

**AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
Discovery Early Career Researcher Award
Application for Funding Commencing in 2026**

DE

Project ID: DE260100000

First Investigator:

Admin Org:

Total number of sheets contained in this Application:

Information on this form and its attachments is collected in order to make recommendations to the ARC Accountable Authority on the allocation of financial assistance under the Australian Research Council Act 2001 (Cth) and for due diligence and post award reporting. The information collected may be passed to third parties, including being sent to overseas parties for assessment purposes. It may also be passed to any other Australian Government Department or Agency, and noting information contained in this application can be disclosed without consent where authorised or required by law.

SAMPLE

Part A - Administrative Summary (DE260100000)

A1. Application Title

(Provide a short title. (Up to 75 characters, approximately 10 words).)

A2. Person Participant Summary

(Add the participant to this application.)

Number	Name	Participant Type	Current Organisation(s)
1		Discovery Early Career Researcher Award	

A3. Organisation Participant Summary

(Add the Administering Organisation participating in this application. Refer to the Instructions to Applicants for further information.)

Number	Name	Participant Type

A4. Application Summary

(Provide an Application Summary, focusing on the aims, significance, expected outcomes and benefits of this project. Write the Application Summary simply, clearly and in plain English. If the application is successful, the Application Summary, along with the National Interest Test, will be used to give the general community an understanding of the research. Avoid the use of acronyms, quotation marks and upper-case characters. Refer to the Instructions to Applicants for further information. (Up to 750 characters, approximately 100 words).)

A5. National Interest Test Statement

(See the Instructions to Applicants for addressing the National Interest Test and 'Articulating National Interest in Grant Applications' available on the ARC website (up to 1,500 characters, approximately 200 words).)

Part B - Participant Details including ROPE

B1. Personal Details

(To update any Personal Details, click on the 'Manage Personal Details' link below. Note this will open a new browser tab. When returning to the form ensure to 'Refresh' the page to capture the changes made to the participant's profile.

Note: The date of birth, country of birth, citizenship, material personal interests and Indigenous status section will not appear in the PDF version of the form and will not be visible to assessors.

Data may be shared with other Commonwealth Entities.

All information contained in Part B is visible to the Administering Organisation on this application.)

Participation Type

Discovery Early Career Researcher Award

Title

First Name

Middle Name

Family Name

Date of Birth

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Country of Birth

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Citizenship

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Australian Permanent Resident

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Australian Temporary Resident

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Indigenous Status

(This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of this form.)

Are you currently receiving any financial support (cash or in-kind) for research related activities from a country other than Australia?

(Note: This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of the form. This data is automatically populated from the participant's RMS profile.)

Are you currently, or have you previously been, associated or affiliated with a talent recruitment program from a country other than Australia?

(Note: This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of the form. This data is automatically populated from the participant's RMS profile.)

Are you currently associated or affiliated with a government, intelligence organisation, government owned enterprise, military or police organisation in a country other than Australia?

(Note: This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of the form. This data is automatically populated from the participant's RMS profile.)

Have you identified and disclosed any conflicts of interest in accordance with your Institution's conflict of interest policies and procedures?

This question serves as a declaration that:

1. You have one or more Conflicts of Interest (COIs) and have disclosed them to your employing institution, and if relevant, Administering Organisation(s) of ARC grant applications as required by the institution(s)'s COI policies and procedures or

2. You do not have any COIs and have followed the relevant institution(s)'s COI policies and procedures (which may include reporting you have nil COIs).

In both cases you should answer 'Yes' to this question.

A 'No' answer to this question indicates that you have a COI that you have not disclosed to your employing institution or relevant Administering Organisation(s) of ARC grant applications. In this case you will be prevented from participating in an ARC grant application.

(Note: This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of the form. This data is automatically populated from the participant's RMS profile.)

Has the participant acknowledged the collection of personal information by the ARC?

Provide a response to the acknowledgement of data collection found within the Personal Profile of the participant.

(Note: This question and the corresponding answer will not appear in the PDF version of the form.

