Metro South Health Research Support Scheme

2021 Funding Guidelines

Metro South SERTA Novice Researcher Grants - $25,000
Metro South SERTA Innovation (Seed) Grants - $25,000
Metro South SERTA Early Career Researcher Grants - $75,000
Metro South SERTA Project Grants - $100,000
Metro South SERTA Program Grants - $300,000
PA Research Foundation Research Awards - $100,000
NCCTRC Trauma & Disaster Management Grant - $25,000
Co-funded Collaboration Grants - $50,000


Enquiries to: Research Support Coordinator, Metro South Research
Email: MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au  Phone: 07 3443 8057
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1 CONTEXT

Metro South Health 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 Metro South 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 the Metro South Health Research Office. The Metro South Health Research Support Scheme aligns with the Queensland Government objectives for the community and priorities for health service delivery, as well as the Metro South Health Strategic Plan 2019-2023 and Metro South Health Research Strategy 2019-2024.

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 PLAN OBJECTIVES

- Person-centred care
- Connecting care
- Quality care
- Sustainable care

1.4 METRO SOUTH HEALTH RESEARCH STRATEGY FOCUS AREAS

- Focus Area 1 - Build research capability
- Focus Area 2 - Increase research capacity
- Focus Area 3 - Embed research in clinical services
- Focus Area 4 - Translate research to better health
- Focus Area 5 - Research excellence
2. **OBJECTIVES**

The Metro South Health Research Support Scheme (MSH RSS) 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 between Metro South Health and the university schools or research institutes represented on Metro South Health campuses:

- Griffith University;
- Queensland University of Technology;
- University of Queensland; and
- Translational Research Institute

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, in addition to Seed, Project and Program funding for established researchers.

3. **FUNDING BODIES**

The Research Support Scheme is supported by several funding bodies:

- Metro South Health Study, Education, and Research Trust Account (SERTA)
- PA Research Foundation
- Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) Division of Surgery Trauma Research Fund as agreed with the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC)
- The University of Queensland Faculty of Medicine (UQ FOM)
- Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
- Griffith University Health Group (Griffith Health)

The award of research funds is governed by the regulations associated with each funding body that decide the type and number of grants they support and the level of funding to be provided.

4. **ADMINISTRATION OF THE MSH RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME**

The Research Support Scheme is administered by the Metro South Research Office, in accordance with Metro South Health Research Management policy and procedures, which may be accessed at:

5. OVERVIEW OF 2021 MSH RSS GRANT CATEGORIES

These Funding Guidelines provide information in relation to 2021 MSH RSS grant categories by Funding Body:

5.1 METRO SOUTH SERTA FUNDED GRANTS

Applications for SERTA funded grants are required to demonstrate cross-disciplinary collaboration (E.g. across medical, allied health, nursing departments and basic/clinical research) that will strengthen collaborative research across Metro South Health sites. Applications must demonstrate potential for the research to be translated into improved health outcomes.

5.1.1 Novice Researcher Grants provide up to $25,000 over two years for MSH employees new to research. The applicant will have no previous experience as a PI on a research project/grant. The aim is to encourage participation in research and the development of a research track record, under the guidance of a Research Supervisor. The supervisor must be an experienced researcher and be willing and have the capacity to provide expert guidance for the duration of the project. The supervisor may be a MSH employee or external to MSH if the field of research determines the expertise lay outside the organisation. The applicant (PI) must be a MSH employee. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility. A new opportunity within this category encourages applications for:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Novice Researcher Grant One grant will be provided to a MSH employee who is Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and is new to research.

5.1.2 Innovation (Seed) Grants provide up to $25,000 over two years for projects that are genuinely new work and not currently or previously funded from any source. The applicant (PI) must be a MSH employee. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility.

5.1.3 Early Career Researcher Grants provide up to $75,000 over two years for MSH employees with an emerging track record of conducting and publishing research. Applicants with a RHD will be within four (4) years of award of the RHD at the time of application. Applicant’s without a RHD are eligible to apply, however where an applicant without a RHD is determined by the assessment panel to have a research track record equivalent to greater than four years post-RHD, they will not be considered eligible as an early career researcher. Applicants must nominate a Mentor who is an experienced researcher and be willing and have the capacity to provide expert guidance for the duration of the project. The mentor may be a MSH employee or external to MSH if the field of research determines the expertise lay outside the organisation. The applicant (PI) must be a MSH employee. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility.

