Frequently Asked Questions

2019 Health Services Research Stimulus Grant Round

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General FAQs

What is the closing date for applications?
5pm on Wednesday 27 March 2019. No submissions will be accepted after this deadline.

What is the internal submission deadline?
Please contact the Research Management Office of your Administering Institution for internal submission deadlines. The Children's Hospital Foundation will not accept applications submitted after 5pm on Wednesday 27 March 2018.

Can I apply for funding if I am not based in Queensland?
The Children’s Hospital Foundation Funding Agreement states that the recipient must conduct most of the Award Activity in Queensland and expend no less than 80 percent of the award in Queensland. The research conducted must directly benefit Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service as per the Children’s Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service Strategy.

What is the maternity/carer’s leave policy?
The Foundation will be guided by the policies of the NHMRC and host institution with relevant contractual variations needing to be applied to accommodate such policies.

Will I receive feedback if my application is unsuccessful?
Yes. Brief individual feedback can be provided to applicants on request. Please email contact@aushsi.org.au.

Who do I contact for further information?
In the first instance, please contact the Research Management Office of your NHMRC Administering Institution.
For further information please contact the Grants Management Office at grants@childrens.org.au.

Health Services Research FAQs

What is the total amount of funding available for award in the Health Services Research Grant Rounds?
The Children’s Hospital Foundation (the Foundation) has the following funding available in the current grant round:

General Health Services Research Stimulus Grant Round:
- $400,000 is available for allocation to grant recipients in this funding round. This amount is not available per applicant but for the entire applicant pool.
- Up to $100,000 of additional funding is available to the entire applicant pool to fund health services research support.

What is the maximum amount of funding I can apply for?
The maximum award for a primary applicant in this round is $80,000 for a one-year period. The proposed budget included in your application should not include capital works, infrastructure or indirect costs. Travel, telephone and computer costs cannot be funded unless justified to be directly related to the project.

The Foundation is also offering up to $20,000 per project to fund expert health services research support. Successful grant awardees will need to submit a health services research support budget to
the Foundation. The health services research support provider is expected to submit a tax invoice on a quarterly basis based on actual expenditure with sign-off from the grant awardee. Please note that the $20,000 available for health services research should not be used purely to outsource activities such as economic evaluation or statistical analysis (i.e. pay someone’s salary to perform these activities). The additional funding should be used to engage health services research experts to support, mentor, and collaborate on the research project to ensure academic rigour, provide advice, and build knowledge and skills.

A budget template is not available to submit with your application; please submit your own spreadsheet / document.

Can the stimulus project grant be used for the recovery of overheads/indirect costs?

No. The Foundation will not cover costs of research incurred by the Administering Institution and which cannot be directly attributed to individual research projects. Such costs include utilities; use of common library facilities; research management and accounting costs; cleaning and maintenance of buildings in which research is conducted; IT and computing services, systems, software and infrastructure; and any other cost incurred by an administering institution which indirectly supports research.

Can the stimulus project grant be used for salary purposes or project support only?

The expenditure of the stimulus project grant can be negotiated at the interview stage, although every effort must be made to clearly stipulate the intended expenditure in the budget section of the application. It is important for the Foundation to understand researchers’ funding needs. As such, both project support and people support (i.e. salary) will be considered.

What is the difference between the Health Services Research Grant Round and the previous clinical innovation grants?

The Foundation, in consultation with CHQHHS, has established a grant round for a specific subtype of clinical research, classified as Health Services Research, and previously referred to as Clinical Innovation. The Health Services Research program is aimed at improving the way health care is delivered to maximise value for patients by ensuring systems and processes are effective and efficient. Health Services Research is more focused on investigating the funding, organisation and delivery of health services and involves multidisciplinary perspectives with outcomes that are usually at the population level rather than at an individual level. For instance, a project aimed to improve the workflow around patient discharge from the hospital would most likely be categorised as health services research as long as patient outcomes metrics are being captured. The implementation of new technologies, equipment or devices can also be classified as Health Services Research.

The application form states that a Clinical Investigator and a Research Investigator must be listed on the application. Who can act in these roles?

The Clinical Investigator must be a healthcare professional based at a Queensland Hospital and Health Services (HHS) providing services to children, including but not limited to:

- Queensland Children’s Hospital
- Other Qld Hospitals and Paediatric/Children’s Facilities
  - Logan Hospital, Gold Coast University Hospital, Redland Hospital, Caboolture Hospital, Redcliffe Hospital, The Prince Charles Hospital, Ipswich General Hospital
- Child and Youth Community Health Services
- Child and Youth Mental Health Services
• Statewide Paediatric Outreach and Telehealth Services (Connected Care Program)

The Research Investigator must be an experienced researcher, preferably affiliated with a NHMRC-approved administering institution (although this is not mandatory). The Research Investigator can be based in a healthcare setting, although being based within an academic setting may be viewed upon favourably.

A single person cannot act as both the Clinical Investigator and the Research Investigator. Either the Clinical Investigator or the Research Investigator can be listed as the Primary Applicant on the grant application.

Can an applicant be listed as a Research Investigator or Clinical Investigator on multiple grant applications?

An investigator (either Research Investigator or Clinical Investigator) cannot be listed as a primary applicant on more than one application.

In both grant rounds, it is possible for either a Research Investigator or Clinical Investigator to be listed as the secondary applicant on multiple applications.

What is the role of the Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation (AusHSI) in these grant rounds?

AusHSI is a research, consultancy and training organisation. It partners to deliver innovation and improvement for better health services and helps make changes that result in greater efficiencies and enhanced patient outcomes. Made up of internationally leading health economists, statisticians, health service and implementation researchers, AusHSI combines leading edge knowledge with hands on, practical experience.

For this grant round, the Children’s Hospital Foundation has engaged AusHSI to deliver expert HSR advice during three (3) drop-in clinics and a grant writing workshop. Researchers are encouraged to contact AusHSI (contact@aushsi.org.au) for advice on whether their proposal can be classified as HSR. Applicants can nominate AusHSI or another health services research provider for ongoing mentoring and support as part of the award (see below).

What types of support services can I fund with the additional $20,000 offered to recipients?

Each funded Health Services Research project will be offered up to $20,000 on top of the $80,000 grant on the condition that it is specifically used to fund expert health services research support to ensure the academic rigour of their research. This can include guidance and assistance around project design, research governance and ethics approvals, methodology, analysis, and write-up (journal articles). Other support services that applicants may seek include:

- Health Economics
- Implementation Science
- Statistics
- Epidemiology
- Psychology
- Behavioural Economics
- Decision Making
Where do I enter references?
Please attach a reference list in the section of the application after the full grant proposal.

Who do I need to seek approval from before submitting my application?
You will need to attach a Letter of Support from the Research Management Office of the Administering Institution for both the primary and secondary applicant (i.e. the Clinical Investigator and the Research Investigator). For CHQHHS staff, the Letter of Support must be signed by the CHQ Research Director. For health professionals from other Queensland HHSs serving children, the Letter of Support must be signed by the local HHS Director and acknowledged by the CHQ Research Director.

When will I be told if I have been shortlisted for an interview?
The internal shortlisting meeting will be held on 8 May 2019 (applicants are not required to attend the internal shortlisting meeting). You will be informed if you will be required for an interview shortly thereafter.

What happens if I am not available for the interview?
Applicants who are successful in obtaining an interview are expected to attend the interview on 22 May 2019 for their application to be progressed. Consideration will be given to the use of technology as an alternative to attending an interview in person.