

The Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation of South Australia Incorporated (CRF) invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from established and early-career researchers from universities, research institutes, health services and other organisations in South Australia for research projects commencing in 2024 to investigate any conditions affecting children's health, education and/or welfare.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – STEP 1

Online Expressions of Interest (EOI) open 21 February 2023 (at 09:00 ACDT) and close 27 March 2023 (at 17:00 ACDT).

Expressions of Interest are submitted online using the submission platform "Submittable", which can be accessed via the link on the CRF website: crf.org.au/grants

Applicants must liaise with their Administering Institution's Research Administration Office, prior to lodging an EOI.

EOI will be assessed by the CRF independent Research Committee on scientific merit and relevance to the health, education or welfare of children. Applicants are advised to clearly outline how the proposed research is relevant to and will ultimately improve **children's health, education and/or welfare**.

Lodgement confirmation and outcomes notification will be sent via email from Submittable to the **Submitter's** email address.

Please safelist notifications@email.submittable.com and check junk mail folders.

Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full grant application.

Applicants will be notified of the EOI outcomes by 17 May 2023.

FULL GRANT APPLICATIONS – STEP 2

Online Grant Applications open 17 May 2023 (09:00 ACST) and close 26 June 2023 (at 17:00 ACST).

Lodgement confirmation and outcomes notification will be sent via email from Submittable to the **Submitter's** email address.

All post-award correspondence, monitoring and reporting will be conducted via the Administering Institution's Research Administration Office.

The CRF reserves the right to request further information from applicants, including a copy of any relevant applications for funding from other organisations.

Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

The 2024 grants will be announced at a public event on 26 October 2023.

APPLICATION CATEGORIES

Research will be considered in the following categories:

- **Basic Science:** Research to acquire or confirm new knowledge by testing a hypothesis using scientific methodology in a primary laboratory environment.
- **Clinical Studies:** Research conducted with human subjects or human material in which the investigator interacts directly with human subjects. Such research may include the mechanism of human disease, clinical trials, therapeutic intervention, the development of new technology and epidemiology.
- **Community Based Studies:** Research based in a community setting with the objective of providing the community with the tools and information necessary to enact change.

ELIGIBILITY

Established and Early-Career researchers based in South Australia are eligible to apply.

Research must be led from South Australia: The Chief Investigator and the Administering Institution **must** be located in South Australia.

National collaboration is encouraged where necessary, but it is preferable that all members of the research team are in South Australia.

EARLY CAREER GRANTS

Early Career Researchers, as defined below, are not excluded from applying for a full grant but have the option to apply for an Early Career Grant:

- Medical applicants who are undertaking a PhD or MD
- Non-medical applicants who have Honours, Masters or are undertaking a PhD
- Applicants who have held their PhD for no more than five years, relative to opportunity (may be employed as a NHMRC post-doctoral fellow)
- Applicants who have not previously been the Lead Chief Investigator of a significant peer-reviewed grant for organisations such as NHMRC, ARC, CRF, Cancer Council etc.

GRANT AMOUNT

The maximum amount that can be requested is \$100,000 per project, or up to \$40,000 for Early Career Researchers.

PROJECT DURATION

The project may be conducted over 1 year or 2 years.
The 2024 Grant Funding Period begins on 1 January 2024 and ends on 31 December 2024 / 2025.

USE OF GRANT

Grant funds cannot be used to provide salaries for any investigator on the project, or to pay stipends to postgraduate students; however, consideration will be given in special circumstances, if full justification is provided within the application.

Reviews of patient care, or studies in the nature of peer review, WILL NOT be supported. Minor modifications of previous studies or replications in Australia of studies completed overseas receive very low priority for support.

Only travel directly associated with the project can be supported. Travel for attendance at conferences or for consultation with other experts will not be supported.

Publication fees are capped at \$3,000, with evidence of expenditure.

ASSESSMENT

All EOI and grant applications are assessed by the CRF independent Research Committee on scientific merit and relevance to the health, education or welfare of children.

The Research Committee will seek comment from independent referees to assist in their deliberations. Applicants are requested to nominate two expert **independent** referees, not associates, noting these may or may not be contacted.

Applicants are also given the opportunity to identify, with reasons clearly explained, any persons who should NOT be approached for a review.

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

The CRF takes a zero-tolerance approach to:

- dishonesty,
- intentional misrepresentation of a third party's work,
- the fraudulent manipulation of data, and
- scientific misconduct or misadventure in any form.

CRF will terminate a grant and seek a full refund of any grant funds paid where it is found that the author(s) plagiarised or misrepresented another person's work or intellectual property or is guilty of any other form of misconduct outlined above.

CRF may sue the recipient and/or Administering Organisation for damages if the research is published and plagiarism or abuse of third-party copyright or IP is subsequently uncovered.

DECISION NOTIFICATION

The outcome of applications for funding in 2024 will be announced at a public event on 26 October 2023. Applicants will receive notification, under embargo, in advance.

The decision is final and the CRF will not enter into correspondence with individual applicants. Applicants are assured that every submission is given due scrutiny by the expert panel. Due to the number of applications received, it is not possible to give individual feedback; however, where available, de-identified referee comments will be forwarded to applicants.

ETHICS APPROVAL

If the project involves experiments on human subjects or animals, or the in vitro production of recombinant DNA molecules, evidence of Ethics Approval must be received by the CRF before any grant payments can be processed.

GRANT PAYMENTS

Once all administrative issues have been addressed (funding agreement signed, evidence of any required ethics approvals submitted, project commencement date advised in writing) the administering institution may invoice CRF quarterly over the project period.

Payment of the final instalment will be withheld until project acquittal reports are finalised.

ACQUITTAL

If there are acquittal reports outstanding or unexpended funds to be returned from a previous grant, these must be finalised prior to making an application for the current funding round. Failure to do so may make the applicant ineligible for future funding.

The Grant Acquittal Form should be downloaded from the CRF website (note that printed copies may have been superseded).

Please note that project reports will be listed on the Research Outcomes page on the CRF website.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

A copy of any publications, papers, reports or articles resulting from projects funded by CRF should be forwarded to CRF, during and for a period of 24 months after the end of the Grant Funding Period.

The support of The Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation (CRF) should be appropriately acknowledged in any publications, papers, reports or articles.

Researchers (or their nominated individuals) may be requested by CRF to present their outcomes and findings at conferences, seminars or Grand Rounds, or to appear on media nominated by Channel 7 to describe their research work, at no cost.

Current and past research projects will be listed on the Research Outcomes page on the CRF website.

MEDIA RELEASES

CRF must be advised at least 48 hours prior to general release of any proposed media release regarding CRF-funded research findings, so that Channel 7 can be given the first option to release the story.

ROYALTIES AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Recipients may be required to license to CRF any intellectual property rights arising from the funded project. These terms will be negotiated and agreed between CRF and successful applicants on a case-by-case basis.

Recipients may also be required to pay royalties to the CRF following commercialisation of any part of the Research Project Outcomes.

Successful applicants are expected to inform the CRF of any major discoveries made during the project and provide the CRF with a written final report. This report should state all outcomes of the research conducted, as well as possible future outcomes should the project be continued at a later point in time.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Submission of a Grant Application indicates acceptance of the Terms and Conditions of Funding,

Please refer to the CRF website to view the funding agreement template.