This data is automatically populated from your RMS profile.)

B2. Current country of residence

(If the participant is not an Australian citizen, they must obtain a legal right to work and reside in Australia.)

B3. Qualifications

(To update any qualifications, click on the 'Manage Qualifications' link below. Note this will open a new browser tab.

When returning to the form ensure to 'Refresh' the page to capture the changes made to the participant's profile.)

B4. Research Load (non-ARC Grants and Research)

(Provide details of research funding from non-ARC sources (in Australia and overseas). For research funding from non-ARC sources, list all projects/applications/awards/fellowships awarded or requests submitted involving that participant for funding for the years 2025 to 2029 inclusive.)

B5. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) - Current and previous appointment(s) / position(s) - during the past 10 years

(To update any details in this table, click on the 'Manage Employment Details' link in this question. Note this will open in a new browser tab. 'Refresh' the application page when returning to the form to capture changes made to the participant's profile.)

B6. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) - Career Interruptions

(You must read the ROPE Statement <https://www.arc.gov.au/about-arc/program-policies/research-opportunity-and-performance-evidence-ropes-statement> before filling out this section.

Note - The following fields will not be visible to assessors: From when; To when; FTE of career interruption and Interruption category. RMS will automatically calculate the total career interruption in the field 'Total Period of Career Interruptions which will be visible to assessors.

This question does not relate to the participant's eligibility for the scheme.)

Has the participant experienced a significant interruption that has impacted on research opportunity?

Total Period of Career Interruptions

B7. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) – Career Narrative

(Provide an overview of the participant's career opportunities for research, including any periods of research only employment, access to periods of research leave, and proportions of time allocated for research, teaching and administrative responsibilities (Up to 565 characters, approximately 75 words).)

B8. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) - Evidence of the participant's research impact and contributions to the field, including those most relevant to this application

(Provide details of the participant's research impact and contributions. This should not include information provided elsewhere in the application (upload a PDF of 1 A4 page).)

B9. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) - Mentoring and Leadership

(Provide evidence of the participant's emerging leadership and mentoring capability, including details of any experience and achievements in research training and supervision (up to 750 characters, or approximately 100 words).)

B10. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) - Research Output Context

(Provide clear information that explains the relative importance of the participant's research outputs in disciplinary context. Explain how the participant's track record in relation to relevant discipline conventions demonstrates their capability for outstanding research in the field of this application. (Up to 1,500 characters, approximately 200 words).)

B11. Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) – 10 Career-Best Research Outputs

(Provide up to 10 career-best research outputs and provide clear information regarding their research impact and excellence. Mark the research outputs that are most relevant to this project categorised under the following headings: Authored books; Edited books; Book chapters; Refereed Journal articles; Fully refereed conference proceedings; Additional research outputs (including non-traditional research outputs and preprints or comparable resources). CVs and theses should not be included in this list. Each text box allows up to 150 characters, approximately 20 words annotation per output.)

Research Outputs Listing

B12. Currently held ARC Projects

(This information is automatically populated. If you have any concerns with the information recorded here, please contact your Administering Organisation's Research Office.)

B13. Relevant Qualification

(To update any qualifications, click on the 'Manage Qualifications' link in this question. This will open in a new browser tab. When returning to the form ensure to 'Refresh' the page to capture changes made to the participant's profile.)

B14. Has the participant been granted an extension by the Administering Organisation, to the eligibility period due to a significant career interruption as outlined in the Grant Guidelines?

(If the participant's qualification relevant to this application (listed in Question B13) was awarded prior to 1 March 2020 and they have had a significant career interruption, the participant will need to seek an extension to the eligibility period through their Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)).

If 'Yes' Questions B15 and B16 will be enabled and you will be required to specify the type(s) of career interruption claimed and the total period of the extension claimed.)

B15. Select the category of career interruption claimed (more than one may be selected)

(Choose all types of career interruptions which have been claimed in the application for extension to the participant's qualification as certified by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) or equivalent.

Select a type of interruption and click 'Add'.)

B16. What is the total period of extension that the participant has claimed?

