



Supporting Nursing and Midwifery Research

Accelerator Grant Guidelines 2019

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Grants Overview

In the interest of ensuring that all Australians receive the best possible nursing and midwifery care, the Rosemary Bryant Foundation funds high quality, translatable research that can be readily adopted and embedded into practice.

In 2019 (calendar year), the Rosemary Bryant Foundation is offering two rounds of funding with a pooled value of up to \$150,000 for eligible nursing and midwifery researchers based in Australia.

In 2019 the Rosemary Bryant Foundation currently offer three categories of grants:

- Discovery Grant – Up to \$50,000 funding available per grant.
- Accelerator Grant – Up to \$25,000 funding available per grant.
- Seeding Grant – Up to \$10,000 funding available per grant.

Key Dates

Grant Round	Grants Available	Opening Date	Closing Date	Notification Date
One	1 x Discovery Grant 1 x Accelerator Grant 2 x Seeding Grants	15 Feb 2019	29 March 2019	24 May 2019
Two	1 x Accelerator Grant 3 x Seeding Grants	5 Aug 2019	4 Oct 2019	29 Nov 2019

About the Rosemary Bryant Foundation

Nurses and midwives practice in diverse health and clinical settings across widely dispersed geographical locations. With over 360,000 nurses and midwives in Australia, they are uniquely positioned to have a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of all healthcare consumers.

To support the work of nurses and midwives, the Rosemary Bryant Foundation was established in 2017 to raise funds to improve health outcomes through commissioning or supporting nursing and midwifery research.

The Foundation aims to strengthen the role of the nursing and midwifery profession across the health system through the development of a research-driven, evidence-based platform of healthcare.

Our Vision: *All Australians receive the best possible nursing and midwifery care.*

Our Mission: *Improving health outcomes for all Australians through nursing and midwifery research.*



Aim of the grants program

Nurses and midwives represent nearly two-thirds of registered health practitioners in Australia. Through funding nursing and midwifery research, the Foundation aims to create a more informed and productive workforce that can provide optimal care to the community.

The Foundation is seeking applications for high-quality nurse/midwife-led research projects which have a strong focus on being translated into practice.

Aim of the Accelerator Grants (up to \$25,000) over one year

Accelerator Grants will be awarded to research that is in its early stages of development. Some research may have already been conducted on this proposed research topic.

Applications should be directed to projects that:

- have the potential to attract future larger competitive grants funding;
- supports researchers up to academic level C to build a successful research career; and
- have translational potential.

Accelerator grants can be awarded to non-academic researchers if the project can demonstrate it is endorsed and supported by a researcher employed by a University or established Research Institute.

Rosemary Bryant Foundation's Research Focus Areas

The Foundation is focused on furthering nursing and midwifery practice and the translation of research findings into practice and policy. The Foundation supports a broad program of nursing and midwifery research in five core areas:

1. To measure the impact of existing nursing and midwifery clinical care practises.
2. To explore new directions in nursing and midwifery clinical care and care environments to improve health outcomes.
3. To extend the capacity and capabilities of nurses and midwives to build a resilient, sustainable and collaborative workforce.
4. To inform policy and system-level decision making regarding workforce composition, roles, support structures as well as recruitment, retention and renewal strategies.
5. To translate research into practise to improve health systems, clinical practice, policy development and the education and training of nurses and midwives.

Nurse/midwife led research

A key focus of any project funded by the Rosemary Bryant Foundation is that it is nurse/midwife led and there is demonstrable collaboration with nurses/midwives in relevant practice environments.

Nurse/midwife led means that:

- the research topic/question was conceived by a nurse/midwife as result of their work to resolve an issue they are facing or to explore an opportunity they have identified; and/or
- the project clearly demonstrates that practising nurses/midwives have been consulted in the design of the research and are involved in the research team.

The Foundation also encourages established leaders in the field to support early and mid-career researchers by including them as members of the research team in applications.

Eligibility Criteria

A key purpose of these grants is to support and promote translational research. In order to achieve this, it is important that intended beneficiaries and stakeholders of the research are engaged early in its design and for the duration of the project.