5.1.4 Project Grants provide up to $100,000 over two years to support research aligned with MSH strategic priorities. Research proposals demonstrating multi-centre collaborations within MSH will be highly regarded. The applicant (PI) must be MSH employee. Within this category are three additional targeted opportunities to encourage applications for:

- Women in Health Research Grants – MSH supports the NHMRC Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021 and initiatives aimed at increasing the retention and progression of women in research. Up to three WiHR grants will be awarded to female-led research teams.

- Indigenous Health Research Grant – MSH supports the Metro South Health Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Closing the Gap Plan 2018-2020 aimed at improving health service delivery and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Metro South Health. One IHR grant will be available for a research project that focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
• **Capacity Development Grants** – MSH is committed to providing opportunities for building research capability and capacity in alignment with the [Metro South Health Research Strategy 2019-2024](#). This is a targeted opportunity aimed at building research capacity outside of the PAH research precinct, to encourage applications from MSH facilities and services with a developing research footprint.

5.1.5 **Program Grants** of up to $300,000 over 3 years to sustain a substantial program of research aligned with MSH strategic priorities. The research team must include a research higher degree student or novice or early career researcher as a CI. Personnel employed to undertake research activities in the capacity of a RHD student would be remunerated commensurate with NHMRC stipends. The PI must be a MSH employee. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility.

5.2 **CO-FUNDED COLLABORATION GRANTS**

Metro South SERTA is collaborating with Griffith University Health Group, QUT and UQ Faculty of Medicine to co-fund small grants valued at up to $50K each, for expenditure over two years. The aim is to encourage new research collaborations between researchers, clinicians, scientists and academics from the participating organisations. The proposed research must demonstrate potential to translate into improved outcomes for patients, the Health Service and the community.

5.3 **PA RESEARCH FOUNDATION FUNDED GRANTS**

PA Research Foundation Research Awards provide $100,000 to fund the first year of clinically driven, significantly innovative, collaborative, translational projects that have a vision of up to 5-10 years. The intent of PA Research Foundation grants is to initiate new projects and develop ideas that deviate from established lines of investigation.

Funds will be provided to projects which have the potential for breaking new theoretical ground and/or challenge existing understandings, systems, paradigms or assumptions and/or opening up entirely new lines of investigation to help prevent, improve early diagnosis and treat health conditions in the community. Projects can be initiated through allied health, basic science or clinical settings as long as they address each of the key assessment criteria. The project may be used to develop new methods, technology, techniques, systems and applications as long as it has the potential to result in new knowledge of significant impact and ultimately improve the delivery of better health. Although this mechanism allows for an element of risk, all projects must have a sound rationale.

Applications from multidisciplinary and/or multi-institutional collaborations are encouraged and will be weighted more favourably. We also aim to support and foster young and upcoming researchers with the mandatory inclusion of a new researcher on collaborative project teams.

The PA Research Foundation’s funding model is donor directed in the key research areas of Prostate cancer, breast cancer, skin cancer, other cancer or other health research project. The research must be conducted on the PA Hospital campus.

An unspecified number of grants will be awarded for a one-year period with continuation of funding dependant on a satisfactory Annual Progress Report.

5.4 **TRAUMA AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT (TRADIM) GRANT**

TRADIM grants are provided through the Division of Surgery, PAH in collaboration with the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC).
5.4.1 **Small TRADIM Grant** provides seed funding up to $25,000 over two years to support research in trauma and disaster management with the following aims:

   i. Increase the evidence base of trauma clinical practice.
   
   ii. Develop research collaborations between Queensland Hospitals and Health Services and Northern Territory Health.

   iii. Improve trauma patient outcomes through research.

6. **APPLICATION PROCESS**

6.1 **APPLICATION TIMEFRAME**

The 2021 MSH Research Support Scheme

- opens 1pm Wednesday 10 June 2020, and
- closes 3pm Thursday 17 September 2020.

6.2 **APPLICATION FORM**


6.2.1 **Certification**

The certification form on page 18 of these Funding Guidelines, must be uploaded as part of your *SmartyGrants* application:

- The Head of Department (HoD) is required to sign the certification page. Allow sufficient time to gain the HoD signature, or escalation of the signature if the HoD is involved in the research.