(Select the period of time which most closely equals the total period of extension claimed.)

B17. Project Relinquishment or Application Withdrawal

(ARC Grant Guidelines specify the limits on the number of applications and projects per named participant. This question will be activated where a participant will exceed ARC project limits, if this application is successful. In this case, while the application can be submitted, project limits must be met under the grant guidelines before the project can start. Project limits can be met by relinquishing existing active project(s), or relinquishing role(s) on existing active projects, or withdrawing application(s) that would exceed the project limits.)

B18. Certification by the participant

I certify that:

- i) all the details in this application are accurate and complete, including information contained in my ARC Research Management System personal profile;*
- ii) proper enquiries have been made and I am satisfied that I meet the eligibility criteria as specified in the Grant Guidelines;*
- iii) as a participant listed on the application, I have responsibility for the authorship and intellectual content of this application, and have appropriately cited sources and acknowledged significant contributions, including third parties, where relevant.*
- iv) I have complied with the Grant Guidelines, and the scheme specific Instructions to Applicants and if the application is successful, I agree to abide by the relevant Commonwealth Grant Agreement;*
- v) I understand and agree that all statutory requirements must be met before the proposed research can commence;*
- vi) I have notified the Administering Organisation of all material personal and financial interests and actual, potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest I may have in relation to the application. I will notify the Administering Organisation of any personal, material, financial interests or Conflicts of Interest which arise after the submission of the application. I will update the personal details in my ARC Research Management System profile ensuring that all conflicts of interests and/or foreign funding, talent programs, affiliations/associations reported to the ARC are current;*
- vii) I will notify the Administering Organisation if there are any changes in my circumstances which may impact on my eligibility to participate in, or ability to perform, the project after the submission of this application;*
- viii) I understand that information on this form and its attachments is collected in order to make recommendations to the ARC Accountable Authority on the allocation of financial assistance under the Australian Research Council Act 2001 (Cth) and for post award reporting. The information collected may be passed to third parties, including being sent to overseas parties for assessment purposes. It may also be passed to any other Australian Government Department or Agency, and noting information contained in this application can be disclosed without my consent where authorised or required by law and for post award reporting.*

Part C - Project Description (DE260100000)

C1. Project Description

(Upload a Project Description as detailed in the Instructions to Applicants and in the required format. (Up to 7 A4 pages including references).)

C2. Administering Organisation letter of support

(Provide a letter of support from the Administering Organisation confirming its commitment to the appointment of the participant, and the application. Refer to the Instructions to Applicants for the submission requirements. (Upload a PDF of up to 2 A4 pages).)

SAMPLE

Part D - Project Cost (DE260100000)

D1. What is the proposed budget for your project?

(There are rules around what funds can be requested from the ARC. You must adhere to the scheme specific requirements listed in the Grant Guidelines. Refer to the Instructions to Applicants for detailed instructions on how to fill out the budget section.)

Total requested budget: \$

Year 1

Description	ARC
	Cash
Total	
Personnel	
(Discovery Early Career Researcher Award)	

Year 2

Description	ARC
	Cash
Total	
Personnel	
(Discovery Early Career Researcher Award)	

Year 3

Description	ARC
	Cash
Total	
Personnel	
(Discovery Early Career Researcher Award)	

D2. Justification of funding requested from the ARC

(Fully justify, in terms of need and cost, each budget item requested from the ARC. Use the same headings as in the Description column in the Budget Table of this application (upload a PDF of up to 3 A4 pages and within the required format).)

Budget Justification

D3. Details of non-ARC contributions

(Provide an explanation of how non-ARC contributions will support the proposed project. Use the same headings as in the Description column in the above Budget Table of this application. (Upload a PDF of up to 2 A4 pages and within the required format).)

Details of Non-ARC Contributions

Part E - Classifications and Other Statistical Information (DE260100000)

E1. Does this Application align with any of the National Science and Research Priorities?

(This question must be answered. For reporting purposes, select which of the National Science and Research Priorities the application aligns with. For more information about this question, please see the Instructions to Applicants. You may select more than one priority.)

