

BAM and SIMA Collaborative Research **Grant Scheme 2026**

Guidance for Applicants



24 July 2026



SECTION 1: GENERAL GUIDANCE

Introduction

The British Academy of Management (BAM) and Società Italiana di Management (SIMA) are pleased to announce the launch of the BAM and SIMA Collaborative Research Grant Schemes 2026.

This scheme is part of BAM's mission to build a thriving, pluralistic research community by supporting relevant, ethical, and innovative management and business research.

ABOUT THE SCHEME:

BAM / Società Italiana di Management (SIMA) Collaborative Research Grant

Maximum £4,000 for 1 project

This Scheme supports and advances international research collaborations between management researchers in Italy and the UK. It seeks to support the development of members of the British Academy of Management and Società Italiana di Management (SIMA) who are at an early stage in their careers, defined as being awarded a doctorate less than 5 years before submitting an application. Established researchers are also eligible to apply but they must clearly explain their role in the work and in developing the skills of early career researchers. The scheme is open to all SIMA and BAM Members; non-members wishing to apply to the scheme can join either SIMA or BAM as appropriate.

At least one Applicant must have their primary employment at an academic institution in Italy, and another Applicant must have their primary employment at an academic institution in the UK to ensure collaborative research between the two countries with fieldwork or research being required in both regions.

Italy-based Applicants must have an active and ongoing membership with SIMA at the time of the application, and belong to the ECON07/A (Management) scientific sector (settore scientifico disciplinare)

Timeline for funding

This funding round is launched in July 2026

- Monday 27th July 2026 – Word application form and call documents available
- **Thursday 12th November 2026 at 16:00 (UK time) Deadline for Applicants to submit their application in the BAM grants portal**

- Thursday 19th November 2026 at 16:00 (UK time) Deadline for nominated Heads of Department/Schools or other institutional approvers to approve the application in the BAM grants portal
- The earliest project start date is 1st March 2027 and the latest project start date is 1st May 2027.

Applicant eligibility

**** Current and incoming members of BAM Executive, SIMA Council and the grant awards committee are not eligible to apply for this scheme whether as Lead Applicant or Co-Applicant ****

Eligible Lead and Co-Applicants must be resident in the United Kingdom or Italy, have a doctorate, and be employed at a university or other research institution (including museums and galleries) at the time of application and for the duration of the award. They must have a track record of research excellence, demonstrated through their previous academic work and public engagement activity.

They must have an active membership at the time of application with:

- **SIMA for Italy-based Applicants**
- **BAM for UK-based Applicants**

Italy-based Applicants must have an active and ongoing membership with SIMA at the time of the application, and belong to the ECON07/A (Management) scientific sector (settore scientifico disciplinare)

Early Career Researchers must demonstrate the potential to deliver a research project and are expected to be formally mentored by a more experienced researcher either within or external to their institution.

All Applicants should also demonstrate the potential for outstanding qualities of intellectual and academic leadership, especially through their track record of willingness to connect, collaborate and network. They must have shown talent and imagination in researching issues of global significance and be able to demonstrate their ability to engage a broad non-academic audience.

Previous Applicants and BAM Grant holders

Previously unsuccessful Applicants may not submit an application that is substantially the same as any previously submitted applications. Proposals should be substantially different in terms of project concepts, proposed methodology or fundamental research questions. The only exception is applications that were desk-rejected as part of the administrative checks and that were not subject to academic desk reject, peer review or interview.

Previous holders of a BAM Transitions, MKE or Collaborative Research Award Grants wishing to apply to the scheme with a new proposal must have completed their previous project before the deadline for the current round of schemes. They must also have satisfactorily submitted an end of grant report and supporting financial evidence, which was accepted by

BAM and presented a conference paper relating to their research in accordance with the requirements relating to their funding round.

Previous holders of a SAMS/BAM Capacity-Building Grant wishing to apply to the scheme must have completed their previous project at least 2 years (24 months) before the deadline of the current funding round. They must also have satisfactorily submitted an end of grant report and supporting financial evidence, which was accepted by BAM and ANZAM, IAM or SIMA.

