

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

Introduction

Overview

Research and Innovation Fund Overview

The Research and Innovation Fund (RIF) is a \$3 Million fund to develop health research within the ACT. The RIF will invest in key health research in areas such as cancer, type 2 diabetes, cardiology, nursing, mental health, women and children, dementia, palliative care, and population health.

The RIF will offer grants for individual projects of up to \$300,000 to support the development of research capacity and capability in key health areas to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the ACT community.

\$1.6 million is available in the 2020-21 financial year to fund research projects within the key health areas and which have a translational intent.

\$400,000 of the fund will be allocated in the 2020-21 financial year to research in support of the [Australian Brain Cancer Mission](#).

Caretaker Period

In accordance with the provisions of Section 100(1) of the [Electoral Act 1992](#), the ACT will hold a general election for the Legislative Assembly on Saturday, 17 October 2020. The caretaker period begins at 12:00am on 11 September 2020 and ends with the election of the Chief Minister on the first sitting day of the Legislative Assembly following the election. The continuation of the 2020-21 Research and Innovation Fund Grants following this general election is a decision for an incoming government. As a result, potential 2020-21 Research and Innovation Fund Grants applicants are advised that it is possible this grants program may not proceed.

Research Priorities

Projects are expected to reflect the research priorities established by the ACT Government are:

- support the [Brain Cancer Mission](#);
- cancer;
- dementia;
- palliative care;
- population health;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health;
- mental health;
- type 2 diabetes;
- cardiology;
- nursing; and
- women and children;

The above list is not an ordered list of priorities.

In keeping with the whole-of-government focus on improving outcomes for patients, and their families at the end of life preference, within the 2020-21 round, priority will be given to projects which translate existing research into outcomes designed to benefit end-users of the health system within the wider region supported by the ACT health service.

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

Project Assessment

Funding for individual projects will be assessed on the following criteria:

- 20% Relevant expertise of the research team
- 30% Quality of the research proposal measured against the expectations of the relevant research discipline
- 30% Anticipated impact on patients and clients of the ACT health service
- 20% Feasibility of the project delivering the anticipated impacts

Grant Rules

Project Grant Rules

Applicants are strongly advised to refer to the Project Grant Application Guidelines for support in developing their application.

The Fund is established to support the building of research capacity within the ACT health system. To promote this aim, the Fund will be managed along the following guiding principles:

Community Engagement - Funded proposals will demonstrate how potential outcomes are informed through community engagement in some, or all, of the following:

- conceptualisation, development and approval of the protocol;
- data collection and management;
- analysis, report writing and dissemination of results.

Benefit - the potential health benefit of funded proposals will demonstrate that they address an area of research priority identified through a thorough review, and demonstrated understanding, of established literature and community need. This benefit can have a single focus or affect several areas, such as:

- improvement in health outcomes;
- knowledge and understanding;
- better policy and decision making;
- improved quality of life.

The benefit may be direct and immediate, or it can be indirect, gradual and considered.

Sustainability and Transferability - funding proposals should demonstrate how the results of the project have the potential to lead to achievable and effective impacts on health outcomes beyond the life of the project. This may be through sustainability in the project setting and/or transferability to other settings such as evidence-based practice and/or policy. In considering this issue the proposal should address the relationship between costs and benefits.

Building Capability - the proposals should demonstrate how the research will develop relevant capabilities through partnerships and participation in the project. Projects that establish, or build on, collaborative partnerships will be viewed favourably.

Preference will be given to projects which translate existing research into outcomes designed to benefit end-users of the ACT health system.

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

In keeping with the whole-of-government focus on improving outcomes for patients, and their families at the end of life, preference will be given to research that promotes cross discipline synergies and reflects the government agenda.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility

For the 2020-21 funding round will focus on building capacity in the core areas of the election commitment.

Applications must be submitted by midnight on the due date.

Applications must be submitted through the SmartyGrants platform addressing the questions set out in the application form and providing, at a minimum:

- Budget costings and justifications
- Details of the research team and their affiliations and declarations of interest
- Research methodology appropriate to the research question

Research Teams

Research Team Composition - Project teams should be based in the ACT and are encouraged to include diverse institutional membership. Collaboration with consumers and local communities are strongly encouraged. Partner institutions may also include, for example:

- collaboration with communities or with community representatives;
- relevant industry partners;
- primary healthcare partners;
- other government departments; or
- non-government organisations.

Any applicant may not be named as lead researcher on more than one application.

There is no restriction on the number of associate investigators on an application.

Research teams must reflect a cross-discipline approach to the conduct of research.

Affiliations - applications must declare the institutional affiliations for each member of the team.

Interest Declaration - a declaration of interests must be made for each member of the research team. This statement will be held as confidential and made available to the members of the Research Working Group during their consideration of the application for funding.

Additional Funding - applicants must declare any additional funding supporting the project and any conditions that funding places on the conduct of the research and dissemination of findings.

Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria

Projects will be assessed on a competitive basis. As the primary goal of the Research and Innovation Fund is to build research capacity within the ACT health system and to improve health outcomes.

Important considerations when assessing the relative merit of an application for research funding include the:

- importance of the research question and its alignment with the priorities established in the Research and Innovation Fund Guidelines;
- expertise and capacity of research team members to undertake the research activities proposed;
- resources available to support the conduct of the research;
- appropriateness of the proposed budget;
- quality, significance and feasibility of the proposed activities to be undertaken; and
- additional and potentially ongoing benefits of this collaboration to the researchers, the collaborating organisations or communities and the ACT.

