Application form for NNUF Successor user access scheme

**Round 1 – Deadline 31st August 2025**

**Before completing this form, please ensure that:**

* you have read the page entitled [NNUF funded user access scheme: overview and workflow](https://www.nnuf.ac.uk/access-facilities)
* you have discussed the feasibility of your proposed research directly with the facility/facilities in question:
	+ please use the [feasibility checklist](https://www.nnuf.ac.uk/facility-feasibility-checklist) to structure your discussions with the facility/facilities.
	+ please obtain an email from the facility/facilities in question, confirming the feasibility of conducting your proposed research. You will need to attach this as part of your application for the NNUF funded user access scheme.
* you have consulted the page entitled [Rules for submission of applications for NNUF funded user access scheme](https://www.nnuf.ac.uk/rules-submission-application-nnuf-funded-user-access-scheme).

If you have any questions about how to complete the form, or would like any assistance during the application process, please don't hesitate to contact NNUF@materials.ox.ac.uk N.B. Technical questions pertaining to experimental feasibility should be directed to the facility contact, as mentioned above.

Once completed this form should be saved as a pdf and returned to NNUF@materials.ox.ac.uk together with any attachments as required below

Section A: Preliminary Information

SECTION A: PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

1. Personal details

Please note that all applications for the NNUF funded user access scheme will be evaluated “person-blind” by the management group (Prof David Armstrong, Prof Chris Grovenor, Prof Malcolm Joyce and Prof Francis Livens). Your personal details will be used by the NNUF Administrators to contact you regarding the outcome of your application etc. You are not required to upload a CV or bio.

1a. Principal Investigator

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| Please enter text here |

Name \*

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| Please enter text here |

Institution \*

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| Please enter text here |

Email \*

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| Please enter text here |

Phone number \*

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Will the PI be undertaking experimental work? \*

Yes / No delete as applicable

1b. Team Members

Please list here the name and position of all the external users who would be undertaking the proposed experimental work (up to a maximum of 5 team members in total, including the PI). If you have more than one team member (in addition to the PI), please enter them below the first team member. (N.B. Do not list employees of the facility you are proposing to access in this section).

First team member (in addition to PI) - if any

Name

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| Please enter text here |

Position (e.g. student, postdoctoral research associate, staff, other)

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| Please enter text here |

Institution

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| Please enter text here |

2. Please list other funding sources your research group have obtained for the project area (including any PhD studentship funding and specify whether or not these include facility access charges) \*

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| Please enter text here |

N.B. We are interested in whether the proposed research is part of a major existing activity in your research group or a new area you are looking to develop, and also to check if you have already applied for access funding under, for instance, existing EPSRC grants.

3. Evidence that the proposed research for which you are applying for NNUF funding has been discussed and validated by the NNUF facility partner \*

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| Please enter text here or note if correspondence is attached to the final application email |

Please insert or attach email correspondence or equivalent between yourself and a member of staff at the NNUF facility partner (points of contact at each facility are given on the facility’s page on this website). Please ensure that you have used the feasibility checklist (hosted on the "Facility feasibility checklist" page of this website) to structure your discussions with the facility. If the facility requires proposals to go through an internal quality-control process, please also upload evidence that this has been successfully completed.

4. Estimate of facility access fee(s).

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| Please enter text here or note if correspondence is attached to the final application email |

For the first quarterly call of the NNUF Successor access scheme (call S1), the facility access fees must be at least £10k. Please include an email chain or similar between yourself and the facility, indicating that the facility has provided the facility access quote to you in writing.

Please note

If applying to the HOT ROBOTICS FACILITY, please ensure: [1] that your email correspondence includes responses from the facility's technician (contact nnuf-hr@race.ukaea.uk, nnuf-hr@bristol.ac.uk, nnuf-hr@manchester.ac.uk or nnuf-hr@uknnl.com); [2] that you include the costs for use of the Hot Robotics Facility and/or equipment.

5. Estimate of expenses (travel; subsistence; sample transport costs; costs associated with equipment hire off-site e.g. transport of kit, insurance etc.; UK conference attendance)

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| Please enter text here or note if correspondence is attached to the final application email |

Please upload an itemised estimate/quote of expenses that you would anticipate claiming from the NNUF user access scheme (N.B. This does not include facility access fees: if your application is successful, the NNUF management group will transfer these directly to the facility once your access has been completed). Please ensure that any costs estimated or claimed are in line with University of Oxford expense guidelines, and demonstrate this by itemising your estimate. If you are successful in your application, then once your access has been completed, you will need to send receipts for expenses to the NNUF Project Assistant (NNUF@materials.ox.ac.uk), who will reimburse these funds to you.