Important information before starting an application

- Projects are expected to be between 12 and 18 months in duration.
- Applicants must ensure that they have read this guidance document and the separate Grant Terms and Conditions document before applying to any of these Schemes.
- *For UK-based Applicants:* the Lead Applicant, and all Co-Applicants who are based in UK management or business schools, must have an up-to-date membership with the British Academy of Management at the point of applying. Non-members wishing to apply to the scheme can become members before applying. More information is available at [BAM Membership Benefits](#)
- *For Italy-based Applicants: the Lead Applicant must have an active, up-to-date membership with SIMA, and belong to the ECON07/A (Management) scientific sector (settore scientifico disciplinare)*
- *For Italy-based Applicants:* the Lead Applicant and Co-Applicants based in Italy must be current members of SIMA at the point of applying. Non-members wishing to apply to the scheme can become members before applying. More information is available on the websites for [SIMA](#).
- Proposals should demonstrate alignment with one or more [BAM Special Interest Groups](#) and with the Academy's [Mission and one or more of its Strategic Objectives](#).
- Proposals should demonstrate alignment with the mission and one more of the strategic objectives and Special Interest Groups (where applicable) of [Società Italiana di Management](#).
- Proposals are equally welcomed from established subject areas and newly emerging domains. There is no preference for any one methodology over another, but priority will be given to proposals with clear and effective research design, data collection and analysis methods, and that engage with the BAM and SIMA communities; and that enhance early career research skill development.
- Applications should commit to disseminating and sharing learning from the project throughout the wider business and management academic community.

- Applications must be submitted via the [BAM grants portal](#). We recommend that Applicants register early on the grants portal and start their submission to mitigate against any technical issues.
- Applications submitted by the deadline will go through an administrative desk reject process at which point incomplete and ineligible applications and applications will be rejected. All eligible applications will be considered by a panel with representatives from BAM and SIMA.

Alignment with BAM Special Interest Groups

You must select at least one Special Interest Group that your proposed research project is closely aligned with.

- Corporate Governance
- Cultural and Creative Industries
- e-Business and e-Government
- Entrepreneurship
- Financial Management
- Gender in Management
- Human Resource Management
- Identity
- Innovation
- International Business and International Management
- Inter-Organisational Collaboration: Partnerships, Alliances and Networks
- Knowledge and Learning
- Leadership and Leadership Development
- Management and Business History
- Marketing and Retail
- Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Organisational Psychology
- Organisational Transformation, Change and Development
- Performance Management
- Project Experiences
- Public Management and Governance
- Research Methodology
- Strategy
- Sustainable and Responsible Business

SECTION 2: Preparing and submitting an application

Application process and key dates

- **Word version of application form and call documents available (Friday 24th July 2026)**

Applications must be submitted electronically via the [BAM grants portal](#). You can register on the grants portal at any time. The online application form will be available in late November. The grants portal is available here: <https://bam.grantplatform.com/>

It is currently not possible for more than one person to edit the same application in the grants portal.

It is recommended that you draft your application in a separate Word document using the Application Form Questions for Reference template available on the [call information page](#) before inputting your answers in to the [BAM grants portal](#).

Please note that there is no requirement to anonymise your application. Please include Lead Applicant and Co-Applicant names and institutions when drafting your application.

- **Application deadline for Applicants (Thursday 12th November 2026 at 16:00 UK time)**

Applications must be submitted by Lead Applicants in the [BAM grants portal](#) by the above date and time.

You are strongly advised to submit your application before the deadline day in case of any technical issues. Applications will not be accepted after the deadline. Unsubmitted draft applications will not be considered.

- **Deadline for institutional approval Thursday 19th November 2026 at 16:00 UK time)**

The Head of Department or other nominated institutional approver named in your application form will receive an email asking them to approve the application in the grants portal. This must be completed the date and time outlined above. Approvers do not need to have a registered account in the grants portal.

Use of Artificial Intelligence in applications

Artificial Intelligence Generated Content (AIGC) tools—such as ChatGPT and others based on large language models (LLMs)—cannot be considered capable of initiating an original piece of research without direction by human actors. They also cannot be accountable for research design or published work. Therefore—in accordance with the position statement available here: [COPE's position statement on AI](#)—these tools cannot fulfil the role of, nor be listed as, an Applicant on a research grant application. If an Applicant has used this kind of tool to develop any portion of an application, its use must be described, transparently and in detail, in the Methodology section so that the assessment panel is aware that AI has been used. The Applicant is fully responsible for the accuracy of any information provided by the tool and for correctly referencing any supporting work on which that information depends. Tools that are used to improve spelling, grammar, and general editing are not included in the

scope of these guidelines. The final decision about whether use of an AIGC tool is appropriate or permissible in the circumstances of a submitted grant application lies with the grant awarding panel in collaboration with BAM Executive and SIMA Council.

Review criteria

Applications will go through an initial binding administrative check to ensure that UK and Italy-based Applicants have active membership of BAM and SIMA, and that Italy-based Applicants ***belong to the ECON07/A (Management) scientific sector (settore scientifico disciplinare)***.

