

IMCAS Fund Guidelines for Optimal Project Submission

Dear Applicant,

IMCAS Fund opens its call for projects on June 30th, 2025.

To maximize each project's chances of receiving the highest scores from the selection committee, we have outlined the key aspects of the application process.

Please note that this year, in addition to supporting projects that address medical issues in the fields of Dermatology and Plastic Surgery, IMCAS Fund particularly welcomes initiatives that tackle global health challenges within these medical areas.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. IMCAS FUND values must be respected

All projects must adhere to the core values of the IMCAS Fund, which are as follows:

- a. Equality
- b. Transparency
- c. Social Engagement
- d. Ethical Testing Procedures

2. Meeting the IMCAS Fund terms

Projects that fail to comply with these rules will not be considered:

a. Broad Impact. The study demonstrates potential benefits for a large group of people or an underserved community.

b. Non-Commercial Projects Only. Only non-commercial projects are eligible for funding. Commercial projects, defined as those evaluating the performance of a specific product or device produced by one company without comparable alternatives, are rejected upfront and will not be considered.

c. No Animal Testing or use of animal material. Projects involving animal testing will not be accepted.

d. Funding institutions, not individuals. Funding is exclusively available to non-commercial institutions. Applications from individuals will not be considered. If you are an individual seeking project funding, you must join an established research group before sending in your application.

e. Focus on Dermatology or Plastic Surgery. Research outside these areas is ineligible. Eligible studies must focus on topics within the fields of dermatology or plastic surgery, particularly aimed at prevention, diagnostics, and therapy. IMCAS Fund particularly encourages project submissions addressing global health issues, provided they are rooted in the fields of Dermatology or Plastic Surgery. PROJECTS OF A PURELY AESTHETIC OR COSMETIC NATURE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

f. Projects need to comply with French regulations.

This call for projects is open to initiatives of general interest that primarily contribute to the advancement of research in dermatology and plastic surgery with prophylactic or therapeutic purposes, carried out in France, in member countries of the European Union, or in the European Economic Area that have concluded an administrative assistance agreement with France (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein).

The call for projects is also open to initiatives conducted in other countries, provided that the projects fall under one of the following categories:

- initiatives aimed at disseminating French scientific knowledge, in connection with French research centers or universities; or
- scientific initiatives, provided they aim to produce or enhance research results that are used in France or in the European Economic Area;
- and that their management, direct funding, and effective oversight are ensured from France, from EU member states, or from countries in the European Economic Area that have concluded an administrative assistance agreement with France (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein).

3. Funding Regulations

The maximum funding amount is EUR 100,000. However, we are open to considering larger projects if they are partially funded by other institutions, provided that the additional funding is already confirmed.

Applicants are required to submit a comprehensive financial plan outlining the total project cost, broken down across at least three distinct phases, to ensure that funding is distributed effectively over the full project duration.

Please note that 10% of the total awarded funding will be withheld and released only upon successful completion of the project and full delivery of the expected outcomes and deliverables.

In addition, funding cannot be allocated solely to the purchase of a single machine. Proposals requesting 100% of the budget for the acquisition of one piece of equipment will not be considered eligible.

Eligible expenses may include (but are not limited to):

- Hiring of qualified personnel or labor
- Procurement of laboratory materials and consumables
- Data collection and analysis costs
- Expenses related to clinical analysis
- Publication expenses (e.g., article processing charges)
- Small-scale equipment or software essential to the project
- Overhead costs

Applicants are encouraged to submit a well-balanced budget that reflects the full scope and requirements of the project.

4. Project Duration

Projects must be completed within 24 months of their start date.

Minimum duration: 6 months.

Criteria of the Scoring System

The most important factors that the members of the Selection Committee will consider when scoring individual projects are listed below. It follows that higher scores on these factors will increase chances for a study to be selected

1. Strong Scientific Foundation. The study is based on a well-defined hypothesis and provides clear, high-quality evidence in its outcomes.
2. Innovation. The study introduces novel concepts, methods, or approaches.
3. Esteemed Collaborators. The study involves a highly regarded and reputable researcher. Persons that have not ever published in a scientific journal before are urged to form a junction with a high-regarded and reputable researcher or research group.

Any questions? – Reach out to contact@imcasfund.org