



## EPSRC Network+: Social Justice through the Digital Economy

### Open Commissioning Programme

#### FAQ's

##### Who can apply?

Eligible lead organisations include all UK Higher Education Institutions that receive grant funding from one of the UK higher education funding bodies. Not Equal is keen to encourage SME's/Industry and community groups to engage in collaborative applications.

##### When can I apply?

The first call will open at our Symposia Launch event on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019, the expression of interest stage will close on the 28<sup>th</sup> February and the full application process will close on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Please note no applications will be accepted without a prior expression of interest submission.

##### How much can I apply for?

Not Equal offers two levels of funding. The first is micro funding of up to £5k (3 months) and pilot funding of £20k to £40k (6-8 months).

##### What is the Full Economic Costing (FEC) criteria for the funding?

As the grant holder, Newcastle University is responsible for allocating funding to successful proposals and will reimburse subcontracting organisations at 80% FEC. Academic institutions will be required to itemise bills based on 100% FEC and then invoice at 80% FEC.

##### What can I claim for?

You are able to claim for RA time and relevant FTE related costs, PI/Co-Investigator time and other non-staff costs.

##### What am I unable to claim for?

You are unable to claim for FTE related costs attributed to PI/Co-Investigator time.

##### Who will decide if my application is successful?

The applications will be initially sifted by the Not Equal PI and Co-Investigators. Projects proposals will be then reviewed and scored by a multidisciplinary panel of experts and a Citizens Panel. The Not Equal Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators will use the scores from both panels to inform decisions on final awards allocation.

##### What outputs will I be expected to produce?

Successful applicants are required to produce and submit a report mid-way through the project and a final report on completion of the project. Please note the payment of the final 30% of funding will be reliant on submission of the final summary report.



### **How will payment be received?**

The lead institution will be paid directly following on from itemised invoices being sent to Newcastle University. The lead institution will be responsible for organising separate arrangements to pay any collaborators on the project.

### **How will non-academic partners be paid?**

Non-academic partners can act as subcontractors on the project as long as their costs are fully justified in the full application form. You will need to contact the lead institutions grant and contracts team to find out their individual process for this.

### **How will Not Equal's Open Source Policy impact on my publishing rights?**

The Network+ follows the standard UKRI guidance on open access <https://epsrc.ukri.org/about/access/roaccess>.

### **I am applying with a collaborator from another institution, how will that affect the FEC criteria?**

All contracts and award documentation will be issued solely to the lead institution. Lead academic institutions will be required to itemise bills based on 100% FEC and then invoice at 80% FEC. The lead applicant will also assume full responsibility for any subcontractors involved in the project, this includes payments to them.

### **Who is eligible to be a PI on the grant?**

Investigators must be academic employees (lecturer or equivalent) of an eligible organisation and must be resident in the UK. Any fellows holding fellowships aimed primarily at the postdoctoral level would only be able to be a collaborator on the grant.

### **Can I include references in the Expression of Interest form?**

You may include references in the form as long as they are included within the word count.

### **Can a PI transfer the Not Equal grant if they change institutions?**

The Network+ follows standard UKRI guidance on movement of PI's between institutions <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/post-award-guidance/#transfers>.

### **What is a 'supporting partner'?**

An essential criterion of the call for proposals is the involvement of industry, civil society and/or community groups. You will be asked for letters of support from your supporting partner if your project is successful.

