

Research Collaboration Awards

Guidelines and Conditions

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Awards are:

- (1) to provide support for medical researchers in Western Australia to establish and develop research collaborations, both nationally and internationally, to seek a better understanding of the nature, origin, and cause of human diseases, and their prevention and treatment; and
- (2) to facilitate cross-institutional or organisational ties, with increased opportunities for collaborative publications, joint grant submissions, sharing and advancement of research/clinical skills, and industry linkages.

2. Definitions

- (1) The “Awards” refers to the Research Collaboration Awards.
- (2) The “Research Committee” is the Raine Medical Research Foundation Research Committee and may include specialist representatives.
- (3) “Medical researcher” refers to a qualified professional who contributes to medical research that investigates the nature, origin, and cause of human diseases, and their prevention and treatment.
- (4) Research Career Levels:
 - (a) “Early-career researcher” refers to a medical researchers who, **at the application close date**, is within 7 years of completing the tertiary requirements listed below (whichever is completed first, if applicable):
 - (i) PhD degree; or
 - (ii) University medical, allied health, or nursing degree plus at least 3 years of research experience (the date that the applicant achieved 3 years (full-time equivalent) research experience will be used as a “PhD pass date” equivalent).
 - (b) “Mid-career researcher” refers to a medical researcher who, **at the application close date**, is between 7- and 15-years post-completion of the tertiary requirements listed below (whichever is completed first, if applicable):
 - (i) PhD degree; or
 - (ii) University medical, allied health, or nursing degree plus at least 3 years of research experience (the date that the applicant achieved 3 years (full-time equivalent) research experience will be used as a “PhD pass date” equivalent).
 - (c) “Senior researcher” refers to a medical researcher who, **at the application close date**, is more than 15 years post-completion of the tertiary requirements listed below (whichever is completed first, if applicable):
 - (i) PhD degree; or
 - (ii) University medical, allied health, or nursing degree plus at least 3 years of research experience (the date that the applicant achieved 3 years (full-time equivalent) research experience will be used as a “PhD pass date” equivalent).

- (d) “PhD completion date or equivalency” is the date when your PhD thesis was passed (do not use the date of conferral, which is the award ceremony date, but rather the date your PhD was passed with final revisions submitted, which can be found on your transcript or other similar document from your institution)., For allied health or nursing applicants it refers to the date three years (full-time equivalent) research experience was achieved.
- (5) “Mental health” is a medical condition that is characterised by dysregulation of mood, thought, and behaviour.
- (6) “Career disruption” includes pregnancy, major illness/injury, carer responsibilities including parental leave, and clinician specialty training. This must involve a continuous absence from work for 90 days or more, or return to work on a part-time basis. Career disruption does not include “Relative to opportunity” inclusions as listed in Clause 2.(7). Career disruption is considered during eligibility and assessment processes. Written evidence must be provided to the Raine Foundation if requested.
- (7) “Relative to opportunity” includes availability of resources, clinical, administrative or teaching workload, relocation of the applicant or research lab/clinical setting, periods of unemployment, typical performance in the field, and employment in other sectors (e.g. industry). COVID-19 related disruptions will also be considered. Relative to opportunity is considered during assessment processes, but not for eligibility. Written evidence must be provided to the Raine Foundation if requested.

3. Eligibility

- (1) Applicants shall be employed by or hold an adjunct or honorary title with a Western Australian University (but shall not be employed by another University or research organisation outside of Western Australia) at the application close date and for the duration of the Award term. Applicants must be employed in a research capacity for the duration of the award.
- (2) Award Categories (refer to Research Career Level definitions, Clause 2.(4)):
- (a) **Mental Health research** – The applicant shall be a WA-based *early-career researcher, mid-career researcher, or senior researcher* working in the field of mental health research.
- (b) **Child Health research** – The applicant shall be a WA-based *early-career researcher* working in the field of child health research.
- (c) **All other medical research fields** – The applicant shall be a WA-based *early-career researcher* who is involved in research that seeks to better understand the nature, origin, and cause of human diseases, and their prevention and treatment.
- (3) Collaborations shall involve at least one participant from an institution or organisation located outside of Western Australia, or from a rural centre in Western Australia.
- (4) Applicants may only submit one application per round. Applicants may apply in more than one Award Category (if eligible) but, if successful, the applicant will only receive one Award.
- (5) Applications that are submitted without Letters of Support for all listed collaborating institutions and all requested signatures on the Certification Form will not be considered. Applications that do not comply with formatting requirements may be deemed ineligible.

