

Scientists in Congregations – Frequently Asked Questions

Is SiC open to all types of Christian churches? Yes, we welcome applications from Christians of any denomination as well as independent congregations.

Is SiC open for events that do not take place in a traditional church? Yes. While most awards go to churches, events need not take place there. We have worked with theatre groups and other public spaces, but we ask that you begin with an existing scientist-congregation relationship.

Can we submit a proposal from a group of churches? Absolutely. If this is the case, you are able to submit applications including only one scientist/congregation connection.

What is the time frame for the projects? We aim to announce the award winners in April, and expect projects to begin coming to fruition from June 2021 onwards. Each project scope will be different, but we expect projects to be complete by the end of 2022.

Can I apply for a grant to continue an existing project? No. SiC awards can only be used for new projects.

Can I apply from another country? Proposals will be welcomed from England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Congregations in Scotland are encouraged to look into: <https://arts.st-andrews.ac.uk/scientistsincongregationsscotland/>.

What if I have a plan for an event, but not for a follow on at another congregation? You need not identify a congregation for the follow-on event in the initial proposal, though this will strengthen the application. The congregation does not need to be part of your denomination, nor does it need to be in your geographical area. If you require assistance with the networking for this, please contact us.

What if I have an idea, but am not sure of the details? We are happy to work with you, but it may be necessary to reach out before the application deadline. The more details you can provide and the earlier you make a connection, the better chance you will have of getting an award. Please email Despina Katsidou on sciencein.congregation@durham.ac.uk for further assistance.

Can I propose an online project? We encourage creative proposals and are open to diverse projects. Online meetings present their own challenges and opportunities. Let us know how you intend to make the most of the format you choose.

What if I am uncertain about dates (due to COVID-19)? We ask for an estimated timeline but understand the ever-changing challenges. Provide the information you can and, where appropriate, tell us your contingency plans.