Any incomplete applications, or applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria, or applications that are not sufficiently developed will be rejected at this stage. Applicants whose proposals were desk rejected will be notified within 6 weeks of the application deadline. Notifications will be sent via email from the BAM Grants Portal. Please add sender@app.goodgrants.com to your safe list of email addresses.

Complete and developed applications will be considered by a panel with representatives from BAM and SIMA, with applications being assessed against the following equally-weighted criteria on a scale of 1 to 5 for each criterion:

Quality of the project

- 1.1 *Does the application demonstrate sound knowledge of the field including literature(s) relevant to the project?*
- 1.2 *Are the proposal methodology, research design and/or method of high quality and original?*
- 1.3 *Are the project and the project workplan viable?*
- 1.4 *Does the project have potential to contribute to the field (i.e., Conceptual originality and relevance to the wider management and business community)?*
- 1.5 *Have the implications of the project on ethics and Equality, Diversity, Inclusivity and Respect (EDIR) been appropriately considered in the application?*

Engagement with the BAM and SIMA communities

- 2.1 *To what extent does the project fit with the Grant Scheme remit?*
- 2.2 *To what extent is the project aligned with one or more of BAM or SIMA's Special Interest Groups or the BAM Management Knowledge and Education group, BAM, or SIMA's Mission and one or more of BAM or SIMA's Strategic objectives (see <https://www.bam.ac.uk/about-bam/strategy-2024.html> and <https://societaitalianamanagement.it/en/> for details)?*

Publication, dissemination and impact plans and value for money

- 3.1 *Is the project publication and dissemination plan to academic audiences ambitious, specific and aligned with the Grant Scheme remit as set out in Section 1 (introduction) of the guidance for Applicants?*
- 3.2 *Is the project impact and engagement plan with non-academic audiences ambitious, specific and aligned with the Grant Scheme remit as set out in Section 1 (introduction) of the guidance for Applicants?*
- 3.3 *Does the project offer value for money?*

SECTION 3: FINANCIAL GUIDANCE

Eligible costs under the Grant Scheme

1. **Staff costs (teaching replacement, project-specific research salaries, project support and subcontracts):**
 - 1.1. Directly Incurred Research Assistants and other research staff to enable delivery of the project
 - 1.2. Directly Allocated or Directly Incurred Project administration
 - 1.3. Assistance in transcription, translation, data collection and data inputting may be funded from the grant if the following conditions are met:
 - 1.3.1. The costing must be based on an established costing method used within the lead institution, or based on a quote from an official source, such as a professional transcription service that is used by the lead institution.
 - 1.3.2. The application must include details of how the estimated number of hours has been calculated.
2. **Travel, Accommodation and Subsistence:**
 - 2.1. **Accommodation:** Applicants should obtain reasonably priced hotel accommodation in accordance with their own institution's travel and subsistence policy.
 - 2.2. **Travel:** Travel should be by the most economical means of transport, taking in to account any specific accessibility needs. Applicants should book early and take advantage of cheaper advance tickets, where possible. BAM expects that travel will be at the lowest available fare, which should normally be economy/standard travel.
 - 2.3. **Conference attendance:** BAM may consider expenses relating to conference attendance if the following criteria apply:
 - 2.3.1. The theme and subject of the conference is of direct and particular relevance to the application; and
 - 2.3.2. There are no other sources of funding available to the Applicant.
3. **Other Research Costs: The following is an example list of other research costs that may be covered under the Grant Scheme if sufficient justification is provided:**
 - 3.1. Stationery
 - 3.2. Computing consumables (e.g. physical or cloud-based storage), equipment rental charges and software fees or purchases specifically required for the project
 - 3.3. Specialist publications that cannot be obtained through the host institution
 - 3.4. Digital recorders
 - 3.5. Camera and video equipment
 - 3.6. Subject/interviewee incentives
 - 3.7. Cost of microfiche records
 - 3.8. Specialist reprographic services
 - 3.9. Copyright permission fees

4. **Ineligible costs:**

- 4.1. Salary costs for directly allocated or permanent academic staff
- 4.2. FEC estates and indirect overheads
- 4.3. Laptop, desktop, tablets or phones
- 4.4. Article Publication Charges (APCs)
- 4.5. The Grant holder(s) must not commit any expenditure prior to the contract being issued and the period of grant having commenced. All expenditure must have taken place within the dates of the project and been accounted for within two months of the project end date.