**The Buddy Programme for Wellcome’s Public Engagement Fund**

**What does the buddy programme offer?**

If selected, a buddy with experience of getting funding from the Wellcome Trust will get in touch with you. They will:

* spend 30 minutes (by phone, email depending on your preference) to discuss your idea with you
* review your draft application if you do one, and follow this up with a final 30 minute contact

This support will be quite general - the buddy will not be able to say for sure whether your idea is a perfect fit with Wellcome priorities for funding, and they may not be from your area of expertise, because we feel it can be equally valuable to get general input on your idea. They will be able to give pointers about what makes a good application, help you think through your idea, and give a sense of the kinds of things Wellcome looks for.

**What else should I know about the buddy programme?**

We welcome interest from everyone in the buddy programme. However, it is targeted particularly at those applicants who need more support, so depending on demand, we may have to prioritise some requests and turn down others. Whether you are given a buddy or not will not affect how we view your actual application. Also, being offered a buddy does not mean that we think your idea is right for us, just that we want to help you explore further.

The buddy can’t answer questions about eligibility and technical questions about the application process. For this, please see the contacts listed on our website.

**Next steps**

To see whether we have a suitable match for you please register your interest on the SurveyMonkey website through this link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G2GRWB6>

It will take about 8-10 minutes.

Please note, the time between filling this in and getting started with your buddy may be about 3 weeks (though often sooner), with buddying taking perhaps another 1-4 weeks depending on what you agree together.