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E2. Does this Application align with any of the National Reconstruction Fund priority areas?

(This question must be answered. For reporting purposes, select which of the priority areas for the National Reconstruction Fund the application aligns with. For more information about this question, please see the Instructions to Applicants. You may select more than one priority area.)

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E3. Does this Application align with any other Australian Government priority areas?

(This question must be answered. For reporting purposes, select which announced Australian Government policy other than the above this application aligns with. For more information about this question, please see the Instructions to Applicants. You may select one or more of the options below, considering that ARC funded research can align with a range of Australian Government economic, social, environmental and cultural policies.)

If other Australian Government priority area is selected please provide the full name of current Australian Government policy and, if known, year of announcement.

200 characters maximum.

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E4. To what extent does your application align with each of the following types of research activity?

(Indicate which type(s) of research activity the project best aligns with by selecting a percentage weighting for each research type. You may proportion the research across one or more categories, but the percentages must total 100%.)

Categories

Pure basic research	0%
Strategic basic research	0%
Applied research	0%

E5. Field of Research (FoR-2020)

(Select up to 3 FoR classification codes that relate to the application. Note that the percentages must total 100.)

Code	Percentage

E6. Socio-Economic Objective (SEO-2020)

(Select up to 3 SEO classification codes that relate to the application. Note that the percentages must total 100.)

Code	Percentage

E7. Interdisciplinary Research

(This is a 'Yes' or 'No' question. If you select 'Yes' two additional questions will be enabled:

1. Specify the ways in which the research is interdisciplinary by selecting one or more of the options below.

2. Indicate the nature of the interdisciplinary research involved. (Up to 375 characters, approximately 50 words.)

Does this application involve interdisciplinary research?

Specify the ways in which the research is interdisciplinary by selecting one or more of the options below.

Indicate the nature of the interdisciplinary research involved. (Up to 375 characters, approximately 50 words.)

E8. Does the proposed research involve international collaboration?

(This is a 'Yes' or 'No' question. If you select 'Yes' you will need to answer: If the proposed research involves international collaboration, specify the countries involved.)

E9. If the proposed research involves international collaboration, please specify the country/ies involved.

(For reporting purposes, the ARC is capturing the intended country/ies involved in any planned international collaboration if the application is funded. Commence typing in the search box and select from the drop-down list the name of the country/ies of collaborators who will be involved in the proposed project. Note that Australia is not to be listed and is not available to be selected from the drop-down list.)

E10. How many PhDs, Masters and Honours will be filled as a result of this project?

(For reporting purposes, the ARC is capturing the number of Research Students that would be involved if the application is funded. Enter the number of all student places (full-time equivalent - FTE) that will be filled as a result of this project, not just those requested in the budget for funding in the application form.)

Number of Research Student Places (FTE) - PhD

Number of Research Student Places (FTE) - Masters

Number of Research Student Places (FTE) - Honours

Part F - Project Eligibility (DE260100000)

F1. Medical Research

(This is a 'Yes' or 'No' question. Does this application contain content which requires a statement to demonstrate that it complies with the eligible research requirements set out in the ARC Medical Research Policy located on the ARC website?)

F2. Medical Research Statement

(Justify why this application complies with the eligible research requirements set out in the ARC Medical Research Policy located on the ARC website. Eligibility will be based solely on the information contained in this application. This is the only chance to provide justification, the ARC will not seek further clarification. (Up to 750 characters, approximately 100 words))

F3. Experimental Development

(This is a 'Yes' or 'No' question. Will ARC funds awarded under this Scheme be used for activities classified as 'experimental development' according to the definition in the Grant Guidelines?)