To facilitate this process, it is a requirement of the grant that an appropriate stakeholder / stakeholder group¹ is listed as part of the application and that they provide an accompanying letter of support for the project.


To achieve the aims of the grant, as well the strategic direction of the Rosemary Bryant Foundation, applications must:

1. Demonstrate how the research aligns to one (or more) of the five research focus areas of the Rosemary Bryant Foundation.
2. Demonstrate that the research is a nurse/midwife-led project.
3. Describe how the end users have been involved in and will benefit from the research.
4. Demonstrate the project involves meaningful collaboration between nursing/midwifery researchers and practising nurses/midwives.
5. Demonstrate the potential to attract future funding from grant agencies for the research project.

In addition, the following eligibility criteria will apply to the project team:

1. The proposed project must be located/managed/operated under the auspices of a University, hospital or research institution(s) located within Australia.
2. For Seeding Grants, have demonstrated experience in or future potential for a career in nursing and/or midwifery research in nursing/midwifery.
3. The Chief Investigator must be employed by a University, health service or research centre/institute in Australia, for the duration of the project and have an affiliation with the administering institution.
4. The Chief Investigator must be a resident of Australia for the duration of the grant.
5. At least one project team member must be from outside the University/research centre setting (e.g. government, practice setting, consumer group).
6. The applications must have been reviewed by an appropriate stakeholder / stakeholder group and be accompanied by a written letter of support.

¹ It is expected that the stakeholder / stakeholder group includes end-users e.g. nurses, midwives, other clinicians and/or consumers.



Funding and Invoicing

A budget must be detailed and uploaded as part of the grant application. The Rosemary Bryant Foundation reserves the right to seek further clarification regarding the budget as per the 'Assessment Process' and 'Conditions of Grant'.

Examples of budget items supported include:

- Essential field research expenditure.
- Research assistance.
- Equipment (and its maintenance) and consumables required specific to the project.
- Publication and dissemination of project research outputs.
- Essential specialised IT equipment and software/apps.
- Essential travel costs including economy travel costs for domestic and/or international travel and accommodation.
- Attendance at forums/conferences/workshops to engage external partners and develop collaborative opportunities.
- Minor equipment which is essential for the conduct of the project. The total cost of minor equipment should not exceed \$5,000.

Examples of budget items **not** supported include:

- Costs not directly related to the project.
- Professional membership fees.
- Education fees for professional development.
- Salaries and/or on costs, in whole or in part, for Chief Investigators.
- Offsetting teaching/marking responsibilities of Chief Investigators. by funding lecturing/tutoring personnel.
- Severance/ termination pay for staff or research personnel.
- Capital equipment in excess of \$5,000.
- Institutional brokerage fees, administrative overhead or infrastructure levy on grants.

Leverage Funding

Leveraged funding that will contribute to the direct research costs is not a requirement of the Grants. However, leveraged funding can be sought and reported as part of the budget where the total cost of the project exceeds the grant amount. If leveraged funding is achieved this must be evidenced by a letter of support from the funding source.

Project Timeframe and Reporting

The Grant timeframe is for 1 year. The anticipated commencement date is 1 January 2020.

Reporting:

- The Lead Chief Investigator will be required to submit a six-month project progress report including budget expenditure. A report template will be emailed to the Lead Chief Investigator at five months from date of commencement.
- At the completion of the project, the Lead Chief Investigator will be required to submit a final report and budget acquittal statement that outlines what has been achieved, how funding has been expended and what are next steps for the research. A report template will be emailed to the Lead Chief Investigator at one year from date of commencement.

Grant Application Process

The following documents will need to be provided:

1. Completed application form.
2. A project budget.
3. A copy of the Lead Chief Investigator(s)'s and other key research team members' Curriculum Vitae (maximum 5 pages).
4. A letter of support from project end-users or industry.

