA encourages proposals prepared by partner agencies/ organisations/ institutions who wish to work in collaboration. However, joint applications must indicate clearly the involvement of all different partners and stakeholders in the design, planning, implementation and dissemination of the research.

# 4. Essential criteria

Only proposals meeting the following essential criteria will be considered:

## Contribution to Research

The proposed research must be original and should not duplicate research already conducted.

The research should contribute to the existing knowledge base and advance existing scholarship.

The proposed research must inform the development of relevant policies.

The research should be based on sound evidence, of sufficient scale to allow some generalisability of findings, or indicate directions for further consideration.

## Ability to complete research in timeframe

Only organisations which can deliver a satisfactory final draft report on the research within the **timeframe specified** will be eligible for consideration.

## System of research supervision and review in place

The NDA will require project grantees to have a system in place that will provide support, guidance and review of the research, for example, through a research advisory committee. While the NDA will review the quality of the final report as a condition of payment, we are not in a position to provide ongoing supervision of the work in progress. The NDA expects the final research submitted to meet its Quality Guidelines for Research as set out in Appendix B of this document.

## Tax clearance certificate

Successful applicants will be required to provide Tax Clearance Certificates or Tax Access Number to the NDA; otherwise funding cannot be provided. Organisations should ensure these are in order before submitting their application to avoid unnecessary delay in allocating funding.

## Satisfies conditions set in EU rules

Under EU rules, applicants will be ruled out if any of the circumstances listed in paragraph 1 of Article 45 of EU Directive 2004/18/EC of 31st March 2004 apply. Broadly, these circumstances are bankruptcy, professional misconduct and failure to pay taxes or social security contributions.

## Received within deadline

Only proposals that have been received within the deadline will be considered.

**Note:** **This is not a scholarship scheme and is not designed for students.**

# 5. Deliverables

Successful applicants will be required to

* undertake a piece of research relevant to the theme, with a strong evidence-base and meeting NDA’s Quality Guidelines for NDA Research[[1]](#footnote-1)
* write a report of the research, to a publishable standard, meeting NDA’s Corporate style and accessibility standards[[2]](#footnote-2)
* develop a strategy for dissemination of the research to key target audiences including policy makers, service providers and academics
* give a seminar in the NDA (via webinar or in-person)

Strategic Priority 4 of the NDA Strategic Plan 2022-24 states that the NDA will cultivate strong and open processes to engage and consult with persons with disabilities in the wider disability community. Proposals that will include direct and meaningful consultation with persons with disabilities and particularly those that include persons with disabilities in the research process are particularly welcome.

# 6. Funding

## Use of Funding

Research Promotion Scheme funding may only be used towards the **current** expenditure associated with the direct costs of the research process, including additional personnel, hired specifically and exclusively to work on the funded research.

1. Supplied with Call for Proposals [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Supplied with Call for Proposals [↑](#footnote-ref-2)