

New Investigator Grants 2019 Advice to Applicants

This document provides information about the application process, eligibility and the conditions of applying for a TPCH Foundation New Investigator Grant.

Further information can be obtained from Dr Stephanie Yerkovich, Research Development Manager, by calling 3139 4118 or emailing Stephanie.Yerkovich@tpchfoundation.org.au. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to discuss their interest in this program prior to submission.

General information

1. TPCH Foundation New Investigator Grants have been developed to provide research training and funding to new researchers who wish to undertake a small research project to develop research skills and address a health need.
2. New Investigator Grants are awarded for a project that must be completed within 12 months and the maximum amount that can be requested is \$10,000. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing to the Foundation and are not guaranteed. If an extension is granted, the maximum term of the grant is three years and any grants remaining open after this time will be at the discretion of TPCH Foundation, and unspent funds may be returned to the Foundation for reallocation.
3. The grant may be used for salary support, to purchase consumables and/or other research-related expenses. It cannot be used to fund basic computer equipment, such as personal laptops.
4. TPCH Foundation New Investigator Grants are awarded to the applicant and are not transferrable. Successful applicants must also remain within or associated with their nominated research group for the duration of the grant.
5. TPCH Foundation will pre-screen all applications to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements and are aligned to TPCH.

Obligations of awardees

Grant recipients are expected to disseminate their results through the normal scientific channels. The support of TPCH Foundation must be acknowledged in any publication, media or presentation arising from the research.

The ability of TPCH Foundation to support research is dependent on our ability to raise funds through donations. Therefore, the ability to engage with potential donors is critical to our success, and it is a condition of the grant that recipients will include TPCH Foundation in any publicity surrounding the research. In addition, TPCH grant recipients will be expected to provide regular research updates and may be called upon to participate in promotional activities.



Eligibility

1. A New Investigator is defined as an investigator who has not been awarded a (peer-reviewed) research project grant in their own name in the last five years.
 - a. The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation reserves the right to make the final judgement as to whether the applicant is considered a New Investigator.
 - b. This will be informed by the applicant's grants history, publications, track record, qualifications, abstracts and conference presentations.
 - c. The Foundation does not consider scholarships or equipment grants to be research grants for this purpose.
 - d. In general, applicants that are prior to the conclusion of their PhD will qualify as a New Investigator, but are then ineligible once the PhD has been awarded.

2. Applicants must nominate a Mentor for their research project. It is the responsibility of the Mentor to guide the applicant through the process of developing their application, and to mentor them during their research project. The role of the mentor includes a commitment to be actively involved in the research project to ensure the New Investigator has guidance and support to complete the project. This includes, for example, appropriate dissemination of findings and reporting to The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation.

3. To be eligible as a Mentor, the Mentor:
 - a. Must have research qualifications ie PhD or equivalent.
 - b. Must have a proven research track record, with a minimum of 2 years' post-doctoral research experience.
 - c. Cannot mentor more than 3 New Investigators per grant round.

4. Projects will be considered only if the work is being undertaken at or in significant association with TPCH campus and/or a TPCH community based service. However, it is not necessary for either the New Investigator or the Mentor to be employed by Queensland Health.

5. Any relevant Ethics approvals must be obtained prior to the commencement of the research project. Approval is not required prior to submitting your application. It is the successful applicant's responsibility to ensure Ethics approval is received in a timely manner.

Application submission

1. Applications will only be accepted online through the Smarty Grants portal <https://tpchfoundation.smartygrants.com.au/> and must be submitted by 12pm on the due date. Late applications will not be accepted.

2. Signatures must be obtained from the applicant and mentor.

3. The administering institution must also be notified prior to lodging the application and any relevant approvals obtained.

Application process and assessment

The grant will be assessed by an independent research panel convened by TPCH Foundation. TPCH Foundation will review applications for eligibility, completeness and for alignment to TPCH. Applications that do not meet these requirements will not be assessed further.

The application will be assessed on

- The research area, innovation and significance of the project to TPCH
- Clearly stated aims and objectives
- The research methodology and feasibility of the project
- An appropriate and well justified budget

Administering Institution

A New Investigator Grant may be administered through a University, however grant funds will remain with The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation and will not be transferred in full to another institution. Funds will only be transferred in arrears, and the invoice must break down the expenditure before payment will be made.

Reporting requirements

Grant recipients will be required to submit six monthly progress reports, due in April and October each year. It is the responsibility of the grant holder to submit these in a timely manner. Failure to submit a progress report may affect future funding with TPCH Foundation.

Conditions of application

1. Applicants authorise The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation to make any enquiries it considers necessary in relation to the proposed research project.
2. Successful applicants will only be able to access grant funds after signing a Grant Funding Agreement.
3. Grant funds will remain within The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation and will not be transferred to another institution.

Key Dates

New Investigator Grants open – 03 December 2018

New Investigator Grants close – 22 February 2019

Applicants notified of the outcome – early May 2019