



CO RESEARCH TRUST GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

1. Background Information about the CO Research Trust

The CO Research Trust (formerly the Gas Safety Trust) is a registered charity, established in 2005. Our objective is to reduce the incidents of death and injury from carbon monoxide (CO) exposure.

We want a world where CO poisoning does not occur but understand that this may not be possible. So, where CO poisoning does occur, we want it to be easily detected, diagnosed and treated.

To help us achieve this goal, our key focus is research, as we believe that this will make the greatest difference, now and in the future. This supports awareness, campaigning, and educational activities, with a view to saving lives and improving the quality of life of those already affected.

The Trust provides grant funding, advice and support to organisations or individuals to carry out research and evidence gathering relating to CO safety. Since 2017, we have brought together the UK's leading industry, scientific, and clinical experts at our workshop series. This has sought to encourage conversation and collaboration around key areas relating to CO exposure.

We know from the broader research community that a collaborative approach to research has enabled progress to be made. We actively encourage this approach and always welcome opportunities to develop co-funding partnerships and consortia between researchers. We know that these goals cannot be achieved alone.

The CO Research Trust is an independent organisation, free from the influence of external stakeholders. We are governed by a Board of independent Trustees who have overall responsibility for the Trust, alongside a small team who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Trust.

As a charity, we are in the fortunate position of having a fund-raising arm. CORGI Services Ltd donates its profits to the CO Research Trust, enabling us to carry out this important work.

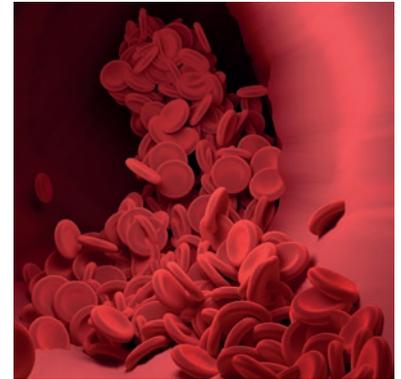
Our vision is a world where CO exposure does not occur, however, when it does, can be easily diagnosed and treated.



2. Who do we give money to?

The CO Research Trust makes grants to a wide range of charities, voluntary groups, associations, gas related businesses, social housing associations, local authorities, statutory organisations, academia bodies and a wide variety of others that meet at least one of our chosen areas of focus:

- Improved Diagnosis** – This is a critical area of research. Given the limitations of carboxyhaemoglobin (COHb) it is essential that a new biomarker is found to make diagnosis easier, to ensure that those who need treatment receive it, and to make sure that all cases of CO exposure are identified, so a true picture emerges. This may include the development of new techniques, improved patient pathways, and improvements in the application of technology.
- Better Treatments and Therapeutics** – To improve the treatments and therapeutics for CO exposure, we need to better understand the mechanisms of CO poisoning, to review and build upon current methods, and to further explore the increased susceptibility and specific risks associated with vulnerable groups and those with underlying health conditions.
- Understanding Vulnerable Groups, Co-Morbidities and Health Outcomes from CO Poisoning** – It is generally thought that the elderly, children, pregnant women (and unborn child), people living in fuel poverty, and people with underlying health conditions are more susceptible to CO exposure. Similarly, it is important to understand the long-term outcomes of exposure on healthy individuals. To be able to develop policies and solutions to mitigate these risks, we need to increase our knowledge of the consequences of exposure.
- Quantifying Prevalence/Data** – An important focus for the Trust over the next five years is to better quantify the prevalence of CO exposure in the UK – capturing both the fatalities (and, where possible, CO exposure as a secondary cause of death), as well as incidences of low-level exposure. We will do this by funding primary data collection, assisting with the aggregation of data collected by others, and supporting the analysis of healthcare datasets held by others (e.g., the UK Biobank). Understanding more about the level of risk and how common exposure is (especially at low levels) will be critical to engagement with decision makers.
- Built Environment/Energy Efficiency Measures** – The Trust will continue its interest in the effect that changes to Building Regulations, energy efficiency measures, the zero-carbon agenda, and the way behaviours and construction methods (e.g., renovation and retrofitting) impact on CO safety. To do so we will work more closely with our industry colleagues to establish potential collaborative projects.
- Better CO Detection and Risk Reduction** – The Trust will continue to work with industry partners and others to explore ways to improve CO detection and minimise its production, especially in those environments where the risk cannot be totally removed.
- Other Fuels and Environments** – Whilst the UK's gas industry has taken steps to prevent CO exposure – thanks in part to better regulation and improved technologies – in other fuel sectors, the picture is less clear. With no requirement to report CO incidents and fewer regulatory requirements, it is unclear what the level of risk and specific issues are in, for example, the solid fuel sector. Similarly, we will work towards developing a better understanding of specific situations where risk has been identified – e.g., transportation, leisure, hospitality, and places of work.



