

GUIDELINES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE NHMRC EQUIPMENT GRANTS SCHEME 2018



CLOSING DATE: 5PM THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2019

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered

The NHMRC has awarded \$156,403.76 to the University of Newcastle for equipment grants in 2018. Up to three applications will be supported for the total or partial cost of an item of equipment.

Applications may request between \$20,000 – \$70,000 (excl. GST) for strategic items of equipment that can be used to support and enhance the work of researchers funded by the NHMRC. If the item is valued at more than \$70,000 the application will still be considered but only up to \$70,000 and must be supported by confirmation of additional funds obtained from the Centre, School or Faculty, or from an external source.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The NHMRC emphasises the need for Institutions to be strategic in the purchase of larger items of equipment that will benefit health and medical research in Australia. Please note that this is a competitive process, with applications assessed against the following selection criteria:

- The equipment should support high quality health and medical research, already funded by NHMRC or other competitive grant funding.
- Details of availability of related or alternative equipment at the University of Newcastle, Hunter Medical Research Institute, Hunter New England Local Health District and/or the region, and why new equipment is required.
- Collaborative gain and increase in critical mass to be achieved through the use of the equipment e.g. multi-user equipment which crosses disciplines, research groups and departments.
- Australian-made equipment should be selected where possible

SELECTION COMMITTEE AND INDICATIVE TIME-LINE

Applications will be considered by the Assistant Deans (Research) and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) or nominee. The committee will review the applications against the selection criteria and consider whether the equipment addresses the University's strategic direction.

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| Applications open | 12 December 2018 |
| Applications close | 21 February 2019 |
| Outcomes announced | March 2019 |

ELIGIBILITY

- The Chief Investigator A (**CIA**) must be a member of academic staff of the University of Newcastle or have been formally appointed as conjoint according to established processes prior to the closing date. Emeritus and Honorary Appointees are not eligible to apply for funding.
- Maximum of **six** Chief Investigators (CI) per application. Written evidence (e.g. an email agreeing to be a named CI or signature on the application form) is required for **all CIs** listed on the application.
- **Investigators (lead or other) can be only named on one application.**

- Applications for equipment that would be expected to be part of basic research infrastructure (eg freezers) will not be accepted.
- **NHMRC Specific** - The **CIA** must have held a grant from the NHMRC or any other competitive grants process during 2018 (or grant commencing 2019).

NOTE: if the above criteria are not satisfied, the entire application may be ruled ineligible.

Applicants are encouraged to consult widely prior to submission to ensure that multiple applications for the same item(s) of equipment are not submitted

SUBMISSION PROCESS

- Applications must be made using the UON NHMRC Equipment Grant Scheme application template provided.
- **One electronic copy** of the full application including quotes, written evidence and confirmation of additional funding, if applicable, as a **single pdf** file, should be sent to research-grants@newcastle.edu.au By no later than 5pm Thursday 21 February 2019.
- The subject line of the email should be "NHMRC Equipment Grant Application – CIA Name" e.g. NHMRC Equipment Grant Application – Smith.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- Equipment purchased with grant funds will be owned by the University, even where the funding provided does not cover the full value of the equipment purchased, and must be listed on the University's Asset Register; however affiliated institutions may have unfettered use of such equipment.
- University purchasing policy must be strictly adhered to – details of University Procurement Policy and Procurement and Purchasing Guidelines are available from the Policy Register on the University website.
- Grant must be fully spent by **1 November 2019**.
- All necessary ethics clearances and other approvals must be in place before commencing research projects using the relevant equipment.