**MRC Biomedical NMR Centre application template and guidance**

The Centre’s Advisory Committee will be meeting in September to make allocations of instrument time on the Centre’s spectrometers for the ca. one-year period starting in October. UK-based academic researchers whose work falls broadly within MRC and Crick remit are invited to apply for instrument time. There are no access charges for external users.

A substantial amount of time will be available to external users at 950 MHz, 800 MHz, and 700 MHz (two instruments). The 950 MHz, 800 MHz, and one of the 700 MHz instruments are equipped solely for solution-state experiments, as in previous years. The other 700 MHz instrument is a dual-purpose solution-state/biosolids instrument. Applications are thus invited for projects that require solution-state NMR at 700, 800 or 950 MHz, and/or solid-state NMR at 700 MHz.

In addition, applications for 600 MHz time may be made for HR-MAS experiments, or where this specific field strength is required for solution-state experiments.

The Committee membership and further information about the Centre and available facilities can be found via [mrc-nmrcentre.crick.ac.uk](http://mrc-nmrcentre.crick.ac.uk/) .

Applications can be submitted by individual programme leaders or by several programme leaders as a consortium. **In both cases the deadline for applications is Wednesday 18th August.**

Applications should be prepared using the relevant sections of the Word templates in the following pages. If you are able to convert your completed application to pdf format please do so.

Please note that the Advisory Committee has been asked to allocate a portion of the time that is available to external users on the 950 MHz instrument at the University of Oxford. **This means that the Committee will be able to allocate up to 453 days of 950 MHz time in the coming year (365 at the Crick, 88 at Oxford).** Please bear this in mind when framing your request. The two 950s have broadly similar configurations; both are equipped with 5mm 1H/13C/15N TCI triple-resonance cryoprobes and both can accommodate shaped sample tubes. The main differences are that the Oxford instrument is equipped with a SampleJet, and, of the two, only the Crick instrument can carry out experiments involving observation of 19F. You might also wish to know that the Oxford facility is unable to reimburse travel expenses. If you would like further information about the Oxford instrument or how this arrangement will work in practice please contact either Dr Frenkiel or Professor Redfield.

Finally, please be aware that in the case of applications involving new projects (or existing projects moving in new directions) the Committee is keen to see preliminary NMR data if it is available.  Likewise, information about construct sizes and the availability of samples and ligands (if relevant) should be given, and applications for 950 MHz time should make the case for access to the higher field as clearly as possible.  Finally, if 950 MHz access is requested for relaxation mesurements it would be prudent to explain the significance of the dynamics studies for the project as a whole.

***Consortium applications***

Applications for a consortium allocation can be made by a group of programme leaders from a single HEI or Institute, or from different HEIs/Institutes. In the case of a consortium allocation the responsibility for subdividing the allocated time will rest with the programme leaders in the group. Consortium applications should consist of:

* **One Part A per consortium.**
* **One copy of Part C for each project.**

Please ignore Part B.

***Applications by individual programme leaders***

Programme leaders can request time for one or more projects. Distinct projects should be presented separately. Individual applications should consist of:

* **One Part B for the application as a whole.**
* **One copy of Part C for each project.**

Please ignore Part A.

**PART A – CONSORTIUM-WIDE INFORMATION (consortium applications only, one copy per consortium)**

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| **A1. Names and affiliations of the programme leaders who are part of the consortium** |
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| **A2. Name of the person who will act as a focus for communication between the consortium and the Centre** |
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| **A3. Instrument time request for all projects, expressed as days per year. Note that solution-state requests for 600 MHz time will only be considered if this specific field-strength is required.** |
| 600 MHz (HR-MAS):  600 MHz (solution-state):  700 MHz (solution-state):  700 MHz (solid-state):  800 MHz (solution-state):  950 MHz (solution-state): |
| **A4. If you are applying for 950 MHz time would you like to take some or all of it at Oxford instead of the Crick ? Please note that it may not be possible to satisfy all preferences.** |
|  |
| **A5. Indication of the access to other NMR spectrometers that the consortium programme leaders will have during the forthcoming year** |
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| **A6. List of recent publications for each programme leader (up to six per programme leader, clearly indicating any that have benefitted from previous access to the Centre)** |
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**PART B – APPLICATION-WIDE INFORMATION (individual applications only, one copy per application)**

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| **B1. Name and affiliation of applicant** |
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| **B2. Instrument time request for all projects, expressed as days per year. Note that solution-state requests for 600 MHz time will only be considered if this specific field-strength is required.** |
| 600 MHz (HR-MAS):  600 MHz (solution-state):  700 MHz (solution-state):  700 MHz (solid-state):  800 MHz (solution-state):  950 MHz (solution-state): |
| **B3. If you are applying for 950 MHz time would you like to take some or all of it at Oxford instead of the Crick ? Please note that it may not be possible to satisfy all preferences.** |
|  |
| **B4. Indication of the access to other NMR spectrometers that you will have during the forthcoming year** |
|  |
| **B5. List of recent publications (up to six, clearly indicating any that have benefitted from previous access to the Centre)** |
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**PART C – PROJECT DESCRIPTION (one complete Part C per project; please copy as required.)**

Figures are welcomed. They may be embedded into the template or put on a separate page.

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| **C1. Name and affiliation of programme leader** |
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| **C2. Title of project** |
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| **C3. Names of collaborators (if any)** |
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| **C4. Names of project personnel (i.e. the people who will be carrying out the work)** |
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| **C5. Modality in this project (yes/no)** |
| **HR-MAS:**  **Solution-state NMR:**  **Solid-state NMR:** |
| **C6. 950 MHz access requested for this project (yes/no)** |
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| **C7. Project aims and background** (Maximum 200 words, note 1) |
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| **C8.** *For projects that* ***have******not*** *previously been awarded time at the Centre* – **Preliminary work to date**  **OR** *For projects that* ***have*** *previously been awarded time at the Centre* **– Report on progress and achievements arising from your access to the Centre’s facilities since your report for the Feb 2020 allocation exercise.**  (Maximum 300 words, note 1) |
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| **C9.** **Plan of investigation for forthcoming year.**   * If 950 MHz time is being requested this section should include a clear justification of the need for this field strength. * If both solid-state and solution-state time are being requested please make it clear which elements of the work will be carried out using each modality.   (Maximum 300 words, note 1) |
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| **C10. Expected benefits of the work for human health, direct or indirect** (Maximum 100 words, note 1) |
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| **C11. Project funding** |
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Note 1. You may exceed the individual indicative word limits for sections C7 – C10 as long as the total for all four sections does not exceed 900 words. References should be excluded from the word count.