

Information For Applicants 2021

Introduction

The SMA Research Foundation has been established to provide support to emerging postgraduate researchers engaged in sports medicine and disease prevention research.

Award details

SMA Research Grants, which are to the value of up to \$2,000, are designed to support research conducted by postgraduate students and postgraduate practitioners for the purpose of advancing research in sports medicine and its relationship with disease prevention¹. The grant is administered by the Sports Medicine Australia Research Foundation. A finite number of grants will be issued in a regular allocation period.

Eligibility

Applicants for SMA Research Grants must be a professional or student member of Sports Medicine Australia. Preference will be given to new and emerging researchers* conducting research related to the SMA Discipline fields (i.e. Sports Dietitian, Sports Doctor, Sports Physician, Sports Physiotherapist, Sports Podiatrist, Sports Psychologist, Sport Scientist)

** new and emerging researchers with no more than 3 years post-doctoral at the time of submitting their application.*

Selection criteria

Applications will be judged on:

- The relevance of their research to sports medicine, and disease prevention
- Benefits gained from the research to the individual, the profession, and Sports Medicine Australia
- Value for money

¹ **Disease prevention** is any activity which reduces the burden of mortality or morbidity from disease. This may take place at primary, secondary and tertiary prevention levels.

A **disease** is an abnormal condition of an organism that impairs bodily functions, associated with specific symptoms and signs.

Conditions

1. The grant must be used during the period of the research for which it is awarded.
2. By applying for the grant, each applicant will be taken to have consented to permit SMA and the SMA Research Foundation to publicise their name, institution, and title of their research project.
3. Personal information provided to the SMA Research Foundation by grant applicants will be used for the purposes of administering the grant. The SMA Privacy Policy explains how SMA usually collects and uses personal information provided to SMA and how it can be accessed. (The SMA Privacy Policy can be viewed [here](#))
4. If required, successful applicants must obtain an ethical clearance from a human research ethics committee constituted under NHMRC guidelines.
5. Any unused funds greater than 5% of the total grant amount are to be returned with the final report
6. Grant recipients must forfeit their grant and all payments under circumstances where purpose and conditions of the grant cannot be fulfilled. In such circumstances all payments must be refunded within one month of notification of forfeit.
7. A grant may be revoked at any time upon three months' notice given by SMA in circumstances where SMA deems that the purpose and conditions of the grant are unlikely to be fulfilled.

Selection process

8. The SMA Research Foundation Board is responsible for the independent, objective evaluation and review of grant applications. All decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into.
9. The SMA Research Foundation Board has the right to send the application to external independent referees for blind review.
10. Applicants eliminated after independent referee review will be advised by letter.
11. Successful grant applicants may receive an outline of de-identified referee's comments, which may require a satisfactory written response before the final grant can be made.
12. All grant applicants (successful and unsuccessful) will be notified by November 2021.

Reporting requirements

13. Successful applicants must provide a 1-2 paragraph biography, a 1-2 paragraph abstract and layman's summary of the project and an electronic photograph for use on the SMA website and in SMA publications and communications.
14. Proof of ethics approval (if required) must be provided no later than 12 months from the date on which the grant recipient is notified of the outcome of their application. If proof of ethics approval is not received within this timeframe, the offer of funding may be withdrawn.
15. A progress report must be provided 6 months from the date of ethics approval or from the date on which the recipient is notified of the outcome of their application, whichever is later.
16. Notification of project completion is due 12 months from the date of ethics approval or from the date on which the recipient is notified of the outcome of their application, whichever is later.
17. A final report is due 3 months from the date of project completion (i.e. 15 months from the date of ethics approval or from the date on which the recipient is notified of the outcome of their application, whichever is later).
18. The SMA Research Foundation must be acknowledged in any publications arising from research funded by the Award.
19. If the project is delayed in any way or if any of the deadlines are unable to be met, the researcher must request an extension of this timeline. A 'Request for Extension' form can be obtained by emailing info@sma.org.au If any of the reporting requirements are not met without an extension being granted, funding may be withdrawn.

Payment of awards

20. Grants will not exceed \$2,000² (GST not applicable)
21. Grants will be paid in full upon receipt of a tax invoice, a signed agreement and publicity materials (see 13 above).

Any variation to this payment schedule must be agreed upon by both parties.

² Payment of university administration fees will not be included