



Queensland Sexual Health Research fund Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Which organisations are eligible?

A. Organisations may include, but are not limited to, universities, research institutes, as well as clinical and non-clinical service providers from a range of sectors including health, education and social services. Non-government organisations are encouraged to partner with experienced researchers/research institutes to encourage research capacity building within their own organisations.

Eligible organisations must be an organisation with established legal status (e.g. under Corporations Law, Health Services Act, Trustee Act).

Q. Who decides the priorities of the Research Fund?

A. The Research Sub-Committee of the Sexual Health Ministerial Advisory Committee (SHMAC) has been appointed to set the research priorities each year for the fund.

Q. Who assesses applications?

A. The Research Sub-Committee of the SHMAC assess and recommend which applications should be supported, with the final decision ratified by the full SHMAC.

Q. How much funding can we apply for?

A. Each proposal may seek up to \$100 000 funding including GST

Q. When preparing the budget, what expenditures are eligible as direct costs for the SHRF grants?

A. Most costs associated with the management of the research project are eligible as direct costs. In-kind contributions, including staff wages, must be outlined in the budget. Please refer to the application guidelines for a list of what expenditures are not eligible.

Q. Can grant money be used on overheads?

A. The grant money may be used to cover administrative overheads of up to 10%. No other overheads or operational costs are eligible for funding under this grant.

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Q. Can grant money be used to cover investigators' time?

A. The Principal Investigators' salary is ineligible for funding. Any request to vary this must be justified as an addendum to the budget and can be considered at the discretion of the Research Sub-Committee.

Q. Do I need to have an ethics application approved prior to starting the research?

A. If appropriate, you will need to seek ethics approval before beginning the research project. Ideally, this would be sought prior to the grant application.

Q. What if I would like to work on a topic not identified in the priority areas outlined in the information document for the respective round of funding?

A. Innovative research proposals in alignment with the Sexual Health Strategy are encouraged. Topics that do not meet the priorities may be submitted. The project title and a summary of these applications will be submitted to the Research Sub-Committee who will exercise their discretion to view the application in its entirety.

Q. Can the same person submit more than one proposal through an organisation, either as principal applicant or a minor applicant or partner?

A. Yes. There is no rule as to how many project proposals can be submitted by one person through an organisation.

Q. What if we do not have partnerships with relevant service providers?

A. Unfortunately, you would not be eligible for a grant from the Sexual Health Research Fund. To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate partnership arrangements with relevant service providers (including health, educational, and social services) and outline the nature of these arrangements, including the role of each party in relation to the submitted application.

Q. What if the partnership is with ASHM?

A. ASHM must be listed as the minor partner, and the application must clearly outline the role ASHM will have in the funded research project. ASHM cannot be a fund holder in any grant applications.

Q. Can our partnerships be with interstate organisations?

A. Yes, provided that the primary fund holder is based in Queensland, and the research is primarily conducted in Queensland.

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Q. Who will own the intellectual property for the research completed?

A. All Project IP generated under this Project will be legally and beneficially owned by the Administering Institution.

In the event that the Administering Institution elects to commercialise or otherwise exploit the Project IP, the Administering Institution must:

- a) promptly notify the State; and
- b) meet (in person or via telephone or videoconference) and negotiate in good faith with the State as to the allocation of proceeds of that commercialisation.

Q. Can a student work on the research project?

A. Yes – students enrolled in Australian universities are encouraged to be involved in activities of the funded research projects.

Q. What if I have a conflict of interest?

A. A declaration of any actual or perceived conflicts of interest from each person involved in the project must be disclosed at the time of application using the supplied form. Disclosures of interest will be provided to the Research Sub-Committee along with your application. A disclosures of interest register will be maintained by the SHRF administrator (ASHM) and provided to the Research Sub-Committee on a regular basis. If a new perceived or actual conflict of interest arises during the research project, it must be promptly declared to ASHM. If the disclosed interest is with ASHM then external management may take place.

Q. Who will have access to my existing research?

A. The State and ASHM will have a worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free, non-exclusive license to use Existing Material contributed to the funded research project, provided that the Project IP is reliant on the use of this Existing Material by the State and ASHM.

Q. What if I worked on existing material with a third party?

A. To be eligible for an SHRF grant it must be your understanding, to the best of your knowledge, that any existing material will not infringe the Intellectual Property of any third party. You can also not be aware of any allegations that the use of any existing material will infringe the Intellectual Property of any third party.

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Q. Will the student have copyright over their thesis?

A. Yes. Copyright of a student's thesis will belong to the student, and their right to have their thesis examined must not be inhibited. Any restrictions on their right to publish their thesis will only be such as reasonably necessary in the circumstances and will always be in accordance with the enrolling institution's policies and procedures.

Q. How long do we have to accept the grant offer?

A. After notification that your application is successful, you have three months to negotiate and sign a SHRF funding agreement with ASHM.

Q. When do we need to complete research projects by?

A. It is desirable that funded projects are completed within 2 years of receiving the grant funding. Time extensions may be granted under special circumstances, but no additional funding will be provided.

Q. Can I apply for a grant for a project I am currently working on?

A. No. Projects cannot have begun before the funding agreement has been signed.

Q. Is there any reporting required as part of the grant?

A. Brief progress and financial reports are required every six months, and at the end of the project.

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