Building Research Grant Success

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Research Funding

How to find it

Chris Maher
Funding Categories

Research is defined as the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way so as to generate new concepts, methodologies and understandings.

- **Research income** falls into one of four categories:
  - **Category 1**: Australian competitive grants
    - Schemes listed on the Australian Competitive Grants Register (AGCR) – including the ARC, NHMRC
  - **Category 2**: Other public sector research income
  - **Category 3**: Industry and other research income
  - **Category 4**: Cooperative Research Centres research income

- The income received from Category 1 is a metric used in driving the allocation of the Australian Government’s Research Block Grants (RBG).
Research Funding Sources – the big two

- **Australian Research Council (ARC)**
  - National Competitive Grants Program
    - Discovery Program
    - Linkage Program

- **National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)**
  - Grants to Create New Knowledge
  - Grants to Accelerate Research Translation
  - Grants to Build Australia's Future Capability
  - Grants to Work with Partners
Research Funding Sources – other

- Other Sources
  - **2014 AGCR** – other schemes
  - Australian (non-category 1), State and local government schemes e.g. Premier’s Research and Industry Fund
  - Industry funding
  - Philanthropic funding e.g. Brain Foundation
  - International schemes/databases e.g. NIH and Grants.gov
- **Internal University Schemes** including
  - Carer Scheme (Conference Travel Fellowship)
  - Re-Entry Fellowship
  - Faculty schemes
Research Funding – how to find it

Flinders University resources

- Research Professional
- Grants Bulletin
- Scholarships database

A closer look at Research Professional.
Research Professional Contacts

Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
• Medicine - Rebecca Keough or Sinoula Apostolou
• Southgate Institute - Helen Scherer
• Flinders Centre for Ophthalmology, Eye & Vision Research; Centre for Neuroscience - Anne Cazneaux
• Flinders Centre for Clinical Change and Health Care Research - Julie Stone
• Nursing – Pam Smith
• Health Sciences – Kay Govin

Faculty of Education, Humanities and Law
• Narmon Tulsi

Faculty of Science and Engineering
• Kylie Sappiatzer

Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
• Mary Lyons or Michele Lang
Research Funding

Application tips

Maya Roberts
Timing

- Start preparing the application early
- Prepare the draft and then leave it
- Get feedback (supervisors/mentors...co-investigators)
- Leave yourself enough time to incorporate the feedback and polish your draft
Funding Rules

- Read the rules yourself....in detail
  - Eligibility
  - Assessment criteria
  - Assessment process
- If you are unsure about anything ask the RSO
- Follow all of the application rules exactly
  - Including formatting requirements
- Don’t rely on other people to pick up errors in your application
Budget

- The budget:
  - Is an integral component of an application
  - Should arise from the research plan

- Your budget must:
  - Comply with the Funding Guidelines for the scheme
  - Include the University infrastructure levy (25%) unless it falls within an exempt category
  - Include GST (unless otherwise indicated in the rules/application form)
  - Sum
    - Use an Excel spreadsheet or the Budget Tool

- Useful links:
  - How to prepare
  - Flinders University salary scales
  - ATO reasonable travel and overtime meal allowance expense amounts

- Some further reading:
  - O’Donnell, J. (2014), How to make a simple research budget. The Research Whisperer
Infrastructure Levy Exemptions

- Research funding schemes listed in the ACGR
- Donations and bequests
- Thesis marking honoraria
- Funding exclusively for research higher degree and honours scholarships
- Funding for Research Fellowships or Awards
- Partner organisation contributions associated with ACGR schemes and internal research collaborative schemes
- Cooperative Research Centre program funds where the University is a participant organisation
- Research funding up to, and including, $10,000
- Grants exclusively for equipment
- Grants exclusively for travel and/or living expenses
- Funding from bodies which explicitly state that an infrastructure levy is not funded, or only funded at a particular rate. Evidence must be provided if the funding body is not on the list maintained by the Research Services Office.
CV

- Keep your CV up-to-date
- Maintain a master CV
  - List items in reverse chronological order
  - Categorise and number publications
- Formatting
  - Compliant with the funding rules
  - Clean
  - Consistent
  - Easy to read
Application Submission Ready?

- Is your proposal:
  - Compliant?
  - Complete?
  - Error free?
  - Clear, well-written, properly organized?
  - Easy to read?
  - Persuasive?

- Some further reading:
  - [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/writing_application.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/writing_application.htm)
University Application Process

How to submit

Useful information

Gareth Rees
Internal Requirements

- External research grant applications by Flinders staff must be submitted through the RSO.
- Externally funded postgraduate grant applications should be submitted via the RSO where they require submission or sign-off by the University or they relate to grant awards to academic staff.
- All applications (including EOI) must be accompanied by a signed Flinders University Certification Form.
- Internal deadlines:
  - ARC/NHMRC – generally 4 weeks prior to external deadline
  - Other schemes – 10 working days prior to external deadline
RSO Support

- We will review your application before submission for compliance with the guidelines. We check:
  - Eligibility
  - Budget
  - Layout requirements
  - Completeness
- In order to do this we need:
  - Review-ready grant application
  - Any other required documents
  - Co-Investment form (if applicable)
- To receive a full compliance review - submit by the internal deadline. Late applications only receive a full compliance review if time permits. Last minute applications (2 days prior to external deadline) - generally submitted “as is”.
Useful information

University information

Legal status: body corporate established by SA legislation

Official titles: The Flinders University of South Australia or Flinders University (preferred)

ABN: 65 542 596 200

Not-for-profit entity

ATO endorsements – ITEC & DGR (Item 1) & ABN Lookup (current)

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission – registered as a charity

Annual Reports

Financial Statements 2013

Information for tenders – fan required

Insurance certificates – contact the Insurance Officer, Steve Semmler
Useful Information

Strategic Research Priorities and Codes

Strategic Research Priorities

Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classifications (ANZSRC)

• Type of Activity (TOA)
• Fields of Research (FOR)
  • Explanation
  • FOR codes
• Socio-economic Objective (SEO)
  • Explanation
  • SEO codes
RSO Contacts

Grant applications/queries
ARC: arc@flinders.edu.au
NHMRC: nhmrc@flinders.edu.au
All other grant applications/queries: research.grants@flinders.edu.au

Contracts: research.contracts@flinders.edu.au