- For a Novice Grant application, the Researcher Supervisor is also required to sign the certification form on page 18.

- For an Early Career Research Grant, the Mentor is also required to sign the certification form on page 18.

- For a Co-funded Collaboration Grant, the CI from the participating partner organisation must submit the certification form on page 19 to their Research Office for signature.

6.2.2 **Submission of application**

Applications must be submitted online via the MSH *SmartyGrants* site: [https://metrosouth.smartgrants.com.au/](https://metrosouth.smartgrants.com.au/)

- no later than 3pm Thursday 17 September 2020

- late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances

- hand delivered applications will not be accepted

- email applications will not be accepted

6.3 **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

6.3.2 Applicants must be the Principal Investigator.

6.3.3 Applicants may apply for more than one category of funding. However, applications must not be for the same project (identified through similar aims, research teams and/or activities). Identical research proposals submitted to multiple categories of funding will be deemed ineligible; with one exception:

6.3.3.1 Applicants in the Project Grant category can request, via a response in the application form, to also be considered for PA Research Foundation funding.

6.3.4 Applicants may submit a maximum of two projects per category.

6.3.5 Recipients of Program Grant funding from a previous year cannot apply for an additional Program Grant until the third year of the existing grant.

6.3.6 The Research Committee actively discourages the practice of experienced researchers making multiple applications in the names of dependent researchers.

6.3.7 For the purpose of completing the application form, up to four (4) Co-Investigators and two (2) Associate Investigators can be named. It is acknowledged that research teams may include additional CI’s and AI’s.

6.3.8 When preparing the research proposal, Applicants must adhere to the formatting requirements specified in the application form. This includes font size/type, line spacing and page margins;

6.3.7 Research proposals that do not comply with formatting requirements may be withdrawn from assessment. All details in the application must be current and accurate at the time of submission.

6.3.8 All applications will be assessed for completeness and eligibility prior to review.

6.3.9 The Research Committee may, at its discretion, remove applications that are considered to be incomplete, ineligible, not consistent with the guidelines, or non-competitive.

6.3.10 Once submitted, the application will be considered final and no changes will be permitted without the prior written consent of the RSS Sub-Committee.

7. EVALUATION PLAN

Grant applications will be evaluated by the Metro South Health RSS Sub-Committee, for the purpose of recommending fundable grant applications to the Funding Bodies. The Metro South Health RSS Sub-Committee is comprised of members of the Metro South Research Committee and Research Council, Metro South researchers and researchers from our partner institutions.

An assessment Panel for each grant category will be formed from the membership of the Metro South Health RSS Sub-Committee.

Members of the Metro South Health RSS Sub-Committee are assigned to the Panel in which he/she has declared that they are without conflict of interest. Conflict of Interest is managed in consultation with an independent Probity Advisor and according to the Metro South Research Management - Research Integrity Procedure and Research Management – MSH Research Support Scheme Procedure.

Each Panel will have a designated Panel Lead. Panel Leads will act as Spokesperson on behalf of their panel at the Grants Recommendation Meeting. Should additional expert opinion be required during the evaluation period a Panel Lead may engage an expert selected by the Panel or engage the applicant’s nominated External Expert. To this end, applicants have the option to provide the contact details of up to three External
Experts. The External Expert will only be engaged once the External Expert has executed a Confidentiality and Conflict Declaration form and has been cleared to perform this role.

7.1 EXTERNAL EXPERTS

Nominated experts must be independent of all members of the investigative team (PI, CIs and AIs), external to MSH and the university school/research institutes of all named investigators, and without conflict of interest. Each External Expert will need to complete a Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest declaration form prior to receiving any applications.

