Introduction

**Application forms are available from 8th September 2025 with a closing date of 8th December 2025.**

Since being founded, the Psoriasis Association has awarded millions of pounds in grants to research projects across the UK. The Psoriasis Association launched its first studentship grant in 2007 to support the training of graduate students leading to the presentation of a PhD. The Psoriasis Association is pleased to continue the commitment to the next generation of psoriasis researchers and offer a new round of PhD studentship grants in 2025.

The Psoriasis Association will consider applications that have a clear relevance to their aim (to promote and fund research into the causes, nature, treatments and care of psoriasis and to publish and disseminate the results of that research) and contain a rigorous research focus. Applications that also address one or more of the Psoriasis PSP Top 10 research priorities will be looked on favourably and providing the applications are of high scientific quality and good value for money, we expect to fund at least one PhD Studentship that meets these criteria.

The Psoriasis Association has a panel of specialists on their Medical and Research Committee who are tasked with evaluating the quality and standard of the applications, along with scientific merit of the research project, its suitability as a PhD project, and the research and training environment provided by the host department. The Medical and Research Committee are further supported by external peer reviewers who assess the quality of the applications, and the Experts by Experience Committee (made up of individuals who have experience of living with psoriasis) who assess the relevance and practicalities of the applications for people with psoriasis. Recommendations are then made to the Trustees of the Psoriasis Association who ultimately decide which projects/studentships are to be funded, at their meeting in March/April 2026.

**About the Award**

* The Psoriasis Association PhD Studentship Grant is available to any UK based research institution seeking to fund research into psoriasis at a PhD student level.
* The Psoriasis Association does not accept applications from prospective students.
* The Psoriasis Association will pay a fixed amount of £100,000 (£33,334 year one and £33,333 for years two and three).
* A travel bursary of up to £1000 per successful PhD student per grant may be requested towards costs associated with travel and registration for conferences. These must be fully justified and the PhD student encouraged to present their work at the conference attended.
* No more than one application can be submitted by a principal applicant per application round.
* A principal applicant can hold a maximum of 2 Psoriasis Association Studentships at any one time.
* No top ups or extensions are available for any reason.
* The maximum duration of the studentship is 3 years.
* Studentships must be activated within 12 months of the award letter.
* Studentship funding is claimed by authorised finance departments submitting invoices at annual intervals.
* The studentship will be subject to annual review when a scientific and lay report are to be submitted. Continuation is dependent on satisfactory progress.
* The Psoriasis Association’s support must be acknowledged in any relevant papers or presentations and copies forwarded to the Research Manager at the Psoriasis Association.
* A bound copy of the thesis must be submitted to the Psoriasis Association on completion of the PhD, for their library. The Psoriasis Association will fund this additional bound copy upon request.
* Research outputs from the project must be recorded and submitted to ResearchFish on an annual basis for the duration of the grant and for five years following the end of the grant.

**The Psoriasis Association’s Medical and Research Committee follows a Conflicts of Interest policy. Applicants are not permitted to request inclusion and exclusion of specific Committee members during the review of their applications.**

The Psoriasis Association’s Medical and Research Committee use the following criteria when reviewing applications:

* Value to patients with psoriasis
* Relevance to patients with psoriasis
* Relevance to the [Psoriasis Top 10](https://www.psoriasis-association.org.uk/top-ten-psoriasis-research-priorities) research priorities
* Scientific quality
* Value for money and appropriate costing
* Training environment
* Record of Principal Investigator with previous Psoriasis Association research grants

**Application procedures**

* The Psoriasis Association is seeking projects that are technically feasible and have aims that are achievable in the three-year period.
* The funding of the PhD Studentships is made possible through the generous donations of individuals living with psoriasis. As such, it is essential that the research is accessible to, relevant for, and ideally inclusive of people with psoriasis. For these reasons, the Psoriasis Association places significant value on the lay application. Please note that, as defined by NIHR INVOLVE, ‘involvement’ in research refers to work being carried out *with* or *by* members of the public, rather than *to, about* or *for* them. The Psoriasis Association offers support for patient and public involvement - please contact us for further information.
* Applicants should clearly demonstrate the quality of the training environment on offer and the training content of the proposed research project.
* Applications will only be accepted on an official Psoriasis Association PhD application form. The original format and layout must not be altered, and the document must be submitted as a word document. Complete the application with a clear typeface and preferably with a font no smaller than 11 point. Clarity and accuracy are key factors in the review process, with particular attention given to spelling and the excessive use of acronyms.
* Applications must be e-mailed on or before the deadline date (8th December 2025). No excuses / explanations for the late arrival of applications will be considered nor are we able to insert additional sheets/forgotten appendices to an application once it has been submitted.
* The information that you provide as part of your application will be held securely by the Psoriasis Association and made available to reviewers involved in our Research Grants process. Unsuccessful applications will be destroyed after a period of two years; however, aggregate data will be kept for Psoriasis Association records.
* The project title, research institute and lead applicant’s name will be made publicly available if the application is successful. This enables the Psoriasis Association to promote and share the research that it funds with Psoriasis Association supporters and the general public.

**Closing Date 8th December 2025**

**E-mailing your Studentship Application**

Please e-mail the completed form by 23.59 on the closing date of 8th December 2025**.** If an application is not received by this deadline, it will not be processed and there will be no exceptions to this rule.

**E-mail: research@psoriasis-association.org.uk**

The Psoriasis Association will acknowledge receipt of each application. No further correspondence will be entered into until we inform you of the result of your application, unless further clarification is requested by the Research Committee.