# Impact Grant Scheme

Application Package

**1 Guidance Notes**

The Board of Trustees of the Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) has created an Impact Grants Scheme for the benefit of members of the SLSA in furtherance of their impact activities. For the purposes of this scheme, ‘impact’ will be defined to correspond closely with the definition of impact for REF purposes. Public engagement activities will be recognised as being eligible for funding, given their importance in developing pathways to impact in academic research.

Impact was defined for the purposes of REF2021, as follows:

Impact includes, but is not limited to, an effect on, change or benefit to:

* the activity, attitude, awareness, behaviour, capacity, opportunity, performance, policy, practice, process or understanding
* of an audience, beneficiary, community, constituency, organisation or individuals
* in any geographic location whether locally, regionally, nationally or internationally.

Impact includes the reduction or prevention of harm, risk, cost or other negative effects. Impacts on students, teaching or other activities in HEIs are also included.

The following terms and conditions about awarding impact funding have been agreed.

**Terms and conditions**

* All SLSA members, including Postgraduate members will be eligible to apply. Postgraduate members will need to provide an undertaking from their supervisor that the supervisor will manage the funds on their behalf.
* Priority will be given to SLSA members without access to other funding sources for the impact-related activity applied for.
* Members of the SLSA Board of Trustees are ineligible to apply.
* No individual grant shall be made for more than £1,500.
* All activities funded through this year’s competition should be usually scheduled for completion by 9 months after the funding has been agreed.
* The application must be costed in pounds sterling, and any award will be by bank transfer in sterling.
* Unspent funds must be returned to the SLSA at the end of the award period.
* A member of the Association shall be awarded a maximum of one grant per year from the impact grants schemes.
* A summary annual report about the number and quality of applications for awards and the awards actually made of this be included in the Trustees Annual Report.
* The scheme will be advertised regularly in the Newsletter and weekly ebulletin.
* Brief feedback will be provided to unsuccessful applicants.
* Recipients of awards will be required to submit to the Newsletter a brief (250–300 words) summary after completion of the activity.
* The SLSA should be suitably acknowledged in any outputs stemming from the activity.

**Organization of awards**

Awards will be made by the SLSA Board. If there is any conflict of interest such that a member of the Board feels that they are unable to reach an unbiased decision about an application, they shall withdraw whilst the decision is made about that application. If, in the opinion of the SLSA Board, there are insufficient appropriate applications to justify allocating the full sum available in the fund then the Board will make only such awards as it considers appropriate.

**Considerations to be taken into account by the SLSA Board**

In making awards the SLSA Board shall consider *inter alia* the criteria set out on the Application Form which are summarized as follows:

* Clarity of the aim/s and objective/s of the activity.
* Reach and significance of the proposed impact.
* Partners identified and clarity of proposed activity/partnerships.
* Value for money and realistic budget.

Funding will not normally be provided for the support of academic conference attendance (unless such attendance is itself integral to the impact activity) or the subsidizing of postgraduate or other course fees. The Impact Grant Scheme covers costs for impact activities only, which excludes, *inter alia*, research activities, costs for teaching buy-out, or activities that otherwise fall within the SLSA Seminar, Fieldwork or Small Grant Competitions.

**Privacy**

The data supplied to the SLSA on these forms will be used solely for the purposes of processing your grant application, informing you of the outcome, and making any relevant payments. The names, institutional affiliation, amount awarded, and title of project, of successful applicants will be recorded on our website (see <https://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/past-grantholders>). We will also check the SLSA membership database for your current membership status. Our legitimate basis for processing your data under article 6 of GDPR is the performance of a contract. Any queries or data access requests should be addressed to admin@slsa.ac.uk in the first instance.

