GUIDE TO APPLICANTS

UWA MEDICAL AND DENTAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

It is essential that applicants familiarise themselves with the Conditions governing UWA Medical and Dental Research Fellowships before submitting an application form available on the website at: http://www.meddent.uwa.edu.au/

1. General
Applicants for Research Based Fellowships at The University of Western Australia should take into account the aims and objectives of the scheme which are to enhance medical research in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences. Applicants for Overseas Medical Research Fellowships must be medical graduates of UWA and are expected to provide evidence that they will return to Western Australia to enhance medical research in this State.

- Fellowships at UWA will provide support for potential highly productive biomedical and health researchers, preferably returning to Australia from overseas, with not more than three years’ postdoctoral experience at the time of application. NB: The calculation commences from the date on which the applicant’s thesis was classified but not necessarily the date of conferment of the degree which may be many months later.
- Fellows will make independent and original contributions to research as part of a team of researchers.
- Fellows will attend and present research data in seminars and at conferences.
- Fellowships will act as precursors for the preparation of submissions to external funding bodies for research grants and fellowships to enhance the future research directions of the Faculty.

2. Confidentiality and Privacy
All applications submitted will be treated in confidence and are not public documents. However, information collected may be passed to assessors and checked for eligibility.

3. Assessment of Applications
Selection of successful candidates for UWA Medical and Dental Research Fellowships will be in accordance with the aims and objectives of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Western Australia. Applicants applying for UWA Medical and Dental Research Fellowships must demonstrate that they have applied to the NHMRC, National Heart Foundation, Raine or Ramaciotti Foundations and/or other external funding bodies. Consideration of applications for UWA Medical and Dental Research Fellowships will only be made where there is evidence a fellow has endeavoured to obtain alternative funding.

Applicants will need to demonstrate that they satisfy the Selection Criteria for the relevant Fellowship and will be ranked according to academic achievements, quality of research...
experience, professional skills, publications, quality of project and potential benefits to medical research in Western Australia. Fellowships will be offered to the highest ranked applicants within the limits of available funding to be determined by the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Western Australia.

4. **Selection Criteria**

Applicants for all awards will be assessed on:
- Past achievements (academic record, prizes and awards).
- Demonstrated research output/track record (publications, previous funding).
- Potential to achieve the stated outcomes during the term of the fellowship.
- Commitment to enhance medical or dental research in Western Australia.

Applications for awards overseas will also be assessed on
- The quality of the research environment in relation to supervision, facilities and infrastructure and/or
- Demonstrated enhancement of clinical skills and skills application in Western Australia.
- Commitment of the applicant to return to Western Australia.

For the purpose of determining the eligibility of Postdoctoral candidates the three-year period commences from the date a candidate submits their thesis for permanent binding. Where an applicant has yet to submit a thesis or has a thesis under examination the applicant may be disadvantaged if the thesis has not be submitted for permanent binding by a date to be determined at the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee meeting.

5. **Application Form**

When completing the application form, you must refer to the following advice and instructions:
- Entries on the application form must be typewritten in black and not less than 10 point font.
- Do not include unused sections of the application.
- One original and ten copies are required.
- The original application must be single-sided. All other copies must be double-sided. All copies of the application must be on standard A4 paper, duplicated on a dry process photocopier, and stapled securely at the top left-hand corner.

6. **Applicant’s Personal Details**

Please ensure that contact details are correct at the time of application and notify the Manager (Student Affairs) in the Faculty of any changes in your details after submission.
- **Contact details** include Title, Surname, Given Names, Telephone (including mobile if applicable), Facsimile and Email.
- **Current Address**: Please ensure that the details provided are complete and accurate, as this information will be used in the dispatch of advice concerning your application.
- **Current Appointment**: Dual academic/hospital appointment to be stated, if applicable.

7. **Applicant’s Academic Details**

(a) Specify all undergraduate academic qualifications.
(b) Specify all postgraduate academic qualifications.

8. **Career Summary**

(a) Please list relevant previous positions held.
(b) For all awards received indicate the name of the award, the period of support, the funding agency and the value of the award.

9. **Scientific Project Title**

The scientific title will be used to identify the project at all times and should accurately describe the nature of the project. **Use no more than 90 characters, including spaces.**
10. **Simplified Project Title**
The simplified title may be used in future media releases, and should be easily understood by the general public. **Use no more than 90 characters, including spaces.**

11. **Previous Grants Held**
Please provide full details of ALL funding received from any source. Indicate the Chief Investigator(s), the period of support, the funding agency and the amount of the grant. Failure to disclose full information will result in the application being removed from any further consideration by the University.

