

GRANTS 2026

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS



The Channel 7 Children's Research Foundation (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 grants commencing in 2026 to investigate any conditions affecting children's health, education and/or welfare.

A free account is required to make an online submission via Submittable from the link on the CRF website: crf.org.au/grants

Registration gives you secure access to your forms, allowing you to save your progress and resume later.

PDF previews of the EOI and Full Grant Application forms and Terms and Conditions are available on the CRF website: crf.org.au/documents.

You must liaise with your Administering Institution's Research Administration Office (RAO), prior to lodging.

The CRF Research Committee will assess each submission on scientific merit and relevance to the health, education or welfare of children.

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

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST – STEP 1

Opens 25 February 2025 (at 09:00 ACDT) and closes 31 March 2025 (at 17:00 ACDT).

Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

The **Submitter** will receive lodgement confirmation via email from Submittable. Please use the Chief Investigator email address to submit. Access to the open application can be shared by team members through the 'collaboration' feature.

To ensure you receive emails from Submittable, you may need to safelist these addresses, and check your junk folder:

notifications@email.submittable.com and notifications@email.auth.submittable.com

[How Can I Safelist Notification Emails From Submittable?](#)

Please liaise with your RAO in the first instance if you have any questions regarding your submission.

Submitters and RAOs will be notified of the EOI outcomes by 16 May 2025, via email from Submittable.

FULL GRANT APPLICATIONS – STEP 2 - INVITED APPLICANTS ONLY

Opens 27 May 2025 (09:00 ACST) and closes 18 July 2025 (at 17:00 ACST).

Late or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

The **Submitter** will receive lodgement confirmation via email from Submittable.

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

Submitters and RAOs will receive notification of the outcomes, under embargo, by mid-October 2025, via email from Submittable.

The 2026 grants will be announced at a public event on 30 October 2025.

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



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.

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.

PROJECT DURATION

The project may be conducted over 1 year or 2 years.

The 2026 Grant Funding Period begins on 1 January 2026 and ends on either 31 December 2026 or 2027.

GRANT AMOUNT

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

EARLY CAREER GRANTS

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

- Applicants who have not held their PhD for more than five years, allowing for eligible career disruptions. Adapted from the NHMRC and ARC guidelines to exclude time in industry and allow up to two additional years per dependent child for parental care absences.
- Medical applicants who are undertaking a PhD or MD.
- Non-medical applicants who have Honours or Masters, or are undertaking a PhD or MPhil.
- Applicants must not have been the Lead Chief Investigator of a significant peer-reviewed grant for organisations such as NHMRC, ARC, CRF, Cancer Council etc.
- Applicants may be employed as a NHMRC post-doctoral fellow.

USE OF GRANT

For ECR grants, **up to 50% of the grant** may be used to fund salary.

For all other grants, funds cannot be used to provide salaries for any investigator on the project, or to pay stipends to postgraduate students. Consideration may be given in special circumstances.

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 will 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 may be claimed, with evidence of expenditure, and are capped at \$3,000.

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.

Your application should clearly outline how the proposed research is relevant to and will ultimately improve **children's health, education** and/or **welfare**.

The Research Committee will seek comment from independent referees to assist in their deliberations. You will be requested to nominate two expert independent referees, not associates, who may or may not be contacted by CRF.

You 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 2026 will be announced at a public event on 30 October 2025. Applicants (submitters) and RAOs will receive notification, under embargo, in advance.

The decision is final and the CRF will not enter into correspondence with individual applicants. You 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 with the outcome notifications.

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 pre-commencement requirements have been completed (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 all 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, as printed copies may have been superseded.

Project reports will be listed on the 'Explore our Research' page on the CRF website, so please write reports for a general audience.

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.

Researchers 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.