

# Frequently Asked Questions

2019 Preclinical and Clinical Research Grants Round and  
2019 Travel Grant Round

August 2018

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## What is the closing date for applications?

5pm on Wednesday 19 September 2018. No submissions will be accepted after this deadline.

## What is the internal submission deadline?

Please contact the Research Management Office of your Administering Institution for internal submission deadlines. The Children's Hospital Foundation will not accept applications submitted after 5pm on Wednesday 19 September 2018.

## What happens if I am not available for the interview date?

Applicants who are successful in obtaining an interview are expected to attend the interview on 13 November 2018 for their application to be progressed. Consideration will be given to the use of technology as an alternative to attending an interview in person.

## Can I apply for funding if I am not based in Queensland?

The Children's Hospital Foundation Funding Agreement states that the recipient must conduct most of the Award Activity in Queensland and expend no less than 80 percent of the award in Queensland. Outcomes from the research conducted must directly benefit Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service and/or another Queensland health service serving children and adolescents.

## What is the maternity/carer's leave policy?

The Foundation will be guided by the policies of the NHMRC and host institution with relevant contractual variations needing to be applied for to accommodate such policies.

## Will I receive feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

No. Individual feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

## Who do I contact for further information?

In the first instance, please contact your Administering Institution's Research Management Office or Graduate School, particularly for queries relating to eligibility.

For research projects involving Hospital and Health Services (HHS) patients, equipment, patient samples, patient data, hospital workforce/staff (including clinicians/allied health practitioners named as primary or secondary applicant) please ensure you follow the relevant processes requested by each HHS or Queensland health service caring for children and adolescents. For example CHQHHS applications require endorsement by a CHQ Research Director. For more information please contact CHQ's Research Directorate by emailing [CHQ-Research@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:CHQ-Research@health.qld.gov.au).

For general queries, please contact the Children's Hospital Foundation Research and Grants Office at [grants@childrens.org.au](mailto:grants@childrens.org.au).

## What is the total amount of funding available for award in the Preclinical and Clinical Research Grants Round?

The Children's Hospital Foundation (the Foundation) has approximately \$2 million available for allocation to recipients in this funding round. This amount is not available per applicant but for the entire applicant pool.

## What is the maximum amount of funding I can apply for in this round?

The maximum award for a single applicant in this round is \$645,000. A single applicant will not be awarded an amount greater than \$645,000 in this funding round.

A budget template is not available to submit with your application; please submit your own spreadsheet / document.

## What is the difference between the Preclinical and Clinical Research Grant Round and the Health Services Research Grant Round?

In this grant round, the Foundation will fund preclinical and clinical research that predominantly falls within the T1-T4 phases of the translational research pathway and focuses heavily on improving health outcomes for patients in Children's Health Queensland's (CHQ) priority areas (see section 11.3 of the guidelines).

- Preclinical research at T1 includes basic bench laboratory studies conducted in vitro and applied in vivo in animal models. These can also include in vitro studies conducted on human tissues that cannot be linked to a living individual. A clear translational plan is expected to be outlined in the application.
- Clinical research spanning T2-T4, involves patient-oriented research conducted with human participants (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with the human participants. Clinical research will require Human Research Ethics Committee approval and governance approval from the approving authority.

Applications for both preclinical and clinical research will be accepted in this round.

Earlier this year, the Foundation ran a grant round for a specific sub-type of clinical research, classified as Health Services Research, and previously referred to as Clinical Innovation. The Health Services Research program is aimed at improving the way health care is delivered to maximise value for patients by ensuring systems and processes are effective and efficient. Health Services Research is more focused on investigating the funding, organisation and delivery of health services and involves multidisciplinary perspectives with outcomes that are usually at the population level rather than at an individual level. For instance, a project aimed to improve the workflow around patient discharge from the hospital would most likely be categorised as health services research as long as patient outcomes metrics are being captured. The implementation of new technologies, equipment or devices can also be classified as Health Services Research. The next grant round for Health Services Research funding will open in approximately February 2019.

## Can I apply for more than one grant type in this round?

Applicants are able to apply for a People Support Grant in combination with a Project Support Grant in this round (total funding for both grants should not exceed \$645,000). A single applicant cannot apply for multiple People Support Grants or Project Support Grants.

