

MONASH HEALTH EMERGING RESEARCHER FELLOWSHIPS 2022 GUIDELINES

Aim	These guidelines provide information regarding the eligibility and selection process for the Monash Health Emerging Researcher Fellowships 2022. These guidelines should be carefully considered in the preparation of an application.
Background:	The primary purpose of the Fellowship is to invest in early research career individuals, with significant potential for a research career and for whom a fellowship would contribute to that end. The Fellowship is to encourage Monash Health employees to conduct a translational research project and to target emerging researchers. The Fellowships have a focus on supporting talented individuals in commencing research and to act as a preparatory step for an individual to be accepted towards a PhD.
Purpose:	To provide a career development opportunity for those early-career clinicians including allied health, medicine and nursing who do not already have an established record of research and to provide them with some salary support during the period of their project. The opportunity is intended to provide support for Monash Health employees conducting research that impacts on Monash Health's service delivery.
Value and duration:	Budgets of up to \$20,000 will be considered. The fellowship duration is 12 months. In order to ensure equity of opportunity, the Panel will try to award as many applications as possible. Funding is usually awarded in the range of \$10,000 - \$15,000 per Fellowship. A full budget is required and should detail the backfill budget requirements for the fellowship. Items such as publication costs and conference attendance will not be considered due to the limited availability of funds.
Who may apply:	Applications will be considered from all disciplines, who are conducting a research study that impacts on Monash Health's service delivery. Applications are invited from allied health professionals, nurses, medical practitioners, scientists and other professionals employed by Monash Health. Applicants must meet the definition of an Emerging Researcher (see below).
Who is an eligible emerging researcher:	To qualify for an Emerging Researcher Fellowship the applicant must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– currently employed by Monash Health located at a Monash Health campus;– conducting or proposing a translational research project within Monash Health;– have a supervisory arrangement with a senior researcher who can oversee their work, provide mentoring and ensure research fidelity;– be an early research career individual who has no, or less than 2 years, research experience and who is not already enrolled for a PhD;– will not have access to other sources of significant funds; and– is an individual applicant rather than a joint/team applicant;
Who is a preferred candidate:	All applicants will be assessed and ranked against the selection criteria. All criteria are assessed relative to opportunity including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Strength of clinical, quality improvement, professional and academic achievements;➤ Relevance of the translational research project to priorities of clinical care at Monash Health;➤ Clarity and feasibility of project design, intervention, target group and method of analysis by way of preparation towards a PhD;➤ Demonstrated commitment to translating research into practice;

- Potential for healthcare leadership;
- Clarity of career goals and synergy with the aims of the Fellowship;
- At an early career stage where maximal benefit can be obtained from the Fellowship;

Method of selection:

Applications will be assessed by a multidisciplinary panel with a view to awarding applications across disciplines/professions. The intention of the Fellowship is to provide Monash Health staff from any discipline or profession with fair and equitable access to early career research opportunities. Therefore, during the selection process, the spread of Fellowship awards across professions will be a key consideration, along with the research potential of the applicant, relative to their discipline/profession.

The amount of funding awarded may be adjusted to allow more fellowships and ensure that there is a broad and fair representation across disciplines or professions. The following criteria, informed by the referee's reports and the supervisor's report, will form the basis of the selection process to be undertaken by a panel. Applicants are required to demonstrate a capacity to meet all of these criteria and will be awarded a score against each criterion based on information gleaned from the questions in the application form.

- A. The alignment of the research application to Monash Health's strategic priorities and potential organisational impact of the research. Monash Health wishes to encourage and support research that will improve the care it provides and the health outcomes of its patients and the community.
- B. Potential for research career development and professional development – as demonstrated by the applicant's reasons for undertaking the translational research project.
- C. The research potential of the applicant, relative to their discipline/profession.
- D. Support and availability of research supervisors in the Department or Unit where the research will be conducted. The Fellowship is limited to one year and intended to provide a research opportunity to staff with research potential and some Fellows may have had very limited research experience prior to the Fellowship.
- E. Commitment to Monash Health – as demonstrated through current contribution to clinical practice or training or administration or membership of committees or advocacy of public health evidence into policy/practice.

The selection committee will consider applications in all fields of research.

Requirements of the fellowship:

In completing the application form, applicants must be able to satisfactorily demonstrate compliance with the following criteria in order to be eligible to receive a fellowship grant. The applicant must:

1. Conduct a translational research project at a campus of Monash Health. A translational research project is defined as a project that has the ability to bring health outcomes to the population of interest or influence policy or reorient health services or build capacity and be generalisable in benefit to like populations, groups or communities;
2. Have a supervisory arrangement with a senior researcher who can oversee their work, provide mentoring and ensure research fidelity in accordance with the Monash Health Supervision of Research Trainees procedures;
3. Have the support of the department where the translational research project is to be conducted to provide appropriate infrastructure and support;
4. Have the support from their head of department. This includes agreement to release the applicant from usual duties to undertake the research project in the specified timeframes;

5. Be currently employed by Monash Health, this includes workers in clinical and non-clinical roles;
6. Be able to reach a meaningful conclusion within a 12 month period (maximum);
7. Be involved in research training programs, submit papers and abstracts to appropriate venues for presentation and publication;
8. Be able to make presentations on their research project or research findings at Monash Health Research events and other professional conferences as appropriate. It is expected that the results of the research will also be published in a peer-reviewed journal;
9. The Fellowship funds will be transferred to your nominated Monash Health cost centre in two equal transfers. First at the time of commencing the Fellowship and the second at 6 months once a suitable Progress Report has been received
10. Submit a progress report (including upon request a financial acquittance) within 28 days of the six month anniversary of the commencement date of the Fellowship;
11. Upon request provide a summary of the research findings.

Submission dates: Applications close on **Wednesday 16 March 2022**. Late applications will not be accepted.

How to apply: Applications must be lodged with Research Support Services. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all referees reports, and supervisor's report are provided with the application.

The Application is to be submitted as a single PDF file with the documents in the following sequence:

- Application
- Curriculum Vitae of Applicant
- Proposal
- Budget
- Supervisor's report
- Referee's reports

Please submit an electronic copy in PDF format providing your signature, and the signature of the head of department by email to: research@monashhealth.org

Application forms are available for download from the Monash Health internet at: http://www.monashhealth.org/page/Research/Emerging_Researcher_Fellowships/ or from:

Research Support Services,
Monash Health
Level 2, I-Block, Monash Medical Centre
246 Clayton Rd, Clayton Vic 3168
Telephone: 03 9594 4611
research@monashhealth.org

Processes and timeframes: All eligible applications will be considered by the selection committee. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their submission in writing. It is expected that the successful Fellowships will be announced in April 2022. Unsuccessful applicants, upon request may speak with the relevant multidisciplinary panel member about their application and how they may seek research coaching for future opportunities.

Further information: Please email research@monashhealth.org as above