

MSH Research Support Scheme

2021 Funding guidelines

for

Research Excellence

NHMRC Near miss grants

NHMRC Infrastructure support

Sponsored by:

Metro South Health
Study, Education and Research Trust Account

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1. CONTEXT

Metro South Health (MSH) Research Support Scheme has consistently supported high quality research since it was established in 2012. The Research Support Scheme was initially formed by consolidation of research funding from the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund and the PA Research Foundation. Following the establishment of the Metro South Hospital and Health Service in 2012, as well as the MSH Health Study, Education and Research Trust Account (SERTA) in 2014, the Research Support Scheme was broadened to include all Metro South Health facilities and services, as well as partner institutions. The Scheme is administered by Metro South Research. The MSH Research Support Scheme aligns with the Queensland Government objectives for the community and priorities for health service delivery, as well as Metro South Strategic Plan.

1.1 QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMMUNITY

- creating jobs and a diverse economy
- delivering quality frontline services
- protecting the environment and
- building safe, caring and connected communities

1.2 QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES FOR HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY

- ensuring safe, productive and fair workplaces
- achieving better education and training outcomes
- strengthening our public health system
- providing responsive and integrated government services
- supporting disadvantaged Queenslanders

1.3 METRO SOUTH HEALTH STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

- Focus Area 1 - Clinical excellence and better health care solutions for patients through redesign and improvement, efficiency and quality
- Focus Area 2 - Technology that supports best practice, next generation care
- Focus Area 3 - Health system integration

2. OBJECTIVES

The MSH Research Support Scheme aims to reward excellence in research that translates research discoveries into health and medical outcomes. The Scheme's objectives are:

2.1 RESEARCH TRANSLATION

Support the translation of the highest quality research evidence into health care policy and clinical practice.

2.2 RESEARCH INNOVATION

Support the development of the highest quality new knowledge in health research within Metro South Health and partners.

2.3 RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING AND COLLABORATION

Maintain and build the highest quality research capacity and collaborations within Metro South Health and partners.

2.3.1 Support the development of cross-disciplinary and multi-site research collaborations within Metro South Health.

2.3.2 Support the development of inter-institutional collaborations with Metro South Health academic partners based on Metro South Health campuses [eg: Griffith University; Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI); The University of Queensland Faculty of Medicine (UQ) which includes the School of Clinical Medicine of which Southside is a Clinical Unit, and research institutes such as the University of Queensland Diamantina Institute (UQDI); Centre for Health Services Research and The University of Queensland School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work].

2.3.3 Separate funding streams for the highest quality Metro South Novice and Early Career researchers so that they establish themselves as independent, self-directed researchers, as well as Seed, Project and Program funding for established researchers.

3. FUNDING BODY

NHMRC Near miss grants and Infrastructure support for 2021 will be funded by the **MSH Study, Education, and Research Trust Account (SERTA)**. The award of research funds is governed by regulations associated with the funding body. The Research Support Scheme is administered by the Metro South Research.

3.1 GRANT PAYMENTS

3.1.1 SERTA

Payments from the **SERTA** can only be made to MSH employees. **SERTA** awarded funds must be deposited into a MSH research cost centre (ION).

4. NHMRC 2020 IDEAS GRANT FUNDING ROUND

4.1 OVERVIEW

The MSH Research Support Scheme recognises research excellence by offering two categories of funding for research studies that have recently been considered for funding by the NHMRC. These are **NEAR MISS GRANTS** and **INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT**.

4.1.1 NHMRC Near miss grants

NHMRC NEAR MISS GRANTS provide 12 months support to research studies submitted by MSH employees for consideration in the 2020 NHMRC Ideas Grant round. Applications

must have been deemed as being highly fundable (Category 6) but failed to meet the NHMRC's funding threshold. The award amount for this grant is either one third of the year one (2021) NHMRC requested research budget or \$75,000 (whichever is less). **NHMRC NEAR MISS GRANTS** will be funded by **SERTA**.

4.1.2 NHMRC Infrastructure support

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT is provided to support the indirect cost of research. Fractional support is provided to Chief Investigators from MSH who are CIA and have secured an NHMRC Ideas Grant that is administered by MSH or one of its academic partner universities (University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology or Griffith University). An annual pro-rata amount of up to 5% of the annual NHMRC awarded amount will be provided. **NHMRC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT** is funded by **SERTA**.

**Recipients of 2021 Infrastructure support with a continuing NHMRC Ideas Grant do not need to reapply for Infrastructure support each year; see section 8.6.

5. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

For both funding types the following eligibility criteria apply.

1. The NHMRC Ideas Grant application must have been submitted through Metro South Research **or** the Research Grants Office of a MSH academic partner university (University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology or Griffith University).
2. MSH must be named as a participating institution and the majority of the research must take place on the MSH campus or the applicant must have sufficient justification as to why this is not possible (i.e.; facilities unavailable).

5.1 SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY

5.1.1 NHMRC Near miss grant

In addition to the General Eligibility criteria outlined above, all of the following criteria must be met:

The Applicant must:

- i. Be the Chief Investigator (CIA) on an NHMRC Ideas Grant application submitted in 2020 that was categorised as highly fundable (Category 6).
- ii. Be a MSH employee **AND** engaged in clinical or health service delivery.
- iii. Hold a permanent/temporary appointment with MSH for the duration of the grant.

5.1.2 NHMRC Infrastructure support

In addition to the General Eligibility criteria outlined above, all of the following criteria must be met.

The Applicant must:

- i. Be the Chief Investigator (CIA) on a successful NHMRC Ideas Grant application to be funded from 2021.
- ii. Be a MSH employee **AND** engaged in clinical or health service delivery.
- iii. Hold a permanent/temporary appointment with the MSH for the duration of the grant.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The number of **NHMRC NEAR MISS GRANTS** and the amount of **NHMRC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT** awarded per year is dependent upon the amount of funds made available by **SERTA**.
2. All applications will be assessed for completeness and eligibility. The MSH Research Committee has the right to remove applications found to be incomplete, ineligible, not keeping within the guidelines or clearly non-competitive.
3. Once submitted, the application will be considered final and no changes will be permitted.
4. All details in the application must be current and accurate at the time of submission.

7. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

7.1 NHMRC NEAR MISS GRANTS

Applications do not undergo further assessment following that already conducted through the NHMRC. Metro South Research will rank applications according to the NHMRC weighted score. The MSH Research Committee will make recommendations for funding based on availability of SERTA funds and the application's ranking.

7.2 NHMRC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

Applications do not undergo further assessment to that already conducted through the NHMRC.

8. GRANTING CONDITIONS

1. The **SERTA** reserves the right to terminate funding where progress is deemed unsatisfactory, or where the researcher and/or research project has moved from the MSH, a MSH academic partner university, or a MSH academic partner research institute based on the MSH campus.
2. The majority of the research must be conducted on the MSH campus unless otherwise agreed upon.
3. All research must comply with the ethical standards as set out by the National Health and Medical Research Council, Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) and Animal Ethics Committee. All ethics approvals must be forwarded to Metro South Research upon receipt. Award payments will not be paid until ethics approvals have been received.
4. Successful Applicants must return the signed Acceptance of Offer to Metro South Research by the date provided for the grant to be administered.
5. Award payments must be initiated by Recipients through the Grant Payment Request form as advised by the Letter of Offer. Payments will only be made following provision of a completed form
6. For **NHMRC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT** subsequent years funding is actioned by the Recipients Business Manager in January of each year of NHMRC funding, conditional on the provision of a confirmation letter from the Metro South Research and a completed Grant Payment Request form.
7. In the event of a period of absence of more than 30 working days (parental leave, sabbatical, long service leave, interstate or overseas travel), Recipients will need to apply in writing to the Chair, Research, Metro South Research, for a pause in or extension of funding.
8. Recipients will be required to submit to Metro South Research a Final Report by 30 November of the year following the completion of funding.
9. Funding is to be applied only to the work described within the submitted NHMRC Ideas Grant application.
10. Funds must be acquitted by the end of the calendar year of the final year of funding, unless a request for an extension has been made in writing and approved by the Chair, Research, Metro South Research.

11. Appropriate recognition of the **SERTA** and MSH should be included in publications and presentations resulting from the work described within the submitted NHMRC Ideas Grant application.

9. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications must be submitted via *SmartyGrants* at: <http://metrosouth.smartygrants.com.au/> **no later than 12 noon Friday 12 February 2021**. Applicants must be a registered *SmartyGrants* user. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

9.1 SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

For **NHMRC NEAR MISS** applications:

- Application
- GRP assessment summary
- Application Summary
- Budget
- Ethics approval (if available)

For **NHMRC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT**:

- Application
- NHMRC Letter of Notification
- Application Summary
- Funding Schedule
- Ethics approval (if available)

9.2 ENQUIRIES

Research Support Coordinator

Email: MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au

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