The eligibility criteria states that the Chief Investigator / Primary Applicant must be affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution. I am an adjunct professor. Is this an appropriate level of affiliation?

Yes, all types of NHMRC-approved administering institution affiliates are entitled to apply for a grant including adjunct professors.

I am affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution but am not a CHQHHS employee. Can I still apply for a grant?

Yes, however applications demonstrating a strong partnership between the academic investigator and a Qld paediatric HHS professional – where the clinical problem is better identified and understood by the health professional through first-hand experience and the academic researcher can advise on best methods of data collection, analyses and presentation of results – will be highly regarded. The research proposal should describe plans for collaborations to be established with Qld HHS professionals to maximise the translation and impact of the research.

I am a clinician researcher with years of research experience. I am not affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution. Can I still apply for a grant?

Yes, however, you cannot be listed as Chief Investigator / Primary Applicant. The Chief Investigator for the grant must be affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution to ensure rigorous academic processes are applied to the research.

Does the clinical collaborator need to have a salaried appointment with Children's Health Queensland?

The clinical collaborator must be a healthcare professional practising in a clinical capacity (i.e. have visiting rights) at Children's Health Queensland or another Queensland health service caring for children and adolescents, but does not necessarily require a salaried appointment. The purpose of demonstrating a strong collaborative relationship with a Qld paediatric HHS professional is to facilitate translation of research in the clinic.

Will the Children's Hospital Foundation accept requests to fund two projects from a single applicant?

No, it is not possible for a single applicant to request funding for two research projects, however a single applicant can request funding for a People-Support grant in combination with a Project-Support Grant (so long as the total amount requested does not exceed \$645K).

I understand the Children's Hospital Foundation will only accept one application per applicant. Can I act as an associate investigator/collaborator on more than one application?

Yes. You can be listed as an associate investigator/collaborator on more than one application but you can only submit one application in which you are acting as the Chief Investigator

Are seeding grants available in this round?

The Foundation is not specifically funding small projects in this round. The Foundation is offering the Innovator Grant which can act as a larger "seeding" grant. Applicants wishing to conduct new research projects but require less money and for a shorter duration, can apply under this category.

Are top-up grants available in this round?

Yes, PhD Scholarship top-up grants are available in this round. Fellowship top-up grants are not available.

If I have an existing fellowship or scholarship in place beyond the start date of this grant period (1 January 2019), can I still apply for one of these grants?

A researcher cannot hold more than one People Support Grant. Applicants awarded a Foundation Fellowship or Scholarship will be required to relinquish other fellowships or awards prior to commencement of the Foundation's People Support Grant.

I am a prospective PhD student. Can I apply for a Preclinical and Clinical Research Project Support Grant?

Not directly. To be eligible for a project grant in the 2019 Preclinical and Clinical Research Grant Round, you must be a Chief Investigator with an existing program of funded research.

The Round provides researchers with an opportunity to apply for a range and mix of grants that they feel will have the greatest ability to have an impact on their work, its translation and ultimately health outcomes for Queensland children.

Prospective PhD students are encouraged to discuss this opportunity with their proposed supervisor or Chief Investigators in their field who are eligible to apply for this scheme.

## I am a PhD student. Can I apply for a Preclinical and Clinical Research Project Support Grant?

Not directly. To be eligible for a project grant in the 2019 Preclinical and Clinical Research Grant Round, you must be a Chief Investigator with an existing program of funded research.

The research round provides researchers with an opportunity to apply for a range and mix of grants that they feel will have the greatest ability to have an impact on their work, its translation and ultimately health outcomes for Queensland children.

PhD students are encouraged to discuss this opportunity with their supervisor or Chief Investigators in their field who are eligible to apply for this scheme.

## Can I travel to a conference using Foundation funds if I am not presenting or I have not yet had my paper accepted?

No. Foundation funds for travel must only be used by researchers presenting (either a poster or seminar) at the conference they wish to attend. You do not need to have evidence of abstract acceptance to apply, however this must be provided upon receipt if you are awarded a grant.

## The Travel Grant round is open to postdoctoral researchers (<3 years postdoctoral) and early career researchers (3-7 years postdoctoral). Does this allow for career interruptions?

