



Application Guidelines
Innovation Research Grant

*The Suicide Prevention Research Fund
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Australian Government
Department of Health

About Innovation Research Grants

In line with the priorities of the Suicide Prevention Research Fund, the Innovation Research Grant supports research which will enable one or more of the following objectives:

1. The generation of new knowledge about suicidal behaviour;
2. The provision of greater insights on the interruption or prevention of suicidal behaviour;
3. The exploration of new ways or improved practices in suicide prevention;
4. The undertaking of the testing and piloting of new services and programs for suicide prevention;
5. The provision of meaningful relationships between research and the application to services and program innovation.

This grant is intended to enable the successful project team to position themselves to competitively apply for research funding which will further advance understanding of suicidal behaviour and prevention.

This grant program seeks to fund research where the research objectives are more exploratory in nature or more developmental in design.

The proposed research should clearly describe the objectives and nature of the innovation being explored. The conceptual and design rigor of the research methods should demonstrate how knowledge will be generated to break new ground or form different understandings about suicidal behaviour and suicide prevention.

Who should apply?

The Innovation Research Grant supports researchers at all stages of their career.

Award value

The total grant value is up to \$100,000 over one to two years.

Key dates

Application period	Open 19 November 2019	Close 7 February 2020
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How to apply

Applications can be made via [this link](#).

Selection Criteria

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| 1. Alignment with Suicide Prevention Research Fund priorities and the objectives of the Innovation Research Grants | 20% |
| 2. Scientific merit of the research rationale, design, methods, key deliverables and evaluation | 30% |
| 3. Feasibility of knowledge translation strategy, sustainability requirements, risks and risk mitigation strategies, timelines, and budget | 20% |
| 4. Evidence of incorporation of lived experience in the co-creation of new knowledge | 15% |
| 5. Depth and relevance of research expertise across all investigators and where applicable evidence of mentoring of entry level and early career researchers | 15% |

Review Panel

The Review Panel consists of experienced researchers, those with lived experience and service provision expertise who assist at various stages of assessment of the grant applications and are appointed through the [Research Advisory Committee](#).

Application Process

Stage	Actions
1	Applications submitted to Suicide Prevention Australia (by closing date)
2	Applications assessed by Reviewers using a standardised process
3	Assessed applications shortlisted by Reviewers using a standardised process
4	Shortlisted applications considered by Research Advisory Committee for recommendation to Suicide Prevention Australia Board
5	Suicide Prevention Australia Board considers final recommendations

Feedback/Appeals Process

The decision of the Board is final and any appeals about the merits of a decision will only be considered in terms of whether due process was followed. Complaints about administrative process must be made in writing, signed by the complainant, and addressed to the Chair, Research Advisory Committee, specifying the nature of and grounds for the complaint.

Funding Requirements

Commencement

The funding commencement date for Innovation Research Grant recipients must occur by 30 June 2020.

Duration

The funding is over one to two years.

Applicant requirements

Institutional support

Institutions listed by the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) as Administering Institutions are eligible to participate in this scheme.

Applications must be submitted to Suicide Prevention Australia by the due date. Prior to submitting the application the applicant should advise the Administering Institution's Research Grants Office of their intent to apply and ensure that they follow the requirements of the Administering Institution.

Partner Organisation

Applicants for this grant may wish to partner with an Organisation for the duration of the research project. In this instance, details should be provided in the application form.

Researchers working in, or alongside, Organisations are eligible to participate when collaborating with Administering Institutions.

Researcher eligibility

The research must be conducted in Australia for the benefit of Australians. If the applicant is not an Australian citizen they are required to obtain a legal right to work and reside in Australia prior to the commencement of the research project.

In addition:

- Grants must be administered by a recognised Administering Institution which may be based in any State or Territory;
- The team must include a Lead Investigator who is based in a recognised Administering Institution for the duration of the research project;
- Teams can be made up of individuals from service organisations and those with lived experience as appropriate to the project;
- Individuals can only be listed as a team member on one grant application in this round of funding;
- Grant applications will only be considered where the research undertaken is primarily related to suicide and its prevention.

Incorporating Lived Experience

Applications for funding through the Suicide Prevention Research Fund seeks the incorporation of lived experience and as a result the inclusion of new knowledge that is co-created with lived experience.

Information is provided to assist the applicant with this process and can be found [here](#).

Different projects have different needs and as such assessment for this section is overall and not for the most number selected.

Primary Area of Research

Applicants are required to indicate the primary area which their research will focus upon. The categories have been developed in reference to the World Health Organisation report - Preventing suicide: A global imperative, 2014¹ and Public Health Models.

¹ https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/131056/9789241564779_eng.pdf

Resumes

The Lead Investigator's resume and resumes on behalf of Co-Investigator(s) must be submitted at the time of application as per the template provided.

References

One written reference for the Lead Investigator must be submitted at the time of application, and may include:

- The current position of the referee
- How the referee knows the Lead/Co-Investigator and for how long
- How the Lead/Co-Investigator is qualified to work on the project and their contribution
- Personal characteristics and specific skills of the Lead/Co-Investigator
- Any additional information the referee believes to be relevant

Ethics approvals

Applicants should be aware of any ethics approvals required for the commencement of their research.

Consent to provide information to International Assessors

In some situations, applications may be provided to overseas assessors for peer review.

In the case under Commonwealth privacy laws, Suicide Prevention Australia will require permission from the applicant to disclose any information contained in the application.

Grant Conditions**Funding agreement**

The successful applicant's Administering Institution will be required to enter into a funding agreement with Suicide Prevention Australia.

The funding agreement will be prepared by Suicide Prevention Australia and is not open to negotiation.

Research reporting

Grant recipients will be required to provide Suicide Prevention Australia with progress reports and a final report on the research and the findings, as agreed.

Communication and Promotion

By submitting an application, consent is being given for contact for (but not limited to) operational feedback, public relations opportunities (such as commentary and interviews) and for inclusion on websites, social media, media releases and mentions in Ministerial announcements.

Communication of the findings of the research through conferences, forums and communication with Suicide Prevention Australia Members will be expected (as appropriate).

Wherever possible, academic journal publications of the research should be on an open access basis.

Availability of recipients for future peer reviewer opportunities

By submitting an application consent is being given to being contacted for future peer review opportunities.

Support from Administering Institution

The application should include a Letter of Support from the researcher's Head of School or Department. There can be only one Administering Institution for the application.

The Letter of Support should include:

1. An understanding of the research project, timelines and proposed involvement and support;
2. Endorsement of the Lead Investigator and their proposal;
3. Assessment of the viability of the research proposal;
4. Commitment to providing support to the Lead Investigator and their research project.

Involvement of Partner Organisation(s)

The application should include a Letter of Involvement if there will be a partnership with an Organisation(s) for the duration of the research project. This should be signed by the Chief Executive Officer or relevant Director of the Organisation.

The Letter of Involvement should include:

1. Support for the research project, timelines and proposed involvement;
2. Commitment to providing support to the Lead Investigator and their research project;
3. A summary of the Organisations's purpose, strategic goals, activities, organisational structure and key financials.

Enquiries

If you have enquiries regarding the research grant program please contact Suicide Prevention Australia on +61 (2) 9262 1130 or email sprf@suicidepreventionaust.org