

2020-2021 Clinical Fellowship Guidelines

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

Clinical Fellowships are an integral part of The Hopkins Centre's approach to embed models of research that promote continuous, positive relationships and interactions between clinicians, researchers and other key end-users of research. The aim is to develop and maintain a credible exchange of scholarship and knowledge transfer to benefit rehabilitation services and the people who utilise these services.

The objectives of Clinical Fellowships are to increase clinician-led research to ensure close links between practice and research, build research capacity and optimise translation opportunities in the area of rehabilitation. The Hopkins Centre Clinical Fellowships comprise a program of research activity and capacity building. This should be focused in a specialist field of knowledge and translation that also has strategic relevance to the mission and values of the Centre. As such successful Clinical Fellows should ideally articulate a dedicated research project as well as a plan for initiating and/or leading research capacity building within and across teams and stakeholders (e.g. knowledge exchange events and team-based processes, skill building and mentorship and networking opportunities).

The primary focus of Fellowships is research that improves outcomes for 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.

Applications are open to a range of disciplines including medicine, nursing, allied health and clinicians at any stage of their career.

Fellowship Opportunity

One Clinician-Researcher Fellowship is available to a practitioner with postgraduate research qualification (minimum Honours 2A in research), clinicians currently enrolled in a Higher Degree Research (HDR) program, or clinicians seeking to progress postgraduate research qualification as part of the Fellowship.

The Clinician-Researcher Fellowship will be offered for a period of 12 months to support the close integration of clinical practice and research that furthers service development and a program of research.

It is expected that the Fellow's program of research will be coordinated with the Service

Area and will be interdisciplinary and collaborative in the approach. Financial or in-kind contribution to the Fellowship from the host Service Area is highly desirable, but not an essential requirement for funding. Co-supervision by the Service Area and The Hopkins Centre is a requirement of the Fellowship. Fellows who do not yet have a postgraduate research qualification (i.e. MPhil or PhD) need to demonstrate a plan for this to occur relevant to their career opportunities.

Funding and Support Available

Clinician-Researcher Fellowships are valued up to \$55,000 (including GST).

Unspent Fellowship funds must be returned to The Hopkins Centre.

Fellows will have access to mentorship from academic and clinical leaders within the Centre.

Workplan and Reporting

Fellows will be required to prepare a workplan which will form part of their research agreement with The Hopkins Centre and their Service Area. Attached is a draft Workplan template.

A progress and final report will be required for the 12-month Fellowship and will be sought in June 2021 and in December 2021 respectively.

Timeframe

The Clinician-Researcher Fellowship must commence by October 2020 and must have completed within 12 months.

The timeline for selection is below.

If no suitable Clinician-Researcher Fellowship applications are received, these funds will be allocated to translation Projects for the Centre.

6 July 2020	Calls for Applications
4 September 2020	Close for Applications
September 2020	THC Management Committee selection
September 2020	Successful Applicants Announced
October 2020	Funds available for Fellowship and Agreements are negotiated between the Centre and Service Area Employer

Eligibility for Clinician-Researcher Fellowships

- a. Fellows must have a substantive clinical position (min 0.5 FTE) with the Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South Health Service or within one of the Affiliate Partner Organisations of The Hopkins Centre. Applicants must be currently working in a clinical capacity and demonstrate that they will remain employed with their existing Employer for the duration of the Fellowship and up to 6 months post Fellowship.
- i. Eligible Division of Rehabilitation, MSH clinical staff must be currently working in a clinical capacity in one of the following service areas: SIU, TRP, SPOT, ABIOS/STEPS, BIRU, BIRU Day Hospital, Jasmine Unit, PPMS, ABI-TRS and Amputee Rehabilitation Clinic. Allied health professionals working in DoR clinical services do not need to be directly line managed by DoR to be considered DoR staff, but do need to be able to demonstrate a significant and ongoing relationship with one of these services.
- b. Fellowships are available to medicine, nursing and allied health disciplines and all applicants must be currently working in a clinical capacity.
- c. Fellows are required to negotiate a scope of research activity that aligns with the mission and objectives of The Hopkins Centre and aims to further rehabilitation research. Priority will be given to research activity that focusses on improved outcomes for people with lifelong disability.
- d. THC Fellowships can be held in conjunction with other Fellowships or research funding if Applicants can demonstrate distinct and complementary activity and outcomes. Applicants must also demonstrate capacity to deliver the full scope of THC Fellowship activities proposed and seek necessary approvals from other funders and their Employer.
- e. Fellowships that are exclusively focused on professional development and training, including attendance at workshops, courses or conferences will not be considered.
- f. Approval from your Department Head/Manager is required as well as the Department Head/Manager from the Host Organisation (if different from your place of employment). This approval can be provided by letter or email to hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au with your application. The approval must include the Applicant's name and current position, Fellowship topic, timeframe and contributions (cash or in kind).
- g. Fellows must have minimum Honours 2A in research academic qualification.
- h. Fellows without an MPhil or PhD must include a plan to enrol in one of these courses in their application.

- i. Clinician-Researcher Fellows and their Service Area Manager must enter a Research Agreement with The Hopkins Centre and agree to a scope of research activity and capacity building outcomes within a specified time period. The Hopkins Centre Executive must approve any changes to the Fellowship including the Fellow and/or research activity proposed.
- j. The Fellow 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 Fellowship objectives.
- k. The Fellow must ensure the research work proceeds in accordance with the Research Agreement, including preparation of reports in accordance with the schedule at the required times. The Fellow is also be expected to present on their research at THC events and governance meetings.
- l. The Fellow must notify the Centre [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 Fellowship to completion.

Selection

Fellowships must have the capacity to strengthen research culture within and between the Fellow's host department/organisation and the broader Hopkins Centre. Fellowships must also provide an opportunity to further the research career of the successful Applicant and assist them to lead change in practice or service delivery in their local context.

Each Fellowship application will be evaluated according to the below selection criteria and approved by the Centre Management Committee. This may also include an interview process if required.

Assessment Criteria

Criteria	%
1. Quality of the research work proposed (scientific quality, feasibility, significance, interdisciplinary component)	30
2. The value of the embedded Fellowship (expertise transfer, collaboration, co-publication/co-production) demonstrated	25
3. Resume of the Applicant and research experience (relative to career stage)	25
4. Benefits to Service Area; target population; and career development of Applicant	15
5. Novelty of the proposed Fellowship	5

Ethics, Governance & Reporting

All relevant research governance approvals must be obtained and documentation of approval provided to Centre.

Affiliation and Acknowledgements

Successful Fellows will be expected to acknowledge The Hopkins Centre (with approved branding) on all outputs and products developed during the period and into the future where these are related directly to the work generated from the Fellowship.

Reporting Requirements

Fellowship holders will be asked to participate in THC events and present at one meeting or event on the outcomes of their Fellowship. Fellows will also be invited to provide a 3 minute video on their research for inclusion on the THC website.

A progress and final report will be required for the Clinician-Researcher Fellowship and reports will be submitted in line with Centre wide reporting every June and December.

Certificates will be awarded on receipt and approval of the Final Report. Applicants will also be required to submit a signed letter (or email) by their Employer certifying that they returned to work and intend to stay for 6 months after completion of the Fellowship.

The Research Support Unit can assist with reporting requirements and all reports should be submitted via hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au.

Further information

For any questions about the Fellowships please contact Prof Michele Foster on 3176 7531 or email Michele.foster@griffith.edu.au