Grant Assessment Process

Applications will be judged on their alignment with one (or more) of the Foundation's research areas and likelihood of delivering a successful outcome using the following assessment criteria.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting
End user/stakeholder engagement and collaboration	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is a nurse/midwife-led project. Includes a leadership role/s for nurses and midwives in the project. Displays cross-disciplinary research and/or multiple site approaches. Contributes to national and international understandings of nursing and midwifery through collaboration. Fosters the careers of early and mid-career nursing and midwifery researchers. Promotes the future involvement of nurses and midwives in research. 	30%
Impact	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends the capacity and capabilities of nurses and midwives in order to improve health outcomes and/or quality of life for people in Australia. Meets the needs of priority populations including people and communities that are hard to reach, isolated and/or disadvantaged. Translational research that improves health systems, clinical practice and policy development in nursing and midwifery. Research results can be communicated to benefit the nursing and midwifery community. Can demonstrate the potential for the research to secure further funding in the future and/or encourage future investment in nursing and midwifery research. 	30%
Scientific quality and track record	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates clear rationale and feasibility. Demonstrates rigorous methodology, evidence-based approaches and includes timeframes. Indicates team capacity and track record. Demonstrates clear monitoring and evaluation processes to measure the project's impact and establish areas for improvement / continued research. 	30%
Innovation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore new directions in nursing and midwifery clinical care and care environments to improve health outcomes. Demonstrates potential to lead to innovations that inform policy and system-level decision making regarding workforce composition, roles, support structures as well as recruitment, retention and renewal strategies. 	10%

A Grants Committee with representation from the Foundation Board and independent advisors drawn from multiple universities will review all eligible applications. The review panel will also include members with a strong understanding of nursing and midwifery practice.

The Foundation team will assess all applications received for compliance against the eligibility and funding criteria prior to being presented to the Grant Committee. If ruled ineligible, the Lead Chief Investigator may be offered the opportunity to amend and address any compliance issues.

The Grants Committee will meet following the close of applications and make their recommendations to the Rosemary Bryant Foundation's Board. Outcomes will be communicated to the Lead Chief Investigator shortly thereafter, as well as posted on the Rosemary Bryant Foundation website.

The successful applicants may be requested to present their project to the Grants Committee and/or Board. The Foundation reserves the right to not award funding if it is deemed that no applications of a strong enough quality have been received.

Conditions of the Grant

1. A single institution must be nominated as the Administering Institution.
2. Successful projects that receive funding will be required to invoice the Rosemary Bryant Foundation. An invoice will be required prior to release of funds.
3. The Lead Chief Investigator will be responsible for monitoring the project expenditure, and for liaising with the Administering Institution concerning the payment of accounts.
4. The research team must conform to the administering institution's policies on research ethics, governance, safety and export controls requirements.
5. Where projects involve the collaboration of industry partners or other institutions, it is the recipient's responsibility to ensure that legal agreements regarding intellectual property and commercialisation have been executed prior to the commencement of project.
6. Funding will be released once ethics, governance, safety, export controls and/or legal requirements have been met (if applicable).
7. Funds should be expended within 2 years of receiving funds. Any balance of funds remaining must be returned to the Rosemary Bryant Foundation.
8. Any significant changes to the project, or project team, must be communicated to the Foundation Manager, Claire Dollard via email at claire@rbf.org.au
9. Reporting requirements:
 - a. The Lead Chief Investigator will be required to provide a Progress Report once the project has reached 50 per cent completion. This report will need to be completed on a template provided by the Rosemary Bryant Foundation.
 - b. At conclusion of the project the Lead Chief Investigator will be required to provide a Final Report and Acquittal Statement, completed on the template provided.
10. The Lead Chief Investigator must be able to provide evidence of submission of the research to a peer-reviewed journal once completed.
11. The Lead Chief Investigator must be prepared to present and/or submit a paper for the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Branch's conference in South Australia and/or the state/territory where the research project was based.
12. The Lead Chief Investigator must be willing to be involved in promotional activities for the Foundation relating to the research project e.g. being photographed, videoed, quoted in articles/media releases etc.

Further Information

To learn more about the Foundation please visit www.rbf.org.au

Should you have any enquiries regarding the grants please contact:

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