12. **Publications of applicant for track record consideration**
Do not include papers submitted for publication. List, and number consecutively, papers published, in press or finally accepted for publication in refereed journals, over the last six years. The listing must indicate titles of papers, sequence of authors as shown in the paper, first and last pages, name, volume and date of journal, and for recent papers not yet published, the date of final acceptance by the journal's editor is required. **[Documentary evidence of final acceptance by editors must be included.]** Quality as well as quantity of publications will be considered in the assessment of applications. Abstracts may be included separately at the end. Do not attach copies of publications.

13. **Aims and Significance of Project**
Use this space exclusively to describe the specific aims and potential significance of the project. Hypotheses to be tested or research questions should be clearly stated. Please do not use more than two pages.

(a) Background - briefly describe the significance of the project, the objectives of the research and/or clinical skills to be acquired, the background to the project including scientific aspects and relevant details on current support and staffing arrangements.

(b) Methods and techniques to be used - include, where appropriate, details of the experimental design and statistical methods to be used.

(c) Where applicable, include details of basic research strategy, study design, sample size and statistical power, sampling methods, main variables to be measured/examined, instruments of measurement/observation and their validity, methods of data collection and analysis of data. Where the project involves an intervention, describe the rationale for the intervention and how it will be evaluated. Please specify time line or major time allocations. Give details of planned dissemination of findings and/or clinical skills enhancement.

14. **Justification of Project in relation to the fellowship (Overseas)**
Please include your career aims, benefits to medical or dental research or clinical application and commitment to return to Medical Research in Western Australia.

15. **Justification of Project in relation to the fellowship (UWA-Based)**
Please include your career aims, benefits to the School, commitment to Medical or Dental Research in Western Australia and the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences.

**UWA SCHOOL SUBMISSION**
The Head of the host School is required to provide a statement in the space provided to describe the benefits to the School of the awarding of the Fellowship in terms of one of the aims indicated below.

- **Research Group Based Fellowship**
The aim is to enhance and extend the research strength of one or more research group(s) in the Faculty. The applicant will be required to bring new techniques or a specific knowledge base into the group and a case must be made for the need with respect to the future direction of the research group(s). The group(s) will already be well established and strongly supported by competitive funding.
School Seeding Fellowship
The aim of this award is to provide a seeding grant to fund a postdoctoral fellowship in a School seeking assistance to develop a strong research base. Awards will fund a specific research area that is not an area of strength but which the School wishes to build up for strategic purposes. Awards are targeted towards highly active, young researchers who have a commitment to stay in Perth, perhaps returning from overseas. Although applications are submitted by the researcher, an academic and strategic case must be made by the host School. Schools are able to submit only one application.

Ethics Approvals - USE OF ANIMALS/HUMANS/IONISING RADIATION/ETC.
Where applicants are intending to undertake research at The University of Western Australia, it is the applicant’s responsibility to obtain approvals from the relevant committees prior to the commencement of research. A copy of ethical approvals should be provided to the Faculty Office as soon as possible (prefer but must be provided before approved funds will be released by the University).

Further details may be obtained from the Animal and Human Ethics Offices:
Human Ethics: Telephone (08) 6488 3703
Animal Ethics: Telephone (08) 6488 3026
Facsimile: (08) 6488 8775

REFEREE REPORTS
Applicants must contact their nominated referees and arrange for their reports to be submitted direct to the Faculty Office. Referee reports MUST NOT be submitted by the applicant. Three reports are required, one from the prospective supervisor and two from referees who are able to comment on the applicant’s personal research contributions, research potential and national/international research standing. The names and addresses of these referees should be indicated in the section provided.

CERTIFICATION BY CHIEF INVESTIGATORS, HEAD OF SCHOOL AND HOST INSTITUTION
Where applicants are intending to undertake research at The University of Western Australia, it is the applicant’s responsibility to obtain ethics approvals from the relevant committees prior to the commencement of research. Applications will only be considered for support if the Head of School certifies that ethics approvals will be/have been obtained, the facilities available are appropriate to meet the needs of the project – for example adequately staffed and equipped laboratories/workshops, secretarial assistance, library resources, research/maintenance support including equipment maintenance, animal housing facilities etc. A copy of ethics approvals should be provided to the Faculty Office as soon as possible (preferably with the application, but must be provided before approved funds will be released by the University).

For those overseas projects requiring certification from the Host Institution the University accepts: Registrars of universities, Directors of independent institutes, and Managers/Secretaries or Medical Superintendents of hospitals.

Applications and referee reports should be forwarded by the due date to the:

Administrative Officer (Student Affairs), Fellowships and Scholarships, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, The University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009 Mailbag: M501
This report can be faxed or emailed to: Fax: (08) 6488 8045 Email: neil.bryan@uwa.edu.au

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
CRICOS Provider Number: 00126G