A conflict of interest in relation to nominating an expert may arise as a result of a range of factors including personal or work relationships. Conflicts of interest may be pecuniary or non-pecuniary and include any situation that could actually, potentially, or be perceived to bias the reviewer’s evaluation of the application:

i. To that end, Principal Investigators should:
   - Avoid nomination of experts with whom any of the investigative team have a personal relationship (including but not limited to those of family, friends and associates with whom the investigator would socialise outside a work context); and
   - Avoid nomination of experts, with whom investigators have current or previous (within the past five years) collaborations on research, grant applications, publications or cooperative agreements; or with whom a supervisory/subordinate work relationship has existed. If a PI wishes to nominate an expert with whom they have collaborated in the past 5 years they must contact the MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au or 3443 8057 and ask for consideration of their nominated expert, giving reasons why they should be included.
   - Avoid nomination of experts who are employed by the same organisation as any of the investigators that appear on the application, except where expressly authorised by the panel. An alternative expert should also be provided to ensure that, where the panel do not exercise their discretion to accept the preferred expert, another expert can be contacted; and
   - Declare to their line manager and to the Chair, Metro South Research any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest in relation to the experts they nominate on the application.

ii. Co-investigators and associate investigators should review the experts nominated on the application and declare to the PI any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest in relation to the reviewers.

iii. All experts must be acknowledged experts in the field of work proposed (i.e. publication track record and PhD or equivalent research experience);

iv. Nominating an expert is optional, however if nominating an expert/s:
   - The PI must contact the expert prior to submitting the application to confirm their availability.
   - Complete contact details of all experts must be provided.

7.2 INITIAL ASSESSMENT FOR ELIGIBILITY

An initial administrative assessment of eligibility is undertaken by the Research Support Scheme administrative coordinator.
8. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND WEIGHTING

8.1 EVALUATION CRITERIA for SERTA FUNDED GRANTS and NCCTRC FUNDED TRADIM GRANTS

Metro South SERTA funded and NCCTRC funded TRADIM grant categories have five (5) Evaluation Criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant type</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scientific quality</td>
<td>Justification of budget</td>
<td>Clinical significance</td>
<td>Clinical originality and innovation</td>
<td>Collaborative strength / Capacity building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERTA Novice Researcher</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERTA Innovation (Seed) Grants</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERTA Early Career Researcher</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERTA Project Grants</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERTA Program Grants</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-funded Collaboration Grants</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRADIM Small Grant</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scientific quality** (Score 1 to 7)
- Is the project plan cohesive, with clearly stated aims, methodology and proposed outcomes?
- Is there a sound rationale for conducting the research, relevant to MSHHS?
- Does the study design and methodology support the aims and proposed outcomes?
- Is the sample size and analysis plan appropriate for meaningful outcomes?
- Can the project be completed in the timeframe?
- Is the proposal competitive nationally?

**Justification of budget** (Score 1 to 7)
- Is there evidence of adequate consideration to resources required to complete the project?
- Is the budget reasonable, appropriate and justified, and able to be managed within the Metro South Health financial guidelines?

**Clinical significance** (Score 1 to 7)
- The extent to which the proposed research has potential to contribute to advancements in knowledge that will inform clinical practice.
- The extent to which the proposed research will have impact and deliver meaningful outcomes for patients, clinicians and decision makers.
The extent to which the proposed research addresses a clinical need, gap or issue of importance to the Health Service.

**Clinical originality and innovation (Score 1 to 7)**

- The extent to which the research proposal demonstrates potential to generate new knowledge or deliver solutions by using or developing a novel approach or concept, methodology, technology or intervention, or by reinterpreting or challenging existing pathways or models.

**Collaborative strength / Capacity building (Score 1 to 7)**

- Evidence of individual team members expertise and contribution to their field of research and;
- a diversity of research skills and experience through meaningful collaborations across disciplines and with partners.
- The potential for the collaboration to strengthen the research profile of MSH and have ongoing benefits.
- Evidence of consultation with relevant stakeholders.
- Novice researchers will be assessed on sound project idea, methodology and good understanding of the research area, as well as the nominated Research Supervisor’s ability and capacity to support a Novice Researcher.
- For Program Grants - Description of how the inclusion of a novice, early career, or research higher degree student will contribute to research capacity and capability building across MSH.

