



Edith Cowan University
Research Services



Early-Mid Career Researcher (EMCR) Grant Scheme

For funding commencing 1 January 2025

Welcome

- Introduction
- Acknowledgement of Country
- Housekeeping
- Session format

Overview - EMCR grant scheme

- To support EMCRs within 10 years post-PhD to progress their independent research careers by funding high quality research projects and pilot studies, providing opportunity to lead a research project and develop their track record via two distinct funding Streams:
 - Stream 1 **Kickstart** – for those within 2 years post-PhD* who have received no previous external funding.
 - Stream 2 **Pilot Project** – for those between 2-10 years post-PhD* to undertake necessary pilot work leading to submission of an externally competitive research grant application
- Grants are worth up to \$40,000 for projects up to 18 months.
- Total funding available across both Streams is \$500,000.
- Expected to result in definitive research outputs through both publication (or equivalent) and externally submitted grant applications.

*excluding career interruptions



Key Dates

Scheme opens	13 May 2024
Career interruption approval requests to be submitted by	25 June 2024
*EOI Submissions in ECU RMS by	3 July 2024
Research Administration Officer (RAO) review of final application	17 July 2024
Closing date	31 July 2024
Anticipated outcomes distributed	14 October 2024
Ethics application closing dates and HREC Committee Meeting dates	<p>18 October 2024 for 1 November 2024 HREC meeting</p> <p>25 October 2024 for 8 November 2024 AEC meeting</p> <p>22 November 2022 for 6 December 2024 HREC meeting</p>
Funds available	1 January 2025

*Failure to submit an EOI in the ECU RMS by this date will prevent submission of a full application to the grant scheme. Edith Cowan University

ECU RMS Expression of Interest

All applicants must enter and submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) on the ECU Research Management System (RMS) by the deadline.

What is an EOI?

It is an online form that includes a brief title and summary of your project along with a number of yes/no questions.

Why is it required?

EOIs are required for ALL external research grant applications so using it for this scheme is good practice.

It provides notification to the Research Services office of your intention to apply, this allows us to provide support, advise internal deadlines, organise approvals and facilitate submission.

It notifies your Associate Dean Research (ADR) of your intention to apply.

For this scheme, it enables our team to know how many applications to expect and plan accordingly, including allocating assessors.

How do I enter my EOI?

We recommend using the [cheat sheet](#), if you need help please ask.



Don't forget
to enter your
ECU RMS EOI
by:
3 July 2024

IMPORTANT - If an EOI is not submitted by the deadline, your application will **not** be accepted.

Eligibility

Stream 1:

- Must be within 2 years post-PhD, with a conferral date on or after 30 August 2021, excluding career interruptions.
- Must not have received any external research funding as first named CI.

Stream 2:

- Must be within 2-10 years post-PhD, with a conferral date between 30 August 2013 to 30 August 2021, excluding career interruptions.

BOTH Streams:

- commit a minimum of 0.2FTE to the project
- not hold an appointment at ALEVD or ALEVE
- not have been awarded an ECU ECR grant previously
- not have held a Category 1 Australian Competitive Grant (including Fellowships), or international equivalent, as the lead Chief Investigator (i.e., CI-A).
- have the time and basic infrastructure through their School to undertake the project, within the context of their full existing research, teaching and higher degree supervision responsibilities.
- undertake the role of project leader, with overall responsibility for all aspects of the project.
- be an ECU employee and hold an appointment until 31 December 2026, at least, or both the CI's Executive Dean and Line Manager have **agreed to consider** contract renewal until this time.
- have completed ECU's [Research Integrity Professional Learning \(RIPL\)](#) module prior to submission of the application
- If required, obtain ethics and/or other approvals external to ECU (such as hospitals, schools, or community) in a reasonable time frame to ensure completion of the project within the 18-month time frame.

Eligibility continued...

Are you claiming a career interruption?

If yes, please ensure you submit your request to our team in writing via research-preaward@ecu.edu.au for approval by **25 June 2024**.

For a detailed description of allowable career interruptions please refer to the scheme guidelines.

Does your current contract end before the required date of 31 December 2026?

We understand this is likely the case for many applicants. If this applies to you, please contact your Exec Dean and Line Manager and request confirmation via email that they have **agreed to consider** contract renewal until this time. However, it is important to note that receipt of a grant is **not** a guarantee of contract renewal.

CI & Application limits

Remember this is a sole CI grant. Only **one** application per CI can be submitted in any one round and only **one** grant will be awarded per CI, per Stream, over your EMCR eligibility period. Note that all required outcomes of any previous EMCR award must have been met.

