



WoundsAustralia
Healing Wounds Together

Research Grants Guidelines

Wounds Australia is pleased to offer two (2) seeding grants of \$5,000 and one (1) grant of \$10,000 in 2024.

Proposals relating to the following areas are being sought: Projects that investigate a significant problem or major issue in the theory or practice of wound management or prevention, or that aim to develop new knowledge in either fundamental or applied areas related to wounds, including health policy; for example but not restricted to: assessment and/or prevention of pressure injuries, wound infection, wound assessment, wound-specific quality of life measures, strategies to translate evidence into practice and funding mechanisms.

Interdisciplinary, innovative research is encouraged. New investigators, early career researchers, research students and health service practitioners are encouraged to apply.

PRINCIPLES

- Wounds Australia seeks to provide research grant funding for members of the association.
- Grants will support projects that address priority areas in wound practice and research.

PEER REVIEW

- The research grant review process is managed by the Wounds Australia Research Committee.
- Wounds Australia Research Committee will ensure that all applications are reviewed by at least two experienced researchers.

ELIGIBILITY

- The chief investigator must be a current member of Wounds Australia and have been a member for a minimum of 12 previous consecutive months.
- A maximum of six co-investigators are allowed. Co-investigators do not need to be members of Wounds Australia.
- Projects must be of direct relevance to wound management and of a high scientific standard.
- Grants will only be provided to research projects that investigate a significant problem or major issue in the theory or practice of wound management or prevention, or they develop new knowledge in either fundamental or applied areas related to wounds.
- Interdisciplinary, innovative research is encouraged.
- Research students are encouraged to apply.
- All research funded by Wounds Australia must comply with the [National Health and Medical Research Council Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) (2018).

FUNDING RULES

- Funding for research salaries (i.e., research assistants or technicians) and project specific consumables is acceptable.
- Equipment may be funded but only where it is clearly necessary for the project. Equipment purchase will not usually be funded where its major continuing use would be unrelated to the project. Funding will not be provided for capital equipment that might reasonably be expected to be provided by the institution hosting the research.
- All research grants awarded are exclusive of institutional overhead costs. That is, institutional overhead costs of any form are not allowed.
- Recipients of funding must provide annual progress reports to Wounds Australia, and report against budget milestones, to be submitted in July each year until project completion, when a final report must be submitted to Wounds Australia within six months of completion. This 2-page report should include a signed statement confirming that the funds have been spent in accordance with the budget request. Funds must be expended and the project completed within 2 years.
- Funds may be granted for feasibility studies to investigate the potential of a project, particularly when seed funding may help the investigators obtain further and more substantial funds from another source.
- All budget items must be inclusive of costs associated with the Goods & Services Tax.
- Wounds Australia will not consider applications from chief investigators yet to deliver a final report on a previous Wounds Australia grant.

COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

Successful applicants will be required to communicate the final outcomes of their research in the following ways:

- Presentation at the Wounds Australia 2024 Conference (14-16 October)
- Publication in Wound Practice and Research, the journal of Wounds Australia
- Recipients of funding must acknowledge Wounds Australia as the funding body on all material associated with the project including presentations, flyers, event material, publications and all other items.
- Wounds Australia requests that grant recipients inform the Wounds Australia Research committee of any publications, conference presentations and reports resulting from their funding (please provide a PDF copy).

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The chief investigator will be the contact person for all correspondence from Wounds Australia, including certification of expenditure and progress reports. The chief investigator is responsible for the prompt forwarding of progress reports to the Wounds Australia research committee.

Payment of funding

Payments of grant funds will be made upon the terms and conditions as specified by Wounds Australia.

Unused funds

Any grant funds paid for a project that are unspent or uncommitted at the end of the grant period (two years) must be refunded to Wounds Australia. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of Wounds Australia Research committee may approve an extension of the grant and that the funds be carried forward. When this occurs, the chief investigator must make a written application to the chair at the end of the nominated time period.