### 8.2 SCORING

Each of the Evaluation Criteria will be scored by RSS Sub-Committee Panel members on a scale of 1 to 7 where:

1 = No evidence  
2 = Unsatisfactory  
3 = Fair  
4 = Good  
5 = Very Good  
6 = Excellent  
7 = Outstanding by national standards

### 8.3 EVALUATION CRITERIA for PA RESEARCH FOUNDATION AWARDS

Where an applicant has indicated their Project Grant application should be considered for PA Research Foundation funding the following Evaluation Criteria and Scoring applies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation criteria for PARF Awards</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Scoring system of each criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Novelty, originality, innovation, new implementation</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>From 0 to 5 where: 0 = No evidence 1 = Unsatisfactory 2 = Fair 3 = Good 4 = Very Good 5 = Outstanding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Scientific quality and feasibility; a clearly defined hypothesis, tested by the proposed research.</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Understanding of Translation - knowledge of outcomes to benefit health</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Track Record of the Team</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
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8.3.1 Examples of research projects that are favoured for funding through this scheme include but are not limited to:
- Testing a novel hypothesis about the aetiology, diagnosis, early detection, classification or management of a disease, where there is a clear success/fail end point
- Pilot projects to translate, develop and or implement new clinical practices or processes within the health system

9. RANKING AND RECOMMENDATION

Applications in each grant category are scored according to the Evaluation Criteria and ranked in order of merit. Scores will reflect the relative strength of the application in terms of how well it addresses and meets the criteria. All applications will be determined to be fundable or otherwise. At any time an application may be considered not for funding if alignment with MSH RSS objectives has not been demonstrated. Panel Leads will request an additional assessment of an application if panel member’s scores are markedly disparate.

The merit of applications will be discussed by the RSS Sub-Committee at a Grants Recommendation Meeting in October 2020.

The Grants Recommendation Meeting will be overseen by an external Chair (who is without Conflict of Interest).

i. Assessment information will be presented by the Panel Lead for each category of grants with input from members of the RSS Sub-Committee;

ii. If multiple applications in any grant category obtain equal scores, the RSS Sub-Committee will determine a ranking and order of merit, based on assessment by members present. This may include (but are not limited to):
- Consideration of the RSS Evaluation Criteria and alignment of the proposed research with RSS Objectives.
- Consideration of applicants’ previous performance in relation to reporting on RSS grants.

If approved funds cannot be fully allocated in any one category, the RSS Sub-Committee may recommend allocation of funds to another approved grant category.

At the conclusion of the Grants Recommendation Meeting the recommendations of the RSS Sub-Committee will be provided to the relevant delegate of each funding body for approval.

9.1 AWARDING OF GRANTS

Recommendations for funding will be considered by the relevant delegate of each funding body, who make the final decision on the award of grants.

The funding bodies and their delegates may, at their sole discretion, choose to award grants on the basis of the recommendations received, or not.

Award of grants will be via a letter of offer, accompanied by grant conditions. Prospective grant recipients will be required to accept the offer and conditions in writing by the date identified in the grant award letter.

9.2 SECOND ROUND OFFERS

In the event that an offer of funding is declined, unallocated funds may be used to enable an offer of funding to the next application identified as meritorious (in any category) by the RSS Sub-Committee.

9.3 FEEDBACK AND ISSUES/DISPUTES

Feedback on Research Support Scheme processes or outcomes should be directed to the Research Support Coordinator at MSH-RSS@health.qld.gov.au in the first instance. Issues and concerns will be managed in consultation with an independent Probity Advisor.
## 10. Eligibility Criteria for Metro South SERTA Funded Grants

### 10.1 Funding Amounts, Duration & Indicative Number of Grants Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant type</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Applicant eligibility</th>
<th>Value (up to)</th>
<th>Duration (up to)</th>
<th>Indicative # grants offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novice Researcher Grant</td>
<td>To encourage participation in research and the development of a research track record, under the guidance of a research supervisor</td>
<td>Open to MSH employees, new to research, must nominate a Research Supervisor who is also a MSH employee (see 5.1.1 and 10.2.3 ii)</td>
<td>$25K</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation (Seed) Grant</td>
<td>For projects that are genuinely new work and are not currently or previously funded from any source</td>
<td>Open to all MSH employees (see 5.1.2)</td>
<td>$25K</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Career Researcher Grant</td>
<td>To encourage and provide research opportunities for early career researchers</td>
<td>Open to MSH employees with an emerging track record of conducting and publishing research either through a research higher degree (within 4 years) or in a clinical setting (equivalent), must nominate a Mentor. (see 5.1.3)</td>
<td>$75K</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Grants</td>
<td>To encourage and provide opportunities for experienced researchers to undertake projects that align with MSH strategic priorities.</td>
<td>Open to all MSH employees (see 5.1.4 and 10.2.3 iii, iv and v)</td>
<td>$100K</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Grants</td>
<td>For significant programs of research, which include activities and salary support for a research higher degree student or novice or early career researcher as a CI</td>
<td>Open to all MSH employees but more suitable for established researchers (see 5.1.5)</td>
<td>$300K</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10.2 GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR METRO SOUTH SERTA FUNDED GRANTS

