

National Biomanufacturing Centre Access Fund (NBCAF)

Important Notice: Arrangements for Applications from December 2007

The NBCAF is funded by the Department of Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (DBERR, formerly DTI), European Regional Development Fund (Merseyside) and the Northwest Development Agency (NWDA) who also administer the fund. Each application is reviewed by an independent panel.

The full details and eligibility criteria for this fund plus guidelines for applications and application forms are available electronically from bionow@nwda.co.uk or on the Bionow or NBC websites (www.bionow.co.uk or www.biomanufacturing.co.uk)

The fund was launched in 2005 and will close in 2008. To-date the fund has received applicants on an open rather than call basis but, as a significant proportion of the fund has now been allocated, the remainder of the fund will be administered and allocated in response to a single, final call.

All applications submitted from November 2007 will be considered in a single review process in February 2008. ***The last date for application for this final review process will be January 31 2008.***

As previously required, all applications must include:

- A completed application form signed by an *authorised* signatory
- An agreed technical report and quote from Eden Biodesign, the NBC Operator, which also ensures that the work can be scheduled for completion by the end of December 2008 and that final claims will be sent to the NWDA ***no later than 31 January 2009***
- A financial and commercialisation plan

Funding criteria remain as follows:

- Applicant eligibility
- Technical feasibility of the work - this should be *specifically* focused on biopharmaceutical candidate development and production
- Demonstration that the service provided by the NBC will add value to the applicant's business
- Demonstration of the need for financial support

Applicants who demonstrate their own clear financial contributions to projects are particularly encouraged.