ESRC IAA 2019 – 2023
Impact Acceleration Account Funded Activities

The following can be applied for via the IAA open calls that are circulated four times a year:

**Responsive Mode Impact Fund**

Providing flexible funding of up to £15k (In exceptional circumstances, where a strong rationale is given, grants of over £15k may be awarded)

Projects will be supported for a maximum of 12 months

The purpose is to provide flexible funding for cross disciplinary projects that demonstrate strong user engagement with potential to impact on policy and / or practice in the private, public and third sectors.

**Knowledge Exchange Fellowship Fund**

Providing flexible funding of up to £10k

The aim of the Knowledge Exchange Fellowship scheme is to facilitate interactions between external organisations and the University which build and strengthen relationships and facilitate knowledge exchange with the external partner. Fellowships can be outgoing to allow researchers to work with an external organisation or incoming to allow individuals from a external non academic organisation to work on a project at the University. There will also be ad hoc fellowship opportunities to work with Parliament/Government departments available.

**PGR Placement Scheme**

Successful applicants will receive a scholarship of up to £1,950 (based on a 130 hour research placement)

Working in a research capacity with an external partner, the PGR student will have an opportunity to engage with the needs of the external organisation and to build the knowledge gained from the placement into their future research plans.

**Rapid Action Fund *New Fund***

Providing flexible funding of up to £2k

The rapid action fund will allow social scientists to react quickly to influence governmental, national and international debate, or respond to tactical, urgent and pressing opportunities in short timescales, to deliver impact and knowledge exchange from research

**Public Engagement Fund *New Fund***

Providing flexible funding of up to £5k

The public engagement fund will seek to support public engagement within the social sciences and promote the public understanding of social science and the impacts of research on cultural life. Calls to this fund will be only open to applications twice a year as indicated on the IAA Funding Timetable.

For full details and how to apply please visit the LSSI website: https://lssi.leeds.ac.uk/

IAA Manager: Hannah Crow (H.E.Crow@leeds.ac.uk/ 0113 343 8468)
Social Science Internships Programme

The internships programme will be incorporated into the existing Leeds Institute of Data Analytics (LIDA) Internship Programme. The programme will provide recent social science masters students (or equivalent) with the opportunity to collaborate with an academic supervisor and an external organisation to complete a specific research task. The academic supervisor will work with businesses or other organisations to devise a research question and project and then provide guidance and mentorship to the intern.

Researcher Engagement

1. Collaboration Basecamps
The aim of the Basecamps is to create interdisciplinary teams. The programme is designed to introduce researchers to new ways of thinking and working, with the goal of creating long-term shifts in attitude towards collaboration and the development of new cross-disciplinary research collaborations. It aims to develop the competencies required to initiate and develop interdisciplinary working, KE, entrepreneurial activity and creative thinking, as well as new challenge-led project ideas and research proposals.

2. Innovation Forums
These forums will bring together professionals and policy-makers in collaboration with researchers to identify and develop research questions, challenges and innovations. The Innovation Forum will facilitate this multidisciplinary structure by fostering synergy between academia, industry and the public/third sector to coproduce innovative research and to accelerate the speed of impact for the benefit of the wider society.

Engaging Public Policy

This strand of work will serve to connect high quality social science research within the University, with the individuals and groups who can utilise the research to create real-world impacts. It will enable us to build strategic relations with Parliament, government departments and national policy think-tanks. Targeted initiatives are planned with other regional and national policy groups and communities. Further details will be circulated across the University as they transpire and details will be available on the LSSI Website.

Internationalisation

A key objective of the LSSI is to foster international research links and build collaborative partnerships with a view to enhancing research impact. The IAA will be utilised to further enhance this goal by supporting the development of strategic relations with partners around the globe, such partnerships have already been with formalised with the University of Queensland and the University of Buenos Aires.

For further details about these opportunities please visit the LSSI website: https://lssi.leeds.ac.uk/

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