The following criteria apply to Metro South SERTA funded grants:

10.2.1 Applicant eligibility

i. For Metro South SERTA funded grants, SERTA Business Rules require the applicant to be a Metro South Health employee, with a MSH appointment for the duration of the grant.
   a. Honorary Appointees are not eligible to be the applicant;
   b. Conjoint appointees are not eligible to be the applicant if their sole employment contract is with a university partner – even in cases where Metro South Health pays the university for part of the conjoint appointee’s salary.
   c. Conjoint appointees may still benefit from the RSS as an eligible co-investigator.

10.2.2 Research team eligibility criteria

i. Unless otherwise stated Co-investigators (CI’s) must be:
   • a Metro South Health employee with a MSH appointment for the duration of the grant,  
   Or
   • An employee of a Metro South Health academic partner university school or research institute based on a Metro South Health campus with an appointment for the duration of the grant. [Examples include: Griffith University; QUT Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI); UQ Faculty of Medicine which includes the School of Clinical Medicine of which Southside is a Clinical Unit, UQ School of School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences; UQ School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work and research institutes such as the Translational Research Institute, the UQ Diamantina Institute (UQDI); UQ Centre for Health Services Research]

ii. Investigators from other institutions and organisations can be listed as associate investigators (AI’s).

10.2.3 Other eligibility criteria

i. Unless otherwise stated, the majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility;

ii. For an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Novice Researcher Grant the PI (applicant) must be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander;

iii. For a Women in Health Research Grant the PI (applicant) must be female;

iv. For an Indigenous Health Research Grant the research focus must be on improving the health and well-being of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community;

v. For a Capacity Development Grant the applicant (PI) must be located at and the research conducted at QEII, Logan, Redland, Oral Health or Community, or a MSH facility or service located outside the PAH research precinct.

vi. The research should demonstrate cross disciplinary collaborations (e.g. across medical, allied health, nursing departments and/or basic/clinical research);


viii. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Metro South HHS facility.
11.  **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR TRADMGRANT**

11.1  **FUNDING AMOUNTS, DURATION & INDICATIVE NUMBER OF GRANTS OFFERED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant type</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Applicant eligibility</th>
<th>Value (up to)</th>
<th>Duration (up to)</th>
<th># of grants offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Small Grant | Provide seed funding for a small project that has the potential to increase the evidence base of trauma clinical practice. | Applicants must be:  
- A member of staff of a Queensland Hospital and Health Service, or Northern Territory Health Service for the duration of the grant.  
- A medical doctor, nurse or allied health professional  
- See specific eligibility criteria below | $25K | 2 years | 1 |

11.2  **TRAUMA & DISASTER MANAGEMENT GRANT SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

11.2.1  **Grant applicant eligibility**

- i. The applicant must be the Principal Investigator; and
- ii. An employee of a Queensland Hospital and Health Service, or Northern Territory Health Service for the duration of the grant.

11.2.2  **Research team eligibility**

Investigative teams must include:

- i. A medical doctor, nurse or allied health professional;  
- ii. No more than four Co-Investigators and two Associate Investigators.

11.2.3  **Other eligibility criteria**

- i. The majority of the proposed research activity must take place within a Queensland Hospital and Health Service, or Northern Territory Health Service;  
  Or  
  In partnership with another health service facility or organisation within Queensland or the Northern Territory that is acceptable to the NCCTRC  
- ii. The proposed research must not be concurrently funded by the ARC, NHMRC or any other organisation currently listed on the Australian Competitive Grants Register:  
  [https://docs.education.gov.au/node/50206](https://docs.education.gov.au/node/50206)
12. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PA RESEARCH FOUNDATION AWARDS

12.1 Research proposals must address the Foundations key focus areas of:
- Prostate cancer
- Breast cancer
- Skin cancer
- other cancer
- or other health research project.

