

## **2018 Interdisciplinary Seed Funded Research Grants**

### **ROUND 4**

The Hopkins Centre: Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience (the Centre) is committed to improving disability and rehabilitation practices, service delivery and systems by developing, translating and implementing interdisciplinary research evidence about real world problems.

#### **Aims**

The Centre Seed Grants are intended to support the establishment and conduct of interdisciplinary research that promotes applied research on priority issues and improvements relevant to disability and rehabilitation clinical practice, service delivery and systems. Seed grants provide funding to support interdisciplinary, start-up research; pilot work; translation of research; or the progress and/or upscaling of existing research, with the expectation that interdisciplinary teams will consolidate collaborations that may lead to further research and funding opportunities and/or achieve specific practice or service delivery impacts.

The beneficiaries of the Centre Seed Grants (Seed Grants) are people living with the long-term consequences of acquired brain injury, amputation, persistent pain, and spinal cord injury as well as developmental, age-related and other life-long disabling conditions. It includes people's networks of support.

#### **Priority Areas**

Grant applications must align with at least one of the following priorities.

1. Choice and control by consumers
2. Self-care and independence
3. Technological advances to support rehabilitation and independent living
4. Regional and remote services
5. Return to work and participation in the community
6. Adjustment and mental health
7. Service implementation
8. Cultural diversity
9. Other priorities aligned with important local needs or national trends and which can be shown to be significant to the intended beneficiaries of these grants will also be considered

## **Funding**

Two categories of funding are available for Projects

- (1) Large Projects: up to \$30,000 for 12 month projects
- (2) Small Projects: up to \$5,000 for 3 to 6 month projects

## **Conditions of Award**

### *Eligible Funds*

- a. Projects must not be currently or previously funded from any source.
- b. Eligible expenditures of the seed funding include: direct research costs (personnel, consumables, fieldwork costs) and knowledge translation (e.g. events, publication cost, marketing collateral). The following items will not be supported: salary for research conducted outside of Australia; usual workplace infrastructure e.g. computers, printers; work funded by postgraduate scholarships or the funding of a scholarship; and conference/travel expenses unrelated to the conduct of the project.
- c. Projects which aim to progress existing quality improvement, clinical audit / chart review, needs analysis or systematic review into research or translation projects will be considered.

### *Timeframe*

- d. Large Seed Projects (up to \$30,000) are 12 month projects and Small Seed Projects (up to \$5,000) are 3 to 6 month projects.
- e. Lead Chief Investigators may seek approval to vary the timeframe for a Project to a maximum of 18 months. All Project funds must be expended within 12 months. To request a variation, the lead CI must email the Centre at [hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au) outlining the justification and proposed new timeframe. The Management Committee (or nominated representative) will consider requests and grant approvals.

### *Ethics, Governance & Reporting*

- f. All relevant research governance approvals must be obtained and documentation of approval provided to Centre ([hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au)) prior to the commencement of a funded project.
- g. Successful applicants must be prepared to enter into a Research Agreement with The Hopkins Centre and adhere to an agreed Project Plan and Budget Schedule.
- h. A 6 month progress report is required for Large Seed Projects and a final report one month after Project completion. Small Seed Projects only require a final report one month after Project completion. Reporting templates will be provided to successful applicants.

### *Affiliation and Acknowledgements*

- i. Successful investigators will be expected to acknowledge The Hopkins Centre (with approved branding) on all outputs and products developed during the grant

period and into the future where these are related directly to the work generated from the Seed Grant.

### *Personnel Requirements*

- j. Applications are invited from teams who **meet all of the following criteria**:
- k. An eligible lead Chief Investigator (CIA) must be identified on the application. The CIA must be a member of The Hopkins Centre and have a substantive position with Metro South Health or Griffith University (at 0.5 FTE or above). If the CIA applicant is not currently employed at 0.5 FTE, a letter of support from their Manager must accompany the application indicating the CI can accommodate the project within their existing workload. The institution that is employing the CIA will be the administering organisation for the grant.
- i. Teams must include at least one Investigator from Metro South Health and one from Griffith University. These investigators must be employed by these institutions for the duration of the grant.
- ii. Chief Investigators are encouraged from Affiliate Partner Organisations of the Centre including Spinal Life Australia, Synapse, Health Consumers Queensland, Gold Coast Health Service – Rehabilitation. Chief Investigators must be members of The Hopkins Centre. Membership can be sought via The Hopkins Centre website or by emailing [hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au).
- iii. Investigators named on the team from other external organisations (i.e. external to The Hopkins Centre) are also encouraged to build broader collaborations and should be named as Associate Investigators (AIs). AIs are unable to be the recipients of grant funds from a successful grant application.
- iv. The CIA may submit only one application for Round 4, 2018 Seed Funding Grants. If the CIA has received a Hopkins Centre seed grant in a previous funding round, consideration of a further application would be conditional on demonstration of appropriate reporting (e.g. submission of progress or final reports). Any previous seed funding should also show sufficient evidence of output i.e. publications, *grant submissions*, conference papers or other dissemination.
- v. The CIA may be named as second or subsequent CI on one further application for a substantially different research project.
- vi. The CIA must take intellectual responsibility for the project, including its conception, strategic decisions and communication of the results and have the time and capacity to complete the project objectives.
- vii. The CIA must ensure the Project proceeds in accordance with the Project Plan, prepare reports in accordance with the schedule at the required times and ensure all expenditure of Project funds is for project related purposes and otherwise done in compliance with the Project Agreement.
- viii. The CIA must notify the Centre [[hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au)] if there are any changes in circumstances which may impact on the progress of the project, or

his/her ability to conduct the project to completion.

If you are uncertain regarding eligibility in relation to proposed CIs and AIs please contact [hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au).

### **Selection and Assessment**

Funding for Seed Projects will be awarded on merit in open competition. There are 3 steps in the selection process for Large Seed Project Grants.

1. Call for Applications
2. Consumer Member evaluation and advice
3. Management Committee evaluation and selection

There are 2 steps in the selection process for Small Seed Project Grants.

1. Call for Pitches
2. Pitches to a Selection Panel comprising a minimum of 2 Consumer Members and 3 Management Committee Members.
3. There will also be one Popular vote from peers in attendance will determine the outcome for one small seed project.

### *Selection Criteria*

Large Seed Grants must have the capacity to lead to change in practice or service delivery that ultimately benefits people with lifelong disabling conditions; and must also demonstrate how the project will build capacity in research by supporting clinicians, practitioner researchers and academic researchers from a range of disciplines and research areas.

Each application will be considered by at least 3 members of the Management Committee and a minimum of 2 Consumer Members. Applications will be assess on merit with regard to the following criteria:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>%</b>
Significance and capacity to lead change in practice or service delivery aligned with priority areas	15
Feasibility of the project and likelihood of meeting objectives within the stated timeframe	25
Strengths of the interdisciplinary collaboration and capacity of the team to build capacity in research	15
Quality of research plan	25
Novelty of the proposed project	10
Justification of budget	10

### **Timeframe**

3 September	Calls for Applications
12 October	Close for Applications
19 October	Pitch Session for Small Research Project Grants
1 November	Successful Applicants Announced

### **Further information**

Research Project questions please contact Prof Michele Foster on  
Michele.foster@griffith.edu.au

Administrative questions please contact the Research Capacity Officer, Stephanie Prout  
on steph.prout@griffith.edu.au