

Learned Societies and Academies

Learned societies and academies promote research in specific subject areas through academic publications, funding opportunities, conferences and membership. Some also act as professional bodies by offering accreditation.

The Royal Society

The Royal Society is the national academy of science for the UK and the Commonwealth, whose elected fellows are scientists, engineers and technologists.

The British Academy

The British Academy champions and supports the humanities and social sciences.

The Royal Academy of Engineering

The Royal Academy of Engineering brings together the country's most eminent engineers from all disciplines to promote excellence in the science, art and practice of engineering.

The Royal Society of Edinburgh

The Royal Society of Edinburgh is Scotland's National Academy of Science & Letters, providing support for science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and arts and humanities.

The Academy of Medical Sciences

The Academy of Medical Sciences aims to promote translation of biomedical research advances into benefits for people.

Royal Geographical Society

The Royal Geographical Society is the learned society and professional body for geography.

The British Science Association

The British Science Association exists to advance the public understanding, accessibility and accountability of the sciences and engineering in the UK.

Edinburgh Geological Society

The Edinburgh Geological Society aims to stimulate public interest in geology and the advancement of geological knowledge.

Royal Astronomical Society

The Royal Astronomical Society is the UK's leading professional body for astronomy and astrophysics, geophysics, solar and solar-terrestrial physics, and planetary sciences.

Zoological Society of London

The ZSL is a charity devoted to the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats, building capacity and skills through educational programmes, workshops, postgraduate courses and awards.

Charitable organisations

The UK charitable organisations below support research and education, particularly in the field of medical research. These NGOs, foundations and trusts offer private sources of funding, such as endowments from private benefactors or the commercial profits of companies set aside to support research.

Association of Medical Research Charities

AMRC represents the leading UK charities that fund medical and health research. It has a searchable database of member organisations and provides information on specific funding opportunities. It has over 100 member organisations, including [Cancer Research UK](#), the [British Heart Foundation](#), and [Parkinson's UK](#).

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is one of the UK's largest social policy research and development, which seeks to understand and overcome the causes of social difficulties through partnership with academic and other institutions.

The Leverhulme Trust

The Leverhulme Trust supports research and education in all subject areas, with grants and awards including visiting fellowships, early career development fellowships and research project grants.

The Wellcome Trust

The Wellcome Trust fosters and promotes research with the aim of improving human and animal health. [A wide range of funding](#) is available for biomedical science, technological transfer, medical humanities and public engagement.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation works to bring 'innovations in health and learning to the global community,' providing financial support for international research in key global health priority areas.

National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA)

NESTA supports talent, innovation and creativity in the UK in order to improve the UK's capacity for innovation. NESTA runs competitions and prizes, and invests in promising early-stage companies, as well as in shaping innovation policy and sharing best practice.

UK Collaborative on Development Sciences

The UKCDS collaborative of UK funders with an interest in international development research, with funding for the development sciences.

Professional bodies

A professional association or society in the UK is an organisation created by a Royal Charter to support a profession and ensure that professional standards are upheld. Many offer accreditation via membership which is required for the practice of certain professions, such as medicine.

While these professional bodies all provide some type of support, they do not all necessarily provide funding.

The Bar Council

The Bar Council is the professional body for barristers in England and Wales. It provides representation and services for the Bar, and guidance on issues of professional practice.

The Biochemical Society

The Biochemical Society is a learned society for biochemistry, including cellular & molecular biosciences, with Over 7000 members Worldwide.

British Dental Association

The British Dental Association represents dentists in the UK.

British Medical Association

The BMA represents UK doctors in all branches of medicine.

British Psychological Society

The British Psychological Society is the representative body for psychology and psychologists in the UK.

The General Medical Council

The General Medical Council registers doctors to practice medicine in the UK. Its purpose is to protect, promote and maintain the health and safety of the public by ensuring proper standards in the practice of medicine.

Society of Biology

The Society of Biology is the professional body for UK biologists.

Institute of Chemical Engineers

IChemE is an international membership organization for people with an interest and experience in chemical engineering.

Institute of Physics

The Institute of Physics is a scientific organisation devoted to increasing the understanding and application of physics.

Institution of Engineering and Technology

The IET represents the engineering and technology community.

The Law Society

The Law Society represents solicitors in England and Wales.

The Law Society of Scotland

The Law Society of Scotland is the governing body for Scottish solicitors.

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

The RCVS is the regulatory body for veterinary surgeons in the UK.

Royal College of General Practitioners

The RCGPs is a professional membership body for UK family doctors.

Royal Society of Chemistry

The RSC is the largest organisation in Europe for advancing the chemical sciences.