Budget

- Up to \$40,000 can be requested however it is important that you don't request the full amount if you don't really need it or it can't be well justified.
- Plan your budget carefully as the amounts allocated to Year 1 and Year 2 in your application are fixed and cannot be changed. No funds can be carried over or extended.
- Check the eligible/ineligible expenses in the guidelines before finalising your budget.
- Justify each budget item in detail – don't simply provide brief or vague descriptions.
- Start working with your Finance Coordinator early to avoid last minute budget changes and to ensure accurate costings, especially if requesting funds for salaries (such as an RA).
- Your Finance Coordinator **MUST** approve the budget before the application can be submitted.

Is there an example budget available?

Yes! Please visit the EMCR intranet page [here](#) to access.



Budget continued...

Who is my Finance Coordinator?

Please use the list below to identify your finance contact.

Area	Finance Coordinator	Contact Email Address	Ext.
Kurungkurl Katitjin	Maggie MA	rfea@ecu.edu.au	6294
WAAPA	Jasbir SINGH	rfea@ecu.edu.au	6181
School of Education	Maggie MA	rfea@ecu.edu.au	6294
School of Arts and Humanities	Chitral JAYASINGHE	rfea@ecu.edu.au	5153
Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet	Chitral JAYASINGHE	rfea@ecu.edu.au	5153
School of Business and Law	Judith WILLIAMS	SBLFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	2847
School of Engineering	Sam COURT	sengfinanceresearchsupport@ecu.edu.au	3981
School of Nursing and Midwifery	Wyman LOW	SNMFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3656
School of Medical and Health Sciences (SMHS) – all academic disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allied Health Medicine and Exercise Science Public Health and Occ Safety 	Hillary XU	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	2852
Alzheimer's Group (Alz)	Tamara SUKHUSHINA	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3071
Exercise Medicine Research Institute (EMRI)	Wyman LOW	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3656
Nutrition and Health Innovation Research Inst (NHIRI)	Deepa SHAH	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3660
Centre for Precision Health (CPH)	Wyman LOW	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3656
Survey Research Centre (SRC)	Hillary XU	SMHSFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	2852
School of Science: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computing and Security Science and Mathematics 	Tamara SUKHUSHINA Tarryn Herd	SSciFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au SSciFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3071 3287
Securing Digital Futures (SDF)	Tamara SUKHUSHINA	SSciFinanceResearchSupport@ecu.edu.au	3071
ECU Health Centre Wanneroo	Hillary XU	h.xu@ecu.edu.au	2852
ECU Health Centre Yanchep	Hillary XU	h.xu@ecu.edu.au	2852

Assessment

- Remember that the assessors are likely not experts in your field, so use language that is understandable to a broad audience.
- Avoid the use of overly technical language, jargon and acronyms.
- Applications are scored against the below assessment criteria, remember to refer to this as you are developing and writing your application.
- Across both Streams 1 and 2, funding will be awarded to the top ranked highest quality applications.

Assessment Criteria:

Project Quality and Innovation – 35%

Approach and Methodology – 35%

Researcher Track Record, Future Plans and Development – 30%

Our team

Who are the Research Administration Officers:

School of Medical and Health Sciences, School of Science, School of Arts and Humanities

***Kylie Rudrum* - Phone: 6304 3430 (Mon-Wed) / *Donna Field* - Phone: 6304 3638 (Thurs-Fri)**

School of Engineering, School of Medical and Health Sciences, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Kurongkurl Katitjin

***Mariko Huartson* - Phone: 6304 3669**

School of Business and Law, School of Education, School of Nursing and Midwifery

***Nicky Kemp* - Phone: 6304 2623**

Coordinator: *Lorraine Dunbar* Ph: 6304 5402

Email: research-preaward@ecu.edu.au

How can we help?

We will assist throughout the grant application process from EOI to submission and can assist with any process, guideline or application form queries. We will review your application to ensure it is compliant with the guidelines and provide general feedback as well as organise the required approvals and formal submission.

Final tips

- Please ensure your mentor(s) has read your application prior to sending it to our team for review and approvals. We can't comment on the technical aspects of your application but the assessors definitely will.
- Ensure ALL sections of your application are complete when submitting, we can't help you with or submit an unfinished draft.
- If you are uncertain of your eligibility or need help with a career interruption, contact us early for help.
- FAQs are available on the [EMCR intranet page](#), these will be updated periodically throughout the grant period.

Panel Discussion

ECU ASSESSORS 2024

Top tips of DO vs DON'T for writing a strong application

- *Prof Lisa Whitehead, Associate Dean (Research), School of Nursing and Midwifery*
- *A/Prof Melanie Brooks, Associate Dean (Research), School of Education*

AWARDED RECIPIENTS 2024

How did you prepare your application? (such as time spent, who did you involve, etc)

How many years are you post-PhD and what did your track record look like at time of application (relative to your specific discipline)?

- *Dr Shayne Vial, School of Medical and Health Sciences*
- *Dr Amir Razmjou, School of Engineering*



QUESTIONS