12.2 The Applicant (PI) can be a Metro South Health employee or have an appointment through an affiliated organisation or academic partner based on a Metro South Health campus.

12.3 Co-investigators (CI’s) from all disciplines, services and facilities at the PA Hospital campus are eligible.

12.4 Project teams must include representatives across clinical and allied health, a new researcher, and basic science (where relevant).

12.5 The new researcher (a health care professional or a wet or dry lab researcher) will have no more than 5 years of research experience, and the PA Hospital campus must be their primary employment location. A member of the team must agree to mentor the new researcher for the duration of the project.

12.6 The majority of the research must be conducted at the PA Hospital campus.

13. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CO-FUNDED COLLABORATION GRANTS

13.1 FUNDING AMOUNT, DURATION & INDICATIVE NUMBER OF GRANTS OFFERED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant type</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Applicant eligibility</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th># of grants offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-funded Collaboration Grants</td>
<td>The aim is to support new research collaborations between researchers, clinicians, scientists and academics from MSHHS and UQ FOM, QUT or Griffith Health.</td>
<td>Open to all Metro South employees. The research project must be co-led by a co-investigator with a paid appointment at UQ FOM, QUT or Griffith Health.</td>
<td>$50K</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>6 (2 grants with each partner).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13.2 GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CO-FUNDED COLLABORATION GRANTS

13.2.1 Applicant eligibility
i. The applicant (PI) must be a Metro South Health employee with a MSH appointment for the duration of the grant.
   a. Honorary Appointees are not eligible to be the applicant;
   b. Conjoint appointees are not eligible to be the applicant if their sole employment contract is with a university partner – even in cases where Metro South Health pays the university for part of the conjoint appointee’s salary.

13.2.2 Research team eligibility criteria
i. The research project must be co-led by a co-investigator (CI) with a paid appointment at QUT, UQ Faculty of Medicine or Griffith Health.
ii. The CI must secure approval from their institution via the Certification form on page 19 of this document.

iii. Investigators from other institutions and organisations can be listed as associate investigators (AI’s).

13.2.3 Other eligibility criteria

i. The research activity can be conducted across locations however must demonstrate strong ties to Metro South HHS objectives and potential to translate into benefits for patients, the Health Service and the community.

A breach of any of these requirements may result in an application being deemed ineligible and withdrawal from the assessment process.
14. **CERTIFICATION**

This page must be signed by the appropriate delegate for the applicant (PI) and uploaded as part of the online application.

14.1 **CERTIFICATION BY HEAD of DEPARTMENT/DIVISION**

I certify that:

- I have been provided with details of the proposed research, consider it appropriate to the general facilities in my Department/Division and I am prepared to have the project carried out in my Department/Division.
- I am not the applicant, or an investigator named on this application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Head of Department/Division (print):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of MSH site:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signature:</td>
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<td>Date: DD/MM/YEAR</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** If the Head of Department is also the Principal Investigator then he / she cannot provide certification, and the signature must be escalated to the next appropriate delegate (eg. Divisional Chair or ED).

14.2 **CERTIFICATION BY RESEARCH SUPERVISOR or MENTOR (Novice or Early Career applications only)**

I certify that:

- I have been provided with details of the proposed research and I am willing and have the capacity to supervise/mentor and provide expert guidance to the applicant for the duration of the project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Research Supervisor / Mentor (print):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of MSH site/university school/organisation:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Signature:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date: DD/MM/YEAR</td>
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</table>
15. **CERTIFICATION – CO-FUNDED COLLABORATION GRANTS**

This page must be signed by the appropriate delegate at UQ FOM, Griffith University Health Group or QUT for the CI and uploaded as part of the online application.

15.1 **CERTIFICATION BY UNIVERSITY AUTHORISED DELEGATE**

I certify that:

- The CI named below has an appointment with this organisation and meets the other eligibility criteria.
- I have been provided with details of the proposed research, consider it appropriate to the aims and objectives of the funding program.
- I am not the applicant, or an investigator named on this application.
- Should this application be successful I confirm the CI will receive up to $25,000 to co-fund this grant with Metro South SERTA.

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<th>CI name (print):</th>
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<th>CI organisation:</th>
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<th>CI position:</th>
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<th>Authorised delegate name (print):</th>
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<th>Authorised delegate signature:</th>
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