Grants for Digital Research in the Humanities
Frequently Asked Questions

I am currently studying a post-graduate course. Am I eligible to apply to this scheme?

No, unfortunately, the Academy does not have any funds available to provide funding for students. Funding is provided for research at post-doctoral level only.

I am not affiliated to a UK academic institution. Can I apply for funding in this scheme?

No. Grants are available for established researchers, on a permanent contract (which may be part-time or full-time) or, if temporary, on a contract that will not end during the course of the grant, in any field of the humanities. Independent scholars are not eligible to apply to this scheme.

Who can offer institutional authorisation for my application?

Institutional authorisation must be given by the registered approver in the British Academy Flexi-Grant® Grant Management System (GMS). This is variable at each institution and will often be the Research Grants or Contracts Office or equivalent. You should seek advice at your home institution.

I am currently a Principal or Co-Applicant on another British Academy grant. Am I eligible to apply?

If you are currently a Principal Investigator or a Co-Applicant on another Academy research grant, you may not apply as either Principal or a Co-Applicant on another research grant until the conditions relating to the award held have been met.

I am also making an application to the British Academy for funding through another scheme. Is this a problem?

Yes. Please note that applications may be made to only one similar Academy grant scheme at the same time. Specifically, an application cannot be submitted at the same time to the BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grants scheme and this call for Digital Research in the Humanities programme.

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Does my Co-Applicant(s) have to be based in the UK?

No, a 'Co-Applicant' can be based overseas, provided there is a UK-based Principal Investigator.

I am not sure whether to list someone as a Co-Applicant or other participant. What is the difference?

A 'Co-Applicant' is a joint director of the project with equal responsibility for the academic management of the project. An 'other participant' can be anyone else actively associated with the project.

How many Co-Applicants can my research project have?

For the Grants for Digital Research in the Humanities scheme each application can have a maximum of up to two Co-Applicants.

I am looking for funding to digitise a resource that is not currently available in digital format. Can I apply to this scheme for this kind of support?

No. This is not a call for the digitisation of material that is not currently available in digital format. Rather, it is more explicitly aimed at highlighting outstanding examples of where existing digital material can be used and re-used to demonstrate the capacity to generate new knowledge.

Is this scheme only available to applicants working in Humanities subjects?

Yes. Grants are available to researchers intending to work in any aspect of research relevant to digital research resources in the humanities, including

- History, including History of Science and Medicine
- History of Art and Cultural History
- Philology and Linguistics
- Film, dance or music studies (within a historical or critical context)
- Literary texts and/or documents in any Humanities subject area.

What restriction is placed on the use of the Jisc funding offered as part of this scheme?

Jisc funding is earmarked specifically to support research that makes use of the digitised UK Medical Heritage Library (UKMHL) available on Jisc's Historical Texts at http://historicaltexts.jisc.ac.uk A copy of the dataset can be provided to successful grantees on request. Researchers are free to propose to conduct any type of research (linguistic, historical, image-based…) that uses this corpus or cross-analysing this corpus with any other datasets to which they may have access

How many awards are expected to be made in this round of competition?

It is expected that around six awards will be made in total, three awards funded from Jisc-funding and three awards from the British Academy funding.

My project is due to start before the decision date. Can I apply?

No, awards will not be made retrospectively. The earliest date that research may commence for this round of competition is 1 September 2018.

What is the latest date I can apply to start my project?

The latest date that research has to have commenced by in this round of competition is 1 January 2019.

Does my referee have to be based in the UK?

No, references written in English from appropriate overseas referees are welcomed by the Academy.

When I apply for funding through any of the awards offered by the British Academy, can I include in the application the cost of APCs (Article Processing Charges) to enable any articles that may arise from the research to be published in learned journals that offer a 'Gold' open access option?

No. Currently the Academy's position is that costs of publication are not eligible costs.

Does the Academy require the outputs of the research it funds to be made available in any open access format?

No, this is not currently a stipulation of any Academy award.