1. Purpose of the Seeding / Early Career Researcher (ECR) Grants
   ▪ For projects not yet suitable or competitive for external funding but which can be demonstrated to become competitive.
   ▪ Normally the amount awarded will not exceed $20,000.

2. Eligibility
   ▪ To be eligible for funding CIA must:
     – either be an Academic Staff member in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences or hold Academic Status in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Flinders University or;
     – if CIA is not an Academic Staff member in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, or holder of Academic Status in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Flinders University but is a Flinders University staff member, they are eligible to apply only for Flinders Medical Centre Foundation (FMCF) grant and must comply with all other scheme eligibility requirements including additional FMCF criteria and must select the FMCF check box when the online application is initiated. Additional FMCF criteria are located here.
   ▪ If the application is to be considered for funding by Flinders Fertility (FF) it must comply with all other scheme eligibility requirements including additional Flinders Fertility criteria and must select the FF check box when the online application is initiated. Additional Flinders Fertility criteria is located here.
   ▪ PhD students cannot apply for funds as a CIA and cannot be Investigators on applications seeking funding for Research associated with their PhD project.
   ▪ A researcher can only apply as CIA for either a Top Up, a Seeding or a Near Miss Grant application.
   ▪ A project can only be funded once.
   ▪ Applications from groups of collaborating investigators are encouraged. However, to help ensure that the available funds benefit research widely in the Faculty, multiple applications with essentially the same group of Chief Investigators will be given a lower priority for funding.
   ▪ Early Career Researchers (ECR): To be an ECR you must be within 5 years FTE, from receiving your PhD (taking into account career disruptions where applicable).
   ▪ To be considered as an ECR application, all Chief Investigators on the application must be ECR.
   ▪ Grants will not be available to support teaching per se or assessment of teaching programs.

3. Items considered for funding
   ▪ Direct Research Costs.
   ▪ Minor equipment.
   ▪ Project-related travel.
   ▪ Salary contributions are not normally to be used for cost shifting or backfilling of existing positions.
4. Criteria for the assessment of applications
   - Scientific quality, significance and feasibility of the proposal.
   - The strength and clarity of the budget justification.
   - The track record of all Chief Investigators (past 3 years).
   - How the Grant will assist the applicant(s) in making a further application for an external grant or in developing a commercial venture.
   - How effectively funds allocated for grants in previous years for all CI’s have led to outcomes.
   - Strategic benefit of the research.

5. Application and Submission process
   - Applications are to be commenced and completed online by CIA and can be accessed using your standard Flinders University FAN and password to log on at the following link (scheme specific Guidelines are provided here also):
   - User Manual for the online application and submission process is available here.

6. Attachments
   - Attach a statement of no more than four A4 pages, no less than 11 point Arial or 12 point Times New Roman font, 2cm margins all round, using the following three headings in support of your application for a Seeding / ECR Project Grant:
     - Aims and significance;
     - Background and Research Plan;
     - Timetable
     - References (outside of the 4 page limit).