Selection Criteria

Individual projects need align with the philosophy and principles and demonstrate:

- Alignment with priorities established within these guidelines;
- Anticipated impacts on patients and clients of the ACT health service;
- Translation of existing research and best practice processes into the ACT health service;
- Opportunities for inter discipline collaboration

Funding for individual projects will be assessed on the following criteria:

- 20% Relevant expertise of the research team
- 30% Quality of the research proposal measured against the expectations of the relevant research discipline
- 30% Anticipated impact on patients and clients of the ACT health service
- 20% Feasibility of the project delivering the anticipated impacts

Outline of Proposed Research Activities

* indicates a required field

Project Title *

Must be no more than 60 words.

New Question *

Please provide the [Socio-Economic Objective SEO code](#) for the proposed research

Research Objectives

* indicates a required field

Intended Outcomes

In broad terms, describe the proposed activities to be undertaken throughout the period of the research. Include details of stakeholder and community engagement. This may be a single standalone project, or intended to serve as a basis for projects. Be clear about the intended intent.

Outline of Research Objectives *

Word count:

Must be between 100 and 800 words.

Lay Summary

Provide a lay summary that includes:

- Provide a clear and succinct description of the purpose of the research
- Avoid technical language and explain key terms
- Explain the value and relevance of the research to individuals, specific populations and policy
- Highlight any novel methods or technologies being used
- Describe how the research team will ensure that any findings are translated into policy and practice, including any examples of where the research team is engaging with the public, patients and clinicians.
- **Be aware:** this summary may be used to promote the Research and Innovation Fund

Lay Summary of the Proposed Research *

Word count:

Must be between 100 and 400 words.

Anticipated Research Impacts

Impact - the potential benefit of funded proposals will demonstrate that they address an area of research priority identified through a thorough review, and demonstrated understanding, of established literature and community need. Proposed benefits can be defined as a single focus or affecting several areas, such as improved:

- health outcomes;
- knowledge and understanding of a particular condition or disease;
- policy and decision-making;

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

- wellbeing measurements for the ACT community; and
- quality of life.

The benefit may be direct and immediate, or it can be indirect, gradual and considered.

Impact considerations will also include the prospect of research supported by the RIF leading to high quality competitive research grant applications through other funding organisations.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) considers four areas of impact for health-related research:

1. Knowledge impact;
2. Health impact;
3. Economic impact; and
4. Social impact.

Applications should discuss the anticipated outcomes of the proposed research in terms that are relevant to their area of interest and discipline. Examples of research outcomes that demonstrate impacts can be found on the [NHMRC website](#).

Anticipated Research Impacts *

Word count:

Collaborative Opportunities

* indicates a required field

Collaborative Opportunities

Provide details of how this research is expected to promote cross-discipline synergies.

Applicants are encouraged to provide letters of support from collaborative partners as additional attachments.

Inter-disciplinary Collaborations *

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Provide supplementary letters of support if appropriate.

Inter-disciplinary Collaborations

Attach a file:

Including letters of support is optional

Stakeholder Engagement

Provide details of how this research has been informed through engagement with relevant communities and stakeholders (maximum 400 words). Applicants are encouraged to provide letters of support from collaborative partners as additional attachments.

Stakeholder Engagement *

Word count:

Must be no more than 400 words.

Provide supplementary letters of support if appropriate.

Stakeholder Letters of Support

Attach a file:

Including letters of support is optional.

Protocol

* indicates a required field

Proposed Methodology

Broadly describe the research methodology or protocol to be used (maximum 800 words).

Include sufficient references to support the choice of research question and to justify the selection of methodology to answer that question.

Where novel methods or technologies will be employed, provide a separate, detailed, methodology to support the deliberations of the assessment panel.

Protocol *

Word count:

Must be no more than 800 words.

Detailed Protocol

Attach a file:

Including a detailed protocol is optional

Provide a list of key project milestones and deliverables with an indication of when each should be completed.

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

The dates associated with the project milestones are indicative only. Milestones should include project start and end dates at a minimum.

Project Milestones

Project Team

* indicates a required field

Principle Investigator

Provide details of the proposed project team members, their roles and affiliations. Provide CV for each project team member.

Applicant

Individual Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Applicant Position

Applicant Office Address

Address

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>

Applicant Postal Address

Address

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>

Applicant Primary Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Applicant Primary Email

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

Must be an email address.

Applicant Mobile Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

CV *

Attach a file:

Other Investigators

Each investigator must include a current CV

Investigator Name	Role	Email	CV
		Must be an email address.	

Publication Strategy

While it is not mandatory, it is good practice to consider a publication strategy prior to the commencement of any significant research project.

Please refer to the guidance provided by the NHMRC in relation to fair treatment of contributing authors - [Authorship: A guide supporting the Australian Code for the Responsible](#)

Publication Strategy

Attach a file:

Including a publication strategy is optional

Statement of Interests

Please provide a single statement of financial interests for each member of the research team. Only include financial interests that are relevant to this research project.

Statement of Interests

Attach a file:

Include a statement of relevant financial interests.

Budget

Budget Breakdown and Justification

RIF 20-21 Application Form

Form Preview

Overall Budget Required

Financial Year

Must be a whole dollar amount (no cents).	For multi-year projects provide the annual amount needed.
\$	

Individual Expenditure

Provide a justification for the major expenditure items.

Amount

Item

Justification

Must be a whole dollar amount (no cents).		
\$		

Additional Funding Sources

Provide details of any additional funding sources that will also support this project.

Provide details of any limitations that accompany additional funding.

Additional Funding

Funding Provider

Funding Conditions

Must be a dollar amount.		
\$		