The Edward Mallen Prize for Mental Health Research

The Edward Mallen Prize for Mental Health Research is a £20,000 prize funded by the MindEd Trust. It is awarded annually to an early career researcher working at the University of Cambridge whose research focusses on the causation and prevention of suicide and/or depression in young people. The Prize will provide seed funding for translational and applied mental health research that the researcher would not otherwise be able to do, and raise awareness of this important area of research.

AWARD DETAILS

To be considered for the Edward Mallen Prize, candidates are asked to write a concise note of approximately 300 words about their career development, and 800 words on how they would envisage spending the prize and the real-life impact it may have. You can read about our previous winners here.

Applications should be submitted as PDFs by email to edwardmallenprize@gmail.com by 31st October 2026.

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must be an early career researcher, defined as researchers with a PhD (post-viva) *who have not yet obtained substantial independent research funding* (such as a fellowship). The selected recipients will be required to conduct research in the area of prevention and early intervention in depression and/or suicide. The prize will only fund translational and applied research and/or studies that will have a clear pathway to impact (for example, leading to new innovations in the NHS treatment pathway, novel interventions for depression, early identification of suicide risk, etc.). The prize will not fund purely theoretical, data synthesis, or meta-analytic studies.

The recipient will be able to use the funds for equipment, salary, participant expenses, or any relevant expenses related to the proposed research. It is anticipated that the prize will serve as seed funding that will lead to a bigger grant for the recipient.

APPLICATION PROCESS



KEY DATES

Application deadline: 31st October 2026
Outcome notification: December 2026
Prize awarding and presentation: ~April 2027

Prize awarding will take place at the Cambridge Neuroscience annual meeting, including a brief presentation by the award winner. The successful recipient will be required to submit a brief update on the progress of their work six months after the award commences, and one year on will be invited to contribute to an annual report to be shared with the Panel and the trustees of The MindEd Trust.

PRIZE PANEL: A panel consisting of Professor Camilla Nord, Professor Tamsin Ford, Professor Tim Dalgleish and Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen will shortlist and select the winner of the Prize.