SAMPLE

Certification

Certification by the Deputy/Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) or their delegate or equivalent in the Administering Organisation

I certify that—

- I have read, understood, and complied with the *Discovery Program Grant Guidelines - Fellowships (2024 edition)*, (Grant Guidelines) and, to the best of my knowledge all details provided in this application form and in any supporting documentation are true and complete in accordance with the Grant Guidelines.
- Proper enquiries have been made and I am satisfied that the participant and the organisation listed in this application meet the requirements specified in the Grant Guidelines, including the participant having been awarded a PhD on or after 1 March 2020. Where the participant has allowable career interruptions, sufficient evidence has been provided to the Administering Organisation and based on this evidence, I certify that the participant has an award of PhD date together with an allowable period of career interruption (as listed in the Grant Guidelines) that would be commensurate with an award of PhD date on or after 1 March 2020.
- Where the participant holds a higher research degree that is not a PhD, sufficient evidence was provided to the Administering Organisation and based on this evidence, I certify that the participant's qualification meets the level 10 criteria of the *Australian Qualifications Framework Second Edition*.
- I certify that where a participant has more than one PhD, the earliest PhD has been selected and meets the eligibility requirements, including having been awarded a PhD on or after 1 March 2020.
- Upon request from the ARC, this organisation will provide evidence to support a career interruption justification in relation to the PhD award date.
- In certifying the National Interest Test statement, I have considered the requirements detailed in the Instructions to Applicants, including whether the National Interest Test statement is written in plain English and for the audience – the general public.
- The ARC reserves the right to audit any evidence on which an application is based.
- I have received confirmation that the participant will not be undertaking any Higher Degree by Research during the project activity.
- I will notify the ARC if there are changes to the participants and the organisation listed after the submission of this application.
- The participant is responsible for the authorship and intellectual content of this application, and has appropriately cited sources and acknowledged significant contributions to it.
- To the best of my knowledge, all material personal and financial interests and Conflicts of Interest relating to parties involved in or associated with this application are disclosed to the Administering Organisation, and, if the application is successful, I agree to manage all Conflicts of Interest relating to this application in accordance with the *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)*, the *ARC Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy* located on the ARC website and any relevant successor documents.
- I have ensured that any additional certification requirements, applied by the ARC as a result of findings of breaches of the *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018)*, are provided at the grant opportunity closing date for any named participant on an application.
- I have obtained the agreement, attested to by written evidence, of all the relevant persons and organisations necessary to allow the project to proceed. This written evidence has been retained and will be provided to the ARC if requested.
- The application, including all parties involved in or associated with the application, have undergone due diligence to assess risks from foreign interference in line with the *Guidelines to Counter Foreign Interference in the Australian University Sector (2019)* located on the ARC website and developed by the University Foreign Interference Taskforce.
- This application complies with the eligible research requirements set out in the *ARC Medical Research Policy*, located on the ARC website.
- This application complies with the eligible research requirements set out in the *ARC Experimental Development Policy*, located on the ARC website.

- This application does not request funding for the same research activities, infrastructure, or Project previously funded or currently being funded through any other Commonwealth funding.
- This application complies with the requirements to manage other similar or linked research applications by the participant and management is in place to avoid duplication of Australian Government funding if all applications are funded.
- If this application is successful, I am prepared to have the project carried out as set out in this application and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the Grant Guidelines and the relevant Commonwealth Grant Agreement.
- The project can be accommodated within the general facilities of this organisation and if applicable, within the facilities of other relevant organisations specified in this application and sufficient working and office space is available for any proposed additional staff.
- All funds for this project will only be spent for the purpose for which they are provided.
- The project cannot commence until there is an ethics plan in place.
- I consent, or where necessary, I have obtained the necessary consent(s) concerning all the parties, to this application being referred to third parties, including to overseas parties, who will remain anonymous, for assessment purposes.
- I consent, or where necessary, I have obtained the necessary consent(s) concerning all the parties, to the ARC copying, modifying and otherwise dealing with information contained in this application.
- I acknowledge, or where necessary have informed all the parties, that information from this application may be provided to other Commonwealth agencies to seek advice on national security or other matters.
- I confirm that potential risks, are factored into the proposed project and if awarded a risk management plan will be in place before the project can commence.
- To the best of my knowledge, the Privacy Notice appearing at the top of this form was drawn to the attention of the participant whose personal details are provided in the Participant section of the application.