SECTION B: EXPERIMENT INFORMATION

1. Experiment title \*

2. Experimental details (500 words maximum) \*

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| Please enter text here  |

Please provide a description of the intended programme of work (in sufficient detail for the management group to be able to assess both feasibility and the impact of the intended outcomes). Include a technical narrative supporting the novelty, timeliness and impact of the work, and the outcomes of the discussions you will already have had with facility staff to scope out the practical details and feasibility of your proposed experiment.

3. Which facility/facilities are you applying to access? \*

A proposal may request NNUF funding for use of facilities at up to three partner institutions, for instance for sample preparation at one partner, irradiation at another and post-irradiation examination (PIE) at a third.

Please delete all facilities except for those you are applying to use

Active Nano Mapping Facility

ADRIANA Facility - UKAEA

ADRIANA Facility - Lancaster University

ADRIANA Facility - University of Liverpool

BUFFF - Bangor University

Centre for Radiochemistry Research

Dalton Cumbrian Facility

Diamond Active Materials Laboratory

EXACT

FaRMS

HADES

High Flux Accelerator-Driven Neutron Facility (new accelerator)

High Flux Accelerator-Driven Neutron Facility (MC40 cyclotron)

High Temperature Facility

Hot Robotics Facility - NNL

Hot Robotics Facility - RACE (UKAEA)

Hot Robotics Facility - University of Bristol

Hot Robotics Facility - University of Manchester

Lancaster Accelerator Mass Spectrometer (LAMS-UK)

Materials Research Facility

Molten Salts in Nuclear Technology Laboratory

National Nuclear Laboratory (electron optics capability)

Nuclear Materials Atom Probe Facility

PLEIADES

Pyrochemical Research Laboratory

RADER

SIMFUEL and Alpha-Active Material Manufacturing and Characterisation Facility

UTGARD Laboratory

4. What equipment will be utilised at the facility/facilities you have selected in the previous question? \*

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| Please enter text here  |

N.B. You can also request funding from NNUF to access to equipment at the host institution not funded by NNUF if it is necessary to carry out your experiment.

5. Data you expect to obtain (200 words maximum) \*

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| Please enter text here  |

6. Specimen description (200 words maximum) \*

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| Please enter text here  |

7. Specimen preparation \*

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| Please enter text here  |

Please state where your specimen(s) will come from, whether you will be arranging for any sample(s) to be transported to the facility where your access will take place, or whether the sample(s) will need to be prepared on-site at this facility. Include the outcomes of any discussion you have had with facility staff.

8. Instrument time \*

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| Please enter text here  |

Please list the number of days’ access required, based on discussions with the facility staff.

9. Special requirements \*

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e.g. cost of sample transport, T&S for additional researchers attending a Diamond experiment in addition to the 3 funded by Diamond, etc. (You will already have uploaded estimates/quotes for these in Section A above, but please write a few words summarising your special requirements here, FAO the management group).

10. Requested timeline \*

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| Please enter text here  |

Please state your requested timeline. N.B. It is normally expected that the successful applicants will have completed their access within 6 months of the date of award, excepting cases where equipment failure delays access (or in the case of e.g. NNL, within 6 months of security clearance having been granted by the facility). Applications for work lasting longer than 6 months will be considered if a persuasive case is made by the applicant in the application form.

11. Please state whether you are applying for access to take place at a future date (for example to enable time for sample preparation) \*

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| Please enter text here  |

If you “yes” please explain why, and to enter your “intended date” for access to start. It would be expected for your access to take place within 6 months of the “intended date” you select.

12. Are radioactive samples or materials involved in this project? \*

If yes, you must have discussed and agreed the activity levels with the facility (facility contacts are given on the facility's page on this website). You will also need to specify the number of active samples.

13. Does your application constitute a resubmission (i.e. are you resubmitting an application which was previously rejected)? \*

Yes / No

If "yes", please provide details of the original submission and explain briefly how you have amended the proposal.

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| Please enter text here  |

14. Have you/your team had previous access granted to the same facility/facilities under earlier rounds of the NNUF access scheme? \*

Yes / No

If "yes", please provide details of outcomes/outputs from this access.

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| Please enter text here  |

SECTION C: PROGRAMME RELEVANCE \*

Please explain which area(s) of nuclear research your proposal falls under, making reference to the UK’s research priorities. It is important that the NNUF Management Group can assess how your proposed work is relevant to the UK's nuclear mission.

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| Please enter text here  |

Please confirm that your contact at the facility has seen and approved the FINAL VERSION of the application form you are about to submit \*

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| Please conformation text here  |

Please confirm that both you and the team members on behalf of whom you are submitting this application have viewed the privacy notice. \*

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| Please conformation text here  |

Please submit completed form and all attachments required to NNUF@materials.ox.ac.uk

Deadline for Round 1 31st August