



Factsheet

Medical Research Future Fund 2021 Frontier Health and Medical Research Grant Opportunity

This grant opportunity funds the development of bold and innovative Australian medical research and medical innovation projects of great potential and global impact in any area of activity within the health system.

The Australian Government has announced a total of \$570 million over ten years for the Frontier Health and Medical Research Program. The grant opportunity will provide up to \$110 million.

How does it work?

The program will create opportunities for researcher collaborations to explore bold and innovative ideas and/or make discoveries of great potential and global impact through research relevant to any area of health and medical service delivery.

The program will operate using a three phase process. In the Application phase, applicants submit an application outlining the proposed project. If the application is successful they will be awarded grant funding of up to \$1 million to proceed to the Research Planning phase and develop a detailed research plan over 12 months for cutting-edge research projects. The research plan will cover up to five years of activity to take your idea from concept to outcome.

If your research plan is successful, you will proceed to the Research Implantation phase and be awarded a second grant of up to \$50 million to implement the research plan.

The grant amount will be up to 100 per cent of eligible project costs (grant percentage).

If you are successful you must enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth in order to receive the grant funding.

Who can apply?

To be eligible you must:

- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be incorporated in Australia, and, in accordance with s20 and s24 of the [Medical Research Future Fund Act 2015](#)¹, you must be one of the following eligible entities:
 - a medical research institute
 - a university
 - a corporate Commonwealth entity
 - a corporation (including businesses and not for profits)
 - a state or territory government
 - a state or territory government entity.

Joint applications are encouraged, provided you have a lead applicant who is the main driver of the project and is eligible to apply (see section 6.1.2 of the 2021 Frontier Health and

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2015A00116>

Medical Research Program – [grant opportunity guidelines](#)).

What activities are eligible?

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- developing a detailed research plan
- development/installation of research equipment
- employment of personnel and/or
- direct research costs.

We may also approve other activities.

What are the assessment Criteria?

You must address the following assessment criteria:

Assessment criteria for applications:

1. Project Impact (34% weighting)
2. Project methodology (33% weighting)
3. Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project (33% weighting)
4. Overall value and risk of the project (non-weighted)

Assessment criteria for research plans:

5. Alignment with the application and delivery performance (30% weighting)
6. Methodology and implementation (35% weighting)
7. Capacity, capability, and resources to deliver the project (35% weighting)
8. Overall value and risk of the project (non-weighted)

Please refer to Appendix C and D of the [grant opportunity guidelines](#) for further information about assessment scoring and a rating scale.

How do I apply?

You should read the 2021 Frontier Health and Medical Research Program – [grant opportunity guidelines](#) before applying.

To apply you must:

- complete the online application form for the program *MRFF Frontier Health and Medical Research (Stage One)* (when the grant opportunity opens) on [business.gov.au](#)
- provide all the information requested
- address all eligibility criteria

- include all necessary attachments:
 - evidence of support from the board, CEO or equivalent
 - letters of support from each project partner
 - a project plan
 - a project budget
 - a detailed risk management plan
 - COVID-19 statement
 - details of intellectual property (IP) arrangements as an attachment (only if this is not included within the written content of the application)
 - a trust deed (where applicable).
 - a list of your key Research Team.

How will my application be assessed?

We will assess applications for completeness and against all the eligibility criteria before a committee of experts makes recommendations against the assessment criteria. Only eligible applications will be reviewed by the committee.

What will I need to do if successful?

Successful applicants must enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

Where can I find more information?

Visit [business.gov.au](#) or call 13 28 46.