3. What the CO Research Trust supports

This is only a general guide and does not constitute an exhaustive list. Meeting the following criteria does not guarantee funding. The Grants Reviews Committee and Trustees make the final decision on which programmes or projects the CO Research Trust will support.

- Funding is focussed towards organisations working to reduce the risk from carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Grants will be considered for any length of programme/project and we also appreciate that some applications will be for one-off funding. Longer term funding can be in tranches payments to the programme/projects requirements, with the final payment made on receipt of an acceptable final project report.
- Grants can only be awarded to specific projects, and not for general donations.
- Grant Award Review reports are required on a regular basis and will be defined at the time of the approved grant funding. Funding support is provided on the understanding that reports will be received as agreed, or requested, by the CORT.
- Grants can be awarded for medical research.

4. What the CO Research Trust does not support

- Grants will not be awarded for general donations. The Grant must be related to a specific programme or project that meets The Trust's eligibility criteria.
- Grants are not awarded to pay for any form of sponsorship nor can the CORT logo or name be used for any sponsorship unless with prior approval of the CORT.
- Grants are not awarded to individuals, except in the context of their business activities.
- Grants will not be awarded for fundraising events.
- Grants will not be awarded to sponsor an award, unless those undertaken by the CO Research Trust or any other related body and funded from a non-grant making budget.
- Grants are not made to fund professional conferences or for professional fees.
- Grants are not awarded to projects where CO Research Trust grant support input will not make a positive impact and cannot be clearly defined. We want every £1 donated to make a difference to those most in need.

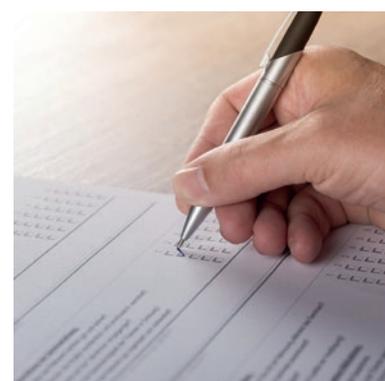
5. How often are Grants awarded?

The CO Research Trust has two grant windows – the **Small Grants Call** (for applications up to £10,000), and the **Main Grants Call**. You can find out more details on the CO Research Trust website www.coresearchtrust.org

6. How much money can you request?

Each application is considered on its own merits and for the Main Grants Call there is no limit on the amount of money that an organisation can request.

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7. Who can apply for funding?

The CO Research Trust makes grants to a wide range of registered charities, voluntary groups, associations, social housing associations, local authorities, statutory organisations, academic bodies and a wide variety of other recognisable and accountable good causes.

8. How do you apply for CO Research Trust Grant funding?

Simply by completing a **CO Research Trust Grant Application Form** available from the CO Research Trust website. Although it is not a requirement, you are strongly advised to contact the CO Research Trust before applying for funding.

The application form requires you to give a detailed explanation of the work for which a grant is being requested – including a laypersons summary, a detailed outline including milestones and timeline for the work

In addition to the application form you must provide an overview and supporting information on your organisation and its structure.

A budget and costings for the project must be submitted, along with unit number amounts (in the case of equipment) or amount in pounds sterling, including any VAT elements (for projects & programmes) of the amount of funding support you seek from the CO Research Trust.

A copy of the organisation's most recent annual report and your latest audited accounts must also be submitted along with the proposal.

We also require a full marketing plan for the project together with a completed risk register (using the CORT risk register template, which can be found on our website).

9. How long does the application process take?

Decisions on most applications are made and communicated within 6 weeks of the Grants Call deadline or sooner. You may be asked to provide additional information or to refine your application.

All applicants receive written acknowledgement of receipt once a completed and signed application form and supporting documentation has been received by the CORT. Should you require an update on your application at any time, please directly contact the Head of Charitable Operations.

We will invest in forward-thinking, outcomes-oriented research and support collaboration.



10. Who makes the decision to support the applications made to the CO Research Trust?

The Head of Charitable Operations oversees the receipt and administration of all grant applications.

These are passed to the Grant Review Committee who review them and then make recommendations to the Board of Trustees. As part of this process, you may be asked to present your proposal to the Grant Review Committee.

The Trustees decide which applications to support, or they may ask for more information. Outcomes are then fed back to the Head of Charitable Operations who will contact the applicant directly.

11. Do you have the right of appeal against refusal of a grant?

Yes, initially to the Head of Charitable Operations who will refer any complaint to the Trust Chair.

12. Where should we send our application?

Please send an electronic copy, of your completed and signed application form and together with enclosures to the CO Research Trust by email.

Adrian McConnell

Head of Charitable Operations

E: adrian@coresearchtrust.org



CO Research Trust

Winchester Street

Andover

Hampshire

SP10 2EA