Yes, eligibility for the grant round will allow for career disruptions. The Children's Hospital Foundation has adopted the NHMRC's rules and definitions regarding career disruptions, as follows:

A career disruption involves a prolonged interruption to an applicant's capacity to work, due to:

- Pregnancy;
- Major illness/injury; or
- Carer responsibilities.

Interruptions must involve either a continuous absence from work for periods of 28 calendar days or more and/or a long-term partial return to work (with the absence amounting to a total of 28 calendar days or more) that has been formalised with the applicant's employer.

Please capture the career disruption in the "current employment / appointments" section of the application form. The start year can include the period of interruption (e.g. Jan 2017 – Mar 2018) and the role can specify "career disruption (reason for career disruption)". Further information can be provided in the "current research" section if required.

## The Accelerator Grant runs over 18 months and offers \$70K/year. How are the funds split?

If successful, you will be granted up to the maximum amount for an 18-month period totalling \$105K. You will be able to request \$105K with \$70K expected to be expended in the first year and \$35K expected to be expended in the following 6 months.

## Will the Children's Hospital Foundation accept two people-support grant applications from a single applicant?

No. The applicant requesting a people-support grant must only request funding for their own salary. Each applicant wishing to receive salary support must submit their own application. This excludes technical staff e.g. research assistants etc. that are covered within a project-support grant.

## Can I apply for a people-support grant and a project-support grant?

Yes, ideally the people-support grant and the project-support grant requested is for the same project and the total amount requested does not exceed \$645K. For example, if you are applying for a Postdoctoral

Fellowship (totalling \$300K over 3 years) and an Accelerator Grant (totalling \$105K over 18 months), the total amount requested would be \$405K for the duration of the funding period.

PhD students can submit an application for a scholarship (outlining their project) but cannot request project-support funding.

For Fellowship applicants, what date will be used to calculate eligibility?

Postdoctoral Fellowship applicants must have received their PhD on or after 31 December 2015, unless career disruption exists. Early Career Fellowship applicants must have received their PhD between 31 December 2011 and 31 December 2015.

The guidelines stipulate that a small proportion of fellowship funds can be used for project-related costs. What does this mean?

Fellowship grants are to be used predominantly for the recipient's salary. Fellowship recipients have the option of using a small proportion of their fellowship funds (up to 5%) on project-related costs. This amount is not in addition to the fellowship amount but part of the fellowship amount. The choice to use a small proportion of the funds towards project-related costs is entirely up to the recipient.

I would like to apply for a PhD Scholarship. Do I need to have a project and supervisor identified?

Yes, PhD Scholarship applicants must provide a full project proposal in the application form. The applicant must list themselves as the Chief Investigator, include their primary supervisor in the application form and demonstrate that their research project is directly related to the CHQ Research Strategy.

I am a current PhD student and am currently writing up my thesis for submission. Will I be eligible for the postdoctoral fellowship grant if my PhD is under examination but not awarded by November 2018?

Unfortunately no, we will not be awarding postdoctoral fellowships to students that have not been awarded their PhD.

Is there a budget template available?

No, please use your own template.

Can I apply for funding if I am not based in Queensland?

The Children's Hospital Foundation Funding Agreement states that the recipient must conduct most of the Award Activity in Queensland and expend no less than 80 percent of the award in Queensland (unless prior written permission to do otherwise has been obtained from the Children's Hospital Foundation). The Chief Investigator must be affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution and the research conducted must directly benefit Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service.

Do I need to upload a CV for each research team member or just for the Chief Investigator? Where do I enter information about my research team?

The Chief Investigator is the only person who should submit a CV. The CV should expand on information entered in the application form. The Chief Investigator's research team must be entered in the relevant section of the application form. More information about the team will be requested if the applicant progresses to the interview stage.

Where do I enter references?

Please attach your reference list in the relevant section of the application form (after the research proposal) using the file upload button.

## Who do I need to seek approval from before submitting my application?

You will need to attach a Letter of Support from the Research Management office of the NHMRC-affiliated Administering Institution. For PhD Scholarship or PhD Scholarship Top-Up grants, the Graduate School and supervisor must sign the Letter of Support. A list of NHMRC-Administering Institutions are available [here](#).

## Who do I contact for further information?

In the first instance, please contact the Research Management Office of your administering institution. For general queries, please contact [grants@childrens.org.au](mailto:grants@childrens.org.au).