

ISBNPA Pioneers Scholarship Application 2027

The purpose of the ISBNPA scholarships for early- and mid-career researchers in low- and middle-income countries is to provide funding to conduct formative or pilot research, or for an existing study where funds are insufficient to complete the study such that the results can be disseminated; and to present study findings at an ISBNPA conference.

We offer up to 4 scholarships for research to be conducted in 2026/2027, and presented at the ISBNPA2027 Conference.

Deadline for submissions October, 12, 2026.

* Indicates required question



Your details

1. Name *

2. Email *

3. Title *

4. University / organisational affiliation *

5. Position

6. City and country of residence *

7. **Where will the research be conducted? ***

Name the country or countries where the study has taken place or will take place

8. Who funds your employment

Name the source plainly, for example, "University salary" or the specific grant or fellowship funding your position. One line.

9. In which year did you obtain your PhD? * If you are still a PhD student, please state 'PhD not yet obtained' and include a motivation in the next question. *

10. If applying as a PhD student, motivate why you should receive this funding

Only relevant if you are a student. (max 50 words or so)

Mentor

11. Who will be your mentor for the proposed study? *

Study mentor: Each early career applicant should identify a mid-career (5-15 years post PhD) or senior researcher (+15 years post PhD) who is willing to act as a mentor for their project. Mid-career applicants should identify a senior researcher as a mentor for their project.

12. Email address of your proposed mentor *

13. University / organisational affiliation of your proposed mentor *

14. Mentor's position *

15. City and country of residence of your mentor *

16. Is your proposed mentor a member of ISBNPA? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

17. Please motivate your selection of this mentor, and describe any existing working relationship you have with them *

First, why this person (their standing in behavioural nutrition and physical activity, specific expertise that maps to your study's gap). Second, the concrete history (co-authored papers, shared projects, supervision) (max 50 words).

18. If your proposed mentor does not reside in the same country as you, please explain how you will work together on your proposed study

Give a realistic working model: cadence of meetings, platform, division of roles, time-zone handling (Max 50 words).

The study

19. Study title *

Clear, specific, informative. State population, exposure or intervention, and outcome or aim. Avoid vague framing. Name the specific Pioneers-funded project, not your broader research area.

20. Choose the option that best describes the funding for which you are applying *

Your choice sets the frame for everything below. All study sections (title, abstract, background, aims, methods, significance) should describe the specific project the Pioneers funding will support, not your wider research program.

Mark only one oval.

☐

Funding for a formative / pilot study

☐

Funding for an existing study where there are insufficient funds to complete the study and disseminate the results.

☐

Other:

21. Abstract (maximum 2000 characters about 300 words). *

A miniature of the whole proposal: one or two sentences of background and gap, your aim, a compact methods summary (design, population, measures, analysis), and the expected contribution. This is often read first, so make it self-contained. If completing an existing study, state briefly what stage the work is at and what the funding will complete.

22. Background and study rationale (maximum 2000 characters about 300 words). *

Establish what is known, name the specific gap, and build a convincing argument for why this study is needed now. Ground claims in evidence. Keep it short and persuasive.

23. Study Aims (max 600 characters. about 100 words): *

State one clear overarching aim, then two to four specific, measurable objectives (or hypotheses or research questions). Each objective should be answerable by a method you describe later. If completing an existing study, frame the aims around what remains to be done, not the whole study.

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24. Proposed study methods (maximum 3600 characters, about 600 words) *

Cover, in order: design and why it suits the aim; setting and population with sampling and recruitment; measures and instruments; procedures; analysis plan tied to each aim; sample size or analytical justification; ethics. Address feasibility and, where applicable, LMIC constraints explicitly rather than leaving reviewers to infer them. If completing an existing study, make clear which methods are already complete and which the Pioneers funding will carry out.

25. Project significance (max 1000 characters, about 150 words) *

State clearly what changes if the study succeeds: the knowledge gap closed, who benefits, and how it advances behavioural nutrition and physical activity specifically. Name the innovation honestly rather than claiming novelty broadly.

26. Budget justification (max 2 pages pdf) *

Please email us a study budget,(executivedirector@isbnpa.org) outlining the proposed costs, and a detailed justification for these costs. Remember that this funding can be used for actual research costs; funding contribution for the time of an early career researcher to complete a specific research task. If you are requesting funding for an individual, please provide the individual's name, the degree for which they are registered (if a student), the university where they are registered/employed, and email address. These details should be included in the document that you attach. Please also remember that this funding CANNOT be used for a salary contribution for a mid-career or senior researcher, or for institutional costs (e.g. university research levies). Check all that apply. I have sent the email with the budget and justification

Check all that apply.

☐ I sent the email

27. Project timeline *

Please email us (executivedirector@isbnpa.org) a detailed timeline for your project, bearing in mind the deadlines stipulated in the funding guideline.

Check all that apply.

☐ I sent the email

28. Curriculum vitae (max 3 pages pdf) *

Please email us (executivedirector@isbnpa.org)

Check all that apply.

☐ I sent the email

29. Please mention anything else that you feel will support your application (max 1000 characters, around 150 words).

Good uses: relevant track record, existing data access or partnerships, feasibility evidence, or capacity-building.

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