**How to apply**

* Applications must be made using the Application Form and Endorsement Form provided below. Letters of support from any impact partners should be supplied if relevant.
* Applications must be completed in not more than 1500 words. If the application exceeds this limit, the application will NOT be considered.
* The annual deadline for applications is **31 May**.
* The Application Form, any Letters of Support, and the Endorsement Form should be submitted by email to admin@slsa.ac.uk.
* Joint applications must specify the lead applicant. If applicants are employed in different institutions, payment will be made to the lead applicant’s institution.
* Each applicant should contact his/her Head of Department, Research Director or other appropriate officer well in advance of the application deadline for the purpose of completing the Endorsement Form.
* It is the responsibility of the applicant to cost their proposal clearly and precisely (or as best as possible). Costing particulars should have specific headings for all parts of the claim.
* Decisions will be made no later than **31 August 2024** with a view to the completion of the impact project by **31 June 2025**.
* The grant will not cover institutional overheads.
* A voluntary statement disclosing that one or more of the applicants is employed on a precarious (non-permanent) basis or is not currently employed by an HEI may also be included. Including this voluntary disclosure will not diminish your chances of being awarded funding, rather it will help us to target additional funding that we have allocated to support precariously employed members across our schemes. Note that awards cannot be made to individuals, an institution must administer the funds.
* Upon submission of your application, you will be asked to fill in a voluntary and confidential EDI monitoring form, which will not be connected to, or have any bearing on, your application. Providing this information helps the SLSA monitor and progress EDI issues.

**Enquiries:** Any enquiries about the scheme and application process should be addressed to admin@slsa.ac.uk.

Impact Grant Scheme

## Application Form

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NAME(S) OF APPLICANT(S)(Identify lead applicant, if relevant) |  |
| Institutional address |  |
| Email address |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Present appointment & employer |  |
| Summary of academic career |  |
| Sum requested |  |
| Other sources of funding applied for/obtained for the project |  |
| Date of application |  |
| I confirm [confirm for each applicant] | [Applicant] is a fully paid-up member (or registered postgraduate member) of the SLSA.  |
| Voluntary disclosure [provide if desired/applicable or delete]*Providing this information is voluntary. Doing so will not diminish your chances of being awarded funding, rather it will help us to target additional funding that we have allocated to support precariously employed members across our schemes.* | [Applicant] is employed on a precarious (non-permanent) basis or is not currently employed by an HEI. |

**Title of Impact Activity/Project:**

**Description of Activity and Intended Outcomes** (Reminder: your combined responses to these five questions should not exceed 1,500 words.)

1. **Please set out the aim/s and objective/s of the proposed impact activity:**
2. **Outline the how the proposed reach and significance of your proposed impact activity will be supported by this award (and how, if applicable, it connects with other funding you are eligible to apply for). If you cannot obtain support via institutional funds, you should also explain this:**
3. **Please outline an initial list of impact partners that will be included in this activity and briefly outline how they will support your proposed activity and impact:**
4. **Please set out the budget (which should be a reasonable assessment of specific costs, representing value for money) and indicate any other sources of impact funding available to you (if any):**
5. **Please explain the potential impact (including any dissemination plans and/ or the enhancement of the prospect of obtaining future research grants from other grant making bodies):**

## Letter(s) of Support

A letter of support from any impact partner identified as part of the application must be included with the application. The partner must be provided with a copy of this application and agree before the application deadline to support the application. Details of the impact partner(s) should additionally be listed below:

Name of Supporter(s):

Present appointment & employer:

Postal address:

Email address:

Telephone:

## Endorsement Form

APPLICANT'S NAME:

This is to certify that the above-named applicant is employed by [Institution].

In my capacity as [*Head of Department, Research Director or other appropriate office*], I endorse the SLSA Impact Grant Application of the applicant. I agree that, if successful, the grant will be administered through my institution with no deduction for overheads. I also certify that I am aware of no institutional impediments which would affect the undertaking of this impact activity and its successful completion.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of person providing endorsement |  |
| Present appointment & employer |  |
| Institutional address |  |
| Email address |  |
| Signature |  |
| Date |  |

**Any Letters of Support and the Endorsement Form should accompany the Application Form which the Applicant is required to email to** admin@slsa.ac.uk **by 31 May 2024.**