

METHODS | NORTH WEST

Catalyst Grants 2025-26

Methods NW Catalyst Grants fund collaborative projects, events, initiatives and symposia that support cutting-edge developments in research methods across the region.

Catalyst Grants support creative proposals that speak *across* disciplinary boundaries and research fields in the application of cutting-edge methodology regionally, nationally and internationally. A successful proposal will be genuinely **collaborative**, persuasively **innovative** and meaningfully **inclusive** of PGR students.

Rather than adopt a prescriptive approach, we invite Catalyst Grant proposals in any and all areas (particularly from PGRs and ECRs, as well as more established researchers). Catalyst Grants should refine, re-invent or find novel ways to apply methods. They can focus on contemporary research problems, questions or challenges and bring to bear participant expertise in a variety of research methods to develop innovative ways to address them. We also support proposals which take qualitative, quantitative, digital/computational, investigative, creative/arts and interdisciplinary methods to new audiences.

Applications are invited from staff and PGRs from across the five DTP institutions and **must include participants from at least two of those institutions**. One institution must be named as the lead institution for the project. Student-led initiatives are welcome, but there must be a named academic contact in the lead institution.

How much can be claimed?

Applications can normally be made for **up to £6000** to cover all or part of the costs of a particular initiative. Costs should be justified, and applications for less are encouraged.

What costs are eligible?

Methods NW will cover costs related to working remotely; training or web development; speakers' costs (fees, travel and accommodation); catering; venue booking; stationery costs (flip charts, pens etc.); travel costs for NWSSDTP students and other registered PGR students at the DTP institutions; specialist equipment and/or software.

Ineligible costs?

Administrative costs (It is expected that institutions will utilise their administrative staff support on a reciprocal basis, or enlist the help of students for administrative tasks).

Costs will not be reimbursed if they are not part of the approved budget.

Structure of Events - Who can be involved?

Projects funded through the Catalyst scheme must have potential benefit to NWSSDTP-funded PGR students and should be open to all PGR students with relevant interests in the NWSSDTP institutions. They can be led by academic staff in these institutions or by PGRs themselves. Applicants may wish to involve a wider audience, for example, academics and PGR students outside the North West, and/or non-academic partners.

Potential applicants should contact their [institutional lead](#) in the first instance with 'Catalyst Grants' in the subject line.