

BRIGHTSPARK RESEARCH COLLABORATION AWARDS

CONDITIONS

1. Introduction

The BrightSpark/Raine Alliance Committee, having allocated a sum of money to support the advancement of early-career medical research scientists in the field of child health research, the BrightSpark Research Collaboration Awards are hereby established and shall be administered in accordance with the following Conditions.

2. Definitions

- (a) “The Awards” refer to the BrightSpark Research Collaboration Awards.
- (b) The “Research Committee” is the BrightSpark/Raine Alliance Research Committee.
- (c) “Biomedical Scientist” refers to basic scientists and allied health professionals.
- (d) “Clinician” refers to medically trained doctors.
- (e) “Early-career researcher” refers to a biomedical scientist or clinician who satisfies the requirements listed below and is within seven years of additional research experience:
 - (i) PhD degree; or
 - (ii) University medical degree plus at least three years’ research experience.
- (f) “Career disruption” includes pregnancy, major illness/injury, carer responsibilities including parental leave, and clinician specialty training¹. This must involve a continuous absence from work for 28 days or more, or return to work on a part-time basis. “Career disruption” does not include employment outside of the research sector including time spent working in industry; clinical, administrative or teaching workload; relocation of an applicant and his/her research laboratory or clinical practice setting or other similar circumstances that impact upon research productivity.
- (g) “Organisation(s)” include industrial organisations, public agencies and the corporate sector.

3. Purpose

The purpose of these Awards is:

- (a) to encourage early-career medical research scientists in Western Australia to establish and develop research collaborations, both nationally and internationally, to seek a better understanding of the cause and treatment of childhood disease and illness;
- (b) to facilitate cross-institutional ties in child health research, with increased opportunities for collaborative publications, joint grant submissions, the sharing and advancement of research/clinical skills, and industry linkages.

¹ Subject to ratification by the Research Committee

Collaborations may involve participants from any institution or organisation outside the State of Western Australia; however the strength of the collaborating partner will be a key consideration in the assessment of applications for these Awards.

4. Eligibility

Applicants shall:

- (a) be employed by a Western Australian University or affiliated institution in Western Australia;
- (b) be involved in research into the cause and treatment of childhood disease and illness;
- (c) be an early career researcher who:
 - (i) is a biomedical scientist who has completed their PhD degree; or
 - (ii) is a University medical graduate who satisfies the requirements listed below (whichever is completed first)¹:
 - a. has completed their PhD degree; or
 - b. has at least three years' research experience; and
 - (iii) at 30 June in the year of application be within seven years of the requirements outlined in Clause 4(c)(i) or (ii) (subject to career disruption), based on the date of the letter advising that their PhD degree or medical degree was passed.

5. Application Procedure

Applicants may submit up to two applications in any round¹.

Applicants are asked to please complete and submit online the application form entitled *BrightSpark/Raine Research Collaboration Award*, available from the Raine Medical Research Foundation website: www.rainefoundation.org.au.

Each online application shall include:

- (a) The **Curriculum Vitae** of the applicant. Please ensure that the CV is no more than four pages in length, as additional pages will not be read;
- (b) A **Quote** for economy-class travel;
- (c) A **Letter of Support** from each collaborating external institution or organisation, outlining their willingness and capacity to contribute to the research, as well as details of any funding contribution. This may be written by the Head of School or Chief Executive Officer (or appropriate representative).

If the collaborating group is from an industrial organisation, public agency or the corporate sector, please upload the following **Supporting Documents**:

- (i) a brief profile of the organisation; and
- (ii) a statement outlining their expertise in relation to the proposed research activity in child health.

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- (d) A signed **Certification Form** with signatures of the applicant and the Head of School/Centre/Institution (or appropriate representative). This form can be downloaded from the Raine Medical Research Foundation website (<http://rainefoundation.org.au/>).

6. Funding

A maximum of \$10,000 shall be available for each Award.

- (a) Funding may be requested for costs directly associated in developing the collaboration, such as travel, accommodation, and workshops.
- (b) Minor funding for project and publishing costs may be considered for funding.
- (c) Funding will not be provided for teaching, salaries, scholarships or computers.
- (d) Economy-class travel only will be considered and quotations shall accompany the application.
- (e) Projects already partly funded from other sources shall clearly indicate the value of funds received and their contribution to research expenses.
- (f) Applicants may be awarded only one successful application in any round¹.

7. Assessment

The assessment process shall be administered by the Research Committee.

The assessment criteria for an Award shall be based upon:

- (a) *Applicant track record* – taking into consideration any career disruption;
- (b) *Collaborative research potential* – the proposal shall outline strategies for the building of productive, sustainable, long-term research collaborations in child health, linking the host institution with top national and international academic institutions or organisations;
- (c) *Measurable outputs* – expected outcomes and demonstrable results of the collaboration, as identified in the proposal. This may include, for example, joint research projects, co-authored scientific publications, combined funding applications, or the advancement of research skills and techniques into the cause and treatment of childhood disease and illness.

8. Intellectual Property

Award recipients are required to comply with the Intellectual Property requirements as described in the Raine Priming Grant Conditions of Application, at Clause 7 (<http://rainefoundation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Raine-Priming-Grant-Conditions.pdf>).

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9. Management of Funding

- (a) Awards may not normally be deferred to a later year.
- (b) Award recipients are required to comply with the financial obligations set down in these Conditions, including the responsibility to:
 - (i) manage and be accountable for the expenditure of funds awarded;
 - (ii) maintain a high standard of governance;
 - (iii) obtain prior approval from the Research Committee for any proposed deviation from the approved budget, or to the completion date of Award.
- (c) Award funding shall be:
 - (i) administered by the Raine Management Office; and
 - (ii) used only for the purposes approved by the Research Committee.
- (d) Award funding that is:
 - (i) used for purposes other than that for which it was awarded, shall be recoverable by the Research Committee.
 - (ii) unspent by the end of the first quarter following the 12 month Award period, will be recouped by the Raine Management Office, unless prior approval to carry forward the funds has been obtained from the Research Committee.

10. Reporting and Statutory Requirements

- (a) *Compliance Requirements for Human or Animal Experimentation, and/or Use of Recombinant Nucleic Acids* -
It is the responsibility of the Award recipient to obtain, from the appropriate ethics or safety committee, approval for any research involving animal or human experimental subjects, or the use of genetically altered materials. Where applicable, funding may not be awarded until the required approval number/certificate is submitted.
- (b) *Reporting Requirement* -
Award recipients will be required to submit a report and acquittal statement within one month of completion of the Award. Reports shall detail all activities undertaken with the Award funding and shall identify key outcomes, such as:
 - (i) dissemination of knowledge into child health research and the expertise gained from the collaboration;
 - (ii) submissions and publications (with Journal Impact Factor and citations to date, where available);
 - (iii) grant applications and approvals (planned and submitted);
 - (iv) research training and advancement of skills and/or technical knowledge in the field of child health research;
 - (v) an indication of the project's sustainability over the long-term.

Report and acquittal statement templates will be available on the Raine Medical Research Foundation website (<http://rainefoundation.org.au>).

11. Acknowledgement

Publications arising from research facilitated by the Awards shall acknowledge the support provided by the BrightSpark/Raine Alliance and host facility.

Successful recipients may be asked to present their research outcomes in an annual showcase of research supported by the BrightSpark/Raine Alliance.

The BrightSpark/Raine Alliance Committee reserves the right not to make an Award.