Termination of grant

Notwithstanding any other condition, Wounds Australia may, at any time, terminate a grant if it believes:

- The research for which the grant is approved, is not being carried out with competence, diligence and scientific honesty.
- The chief investigator, or co-investigator, whose participation is essential to the conduct of the project, leaves the institution or ceases to be involved in the project.

Timeframe for grants

A grant shall be made for a period as agreed to by the applicants and Wounds Australia up to a maximum period of 2 years. The normal commencement date for grants is within two months following awarding of the grant by Wounds Australia. However, it may be extended with the agreement of the Chair of the Wounds Australia Research committee. Under these circumstances, permission to carry the grant forward 12 months past this date must be agreed to in writing by the Chair of the Wounds Australia Research committee.

CONDITIONS

Ethical approval

- All funded research must be conducted within the [National Health and Medical Research Council's Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, 2018](#).
- Institutional approval by the appropriate ethics committee(s) must be demonstrated prior to commencement of data collection.
- Certification that approval has been given should be forwarded as soon as available after awarding of the grant.

RESEARCH APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Applications that do not conform to these guidelines will not be accepted.

General

Required fields in the online form include:

- Chief Investigator/Leader of the project
- Co-investigators (Maximum of six investigators) and participating organisations
- Name of the project
- Research area
- Project Summary (maximum of 1000 words)
(covering clinical need and relevance, objectives, methods, expected outcomes, and how the project is expected to change practice).
- A short project timeline with milestones.
- A maximum of two pages of references is to be provided.
- A budget ([download excel template from our website](#)) and its justification is required.
- The investigators should also include a 2-page (maximum) CV **for each investigator**. Include qualifications, previous research activities (focusing on projects that demonstrate expertise in the area to be investigated), significant publications, grants, clinical and any other relevant experience.
- Chief investigators who are new to research are required to include an experienced researcher as a co-investigator, to provide mentorship and support the study.

Title

- Should consist of not more than 25 words.

Investigators

- Details of **the primary investigator and all co-investigator(s)** must be provided (name, qualifications, employer(s), contact details).

Lay description

- A lay description of the project (maximum 250 words) should be provided that can be used for Wounds Australia publications should the grant be successful.

Background (Clinical need and relevance)

- A review of the literature including the problem that will be addressed should be defined, in terms of work done by the applicant(s) or others. References to appropriate published papers should be included.

Project aims and objectives

- The aim(s) and objective(s) should be identified clearly, research questions or hypotheses should be set out, and the potential significance of the project to advance wound care should be stated.

Research plan and methods

- The research methods and procedures should be described, including research design, sample, data collection & procedures, intervention and control if appropriate, and data analysis.
- The feasibility of successful completion of the study should be demonstrated.

Ethics

- There should be a brief summary of the ethical implications of the research and how they will be addressed.
- The name(s) of the ethics committee(s) from which approval has been/will be sought should be identified.

Timeline

- A timeline of project stages and milestones is to be provided. Please use a Gantt chart or similar if your timeline is more than a few items

Outcomes

- A clear description of the expected outcomes and impact of the project should be provided, along with how the funding activity will optimise chances of success in a further grant scheme

Budget

- A detailed budget should be provided, which includes a justification of funds requested for salaries for personnel, items of equipment, and running expenses.
- The justification should describe why the support requested is essential to the project.
- A written quotation for equipment items costing \$1000 or more must be included.
- Institutional overhead costs are excluded from seed funding.
- All other forms of research support for the project should be listed, including in-kind support e.g. funds, essential equipment, and staff provided by the institution or department.
- [Download an excel budget template from our website.](#)

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

All applications to be submitted using the Research Grant Application Form, available from the [Wounds Australia website](#).

- **Signatures:** all requested signatures must be provided.

Closing date

- Applications for all grants must be submitted before **5pm AEST on Tuesday 30 April**.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Feedback

- Applicants can receive written feedback from the Wounds Australia Research Committee upon request.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS

Winners are formally announced at the [Wounds Australia 2024 Conference](#) in the Gold Coast, Queensland, 14-16 October. Winners will be offered early bird pricing to attend the Conference.



WoundsAustralia

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