4. Assessment Criteria

- (1) The assessment criteria for an Award shall be based upon:
 - (a) *Applicant track record (40%)* – Relative to opportunity and taking into consideration any career disruption.
 - (b) *Research Collaboration Proposal (50%)* – The proposal shall outline strategies for building productive, sustainable, long-term research collaborations linking the host institution with top national and international academic institutions or organisations.
 - (c) *Collaborative Outcomes (10%)* – Expected results of the collaboration including, for example, potential to influence policy and practice, the pathway of translation into public benefit, joint research projects, co-authored scientific publications, combined funding applications, or the advancement of research skills and techniques.
- (2) The Research Committee shall assess and determine the Awards on a competitive basis and reserves the right not to make an award.

5. Funding

- (1) A maximum of \$30,000 shall be available for each Award.
- (2) Requested funding should be fully justified and have direct relevance to developing the collaboration.
- (3) Budgeted items **may include** (see Clause 5.(4) for exclusions):
 - (a) Costs for travel, accommodation, meetings, and workshops.
 - (i) Economy-class travel only will be considered and quotations shall accompany the application.
 - (ii) Conference attendance fees, including online, may be included for the awarded applicant if they are presenting their research (poster or oral).
 - (b) Research project costs such as consumables, animal costs, data access fees/licences, and participant reimbursement.
 - (c) Publishing costs of up to \$2,000 per publication. Publishing costs must be directly related to the proposed collaborative project and must be expended within the Award period.
- (4) Budgeted items **may not include** teaching, salaries/wages, scholarships, or computers.
- (5) Projects already partly funded from other sources shall clearly indicate the value of funds received and their contribution to research expenses.

6. Management of Awards

- (1) Awards may not normally be deferred to a later year.
- (2) Funding will be distributed by the Raine Foundation when copies of relevant research governance approvals have been received.

- (3) Awards shall normally commence on the 1 January and awarded funding expended within the one-year term of the Award. Unspent funds at the conclusion of this term shall be returned back to the Raine Foundation, unless prior approval for an extension has been obtained.
- (4) Award recipients are required to manage and be accountable for the expenditure of funds awarded and obtain prior approval from the Raine Foundation for any proposed deviation from the approved budget, or to the completion date of the Award.
- (5) Award funding that is used for purposes other than that for which it was awarded shall be recouped by the Raine Foundation, unless prior approval for a budget variation has been obtained.

7. Intellectual Property

- (1) Award Intellectual Property will be owned by and immediately vest upon the Administering Institution, or its assignee.
- (2) In the event of any discovery with a potential for commercial exploitation or community impact, which arises as a result of research supported by a Raine Foundation Award, the applicant is bound by the conditions of the award to notify us accordingly.
- (3) The applicant and Administering Institution will acknowledge the Raine Medical Research Foundation and all parties who have contributed to Award funding in any publicity associated with the commercialisation of IP or community impact resulting from the research.

8. Reporting

- (1) The Raine Foundation will call for annual and acquittal reports at the end of the calendar year after the Award term. The annual report shall include progress of collaborative activities, key outcomes, future steps, and copies of any publications resulting from the funded research. If conference attendance has been funded, evidence that the awarded applicant has presented their research (poster or oral) shall be provided with annual reporting.
- (2) If satisfactory project and acquittal reports are not submitted when requested, awarded funding may be recouped, and applicants may not be eligible for future funding through the Raine Foundation.
- (3) Raine Foundation alumni will be asked to take part in a follow-up survey. This survey is designed to evaluate research performance and impact that has come about after Raine Foundation funding and will inform the development of future funding programs. Alumni are asked to keep the Raine Foundation updated with any changes to contact information.

9. Acknowledgement

- (1) Publications arising from research facilitated by the Awards shall acknowledge the Raine Medical Research Foundation and all parties who have contributed to Award funding.
- (2) Successful recipients may be asked to present their research outcomes at future events hosted by the Raine Medical Research Foundation.