**Application for Larapinta Trail Challenge 2017**

**Indigenous Community Health Research Grants**

Research Services in collaboration with the Office of Alumni & Philanthropy seeks research proposals from University of Newcastle researchers.

**CLOSING DATE: 10am Friday 3 November 2017**

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# **Application Guidelines**

**UON’s Larapinta Trail Challenge funding for research projects into key health issues that affect Indigenous Australian communities.**

# **Key dates**

Applications open Monday 9 October 2017

Applications close 10am Friday 3 November 2017

Assessment panel decision Week of 20 November 2017

# **How to apply**

* Submit one electronic copy (PDF format) of the Application Form plus any supporting documentation via email to research-applications@newcastle.edu.au by 10am Friday 3 November 2017.
* Please include the words ‘Larapinta Trail Challenge Research Grant Application' and the surname of the lead Chief Investigator in the email subject line.
* Prior to submission to the Research Office, the application must be signed by your Head of School and Assistant Dean (Research).

Completed applications must be submitted to research-applications@newcastle.edu.au by the deadline. **Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

# **Background**

UON’s [Larapinta Trail Challenge](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/community-and-alumni/give-to-uon/larapinta-trail-challenge/) was held 15-19 August 2017. This involved 27 volunteers from UON’s alumni, staff, students and community trekking 65kms along the Larapinta Trail in Central Australia and raising funds from their family, friends, colleagues and networks. The group has raised $150,000 from more than 1,000 individual donors and sponsors across Australia and internationally.

The Challenge supports equity for Indigenous Australians’ education and health through scholarships and research. UON’s Office of Alumni & Philanthropy worked with the Wollotuka Institute to identify where the funds raised will be directed to have the most impact:

1. **Scholarships** for Indigenous Australian UON students facing hardship:
	1. Scholarships for undergraduate students, with preference given to those who gained entry through the Yapug pathway program, and
	2. Top-up scholarships for PhD students undertaking research at UON.
2. **Research** into Indigenous Australian community health issues:
	1. Grants for UON research projects into one or more key health issues that affect Indigenous Australian communities.

This application relates to 2 (a) above.

# **Strategic alignment**

Successful projects will align to:

1. the *Healthy Lives* (Chapter 6, pp 80-93) and/or *Child Mortality* (Chapter 2, pp 23-26) priorities identified in the [2017 Prime Minister’s Closing the Gap report](http://closingthegap.pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/ctg-report-2017.pdf), and
2. the University’s strategic priorities within the [NeW Futures Strategic Plan 2016-2025](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/225680/2015-1050-NeW-Futures-A4Program_06_Print_WEB.pdf).

# **Selection panel**

Priority will be given to cross-faculty, inter-disciplinary projects, as well as early- and/or mid-career researchers\*, and the potential to use the grant to leverage future NHMRC funding. Successful projects may be existing UON projects looking for new support, or new UON projects.

Applications will be evaluated by an Assessment Panel chaired by Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Education and Research) Professor Steve Larkin, comprising:

* The Faculty Assistant Deans (Research)
* A senior leader from the Wollotuka Institute
* A community representative (who also participated in the Larapinta Trail Challenge), and
* Executive Director, Better Health, Healthcare and Treatment Global Impact Cluster.

The Assessment Panel’s decision is final, and feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

# **Selection criteria**

The successful project will improve the health and wellbeing of Indigenous Australians by addressing one or more of the following:

* Trialing new and improved ways of tackling entrenched health problems
* Supporting vulnerable and at-risk populations to improve their physical, mental and social wellbeing
* Facilitating access to reliable, current and targeted health information and education
* Building capacity to cope with health challenges through improved resilience, social connectedness, mentoring and peer support.

Each application will be assessed on how well it addresses the issues of Indigenous Australians’ community health. The selection criteria are:

1. Potential to make a measureable improvement on health outcomes, wellbeing and lives of Indigenous communities within Australia **(40%)**
2. Alignment to the priorities identified in the *Healthy Lives* (Chapter 6, pp 80-93) or *Child Mortality* (Chapter 2, pp 23-26) priorities identified in the [2017 Prime Minister’s Closing the Gap report](http://closingthegap.pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/ctg-report-2017.pdf) and the University’s strategic priorities within the [NeW Futures Strategic Plan 2016-2025](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/225680/2015-1050-NeW-Futures-A4Program_06_Print_WEB.pdf) **(25%)**
3. Addresses an identified Indigenous Australian community need that is not currently satisfactorily addressed in a practical, new and engaging way and/or based on consultation/input from that community (**20%)**
4. Demonstrates cross-faculty and/or inter-disciplinary engagement; led by early- and/or mid-career researchers\*; articulates a clear project concept with time-limited, quantified targets; demonstrates capacity and capability to manage the project; and presents a considered and clear budget that represents value for money **(10%)**
5. Demonstrates how the improvements gained during the funding period will be sustained and/or an ability to generate research growth within the University and/or ability to leverage future external funding **(5%)**

***\*Definition for early- and mid-career researchers is within 5 and 5-10 years post-PhD, respectively.***

# **Pre-requisite conditions**

* The lead applicant listed on the application must be employed by UON in, or have accepted appointment to, an Academic Level A position or higher. The position must be one of the following:
1. Full-time ongoing appointment
2. Full-time fixed-term appointment for a period of at least two years from the application closing date, i.e. 3 November 2017
3. Part-time appointment of at least 0.5FTE on a continuing basis for at least two years from the application closing date, i.e. 3 November 2017.
* Chief Investigators on a fixed-term appointment/contract must be able to complete the project (including publishing any results) before the appointment ends. If the current appointment will end during the granting period, written evidence of a continuing appointment must be attached to the application (i.e. from your Head of School).
* HDR students are not eligible to apply.
* Career disruptions that affect track record may be addressed on the application form.
* All Chief Investigators, whether first named or subsequent, cannot have outstanding reports for UON research grants. If any CI has an outstanding report on the closing date the application will be ruled ineligible and will be excluded from consideration.
* A UON grant coversheet is not required for these internal applications.

# **Funding range and duration**

Proposals may request up to $30,000 to be spent and reconciled by **1 December 2018**. A total of $60,000 funding is available to support project(s) into key health issues that affect Indigenous Australian communities.

Budget items not supported:

* Ongoing subscriptions to journals or other materials
* Publication charges or similar support for outcomes
* Purchase of computers, including laptops for researchers
* Ongoing running and maintenance costs of equipment.

# **Conditions of funding**

Successful applicants will be asked to submit a Grant Establishment Form (GEF) which includes the need for ethics and safety clearances (if required) to be obtained prior to the release of funding.

Periodic written reporting on project progress is mandatory so updates can be communicated to donors and UON senior leaders. It is expected that this will be six monthly. Final reports are required within three months after the funds have been spent. Report templates will be provided to successful applicants.

# **Questions**

All information can be found on our website. Should you have further questions please contact:

Kate Beentjes on 4921 7733 or research-applications@newcastle.edu.au

# **Application Form**

**UON’s Larapinta Trail Challenge funding for research projects into key health issues that affect Indigenous Australian communities.**

# **Lead Chief Investigator (CIA) details**

Lead Chief Investigator (CIA) will be considered the contact point for the Larapinta Trail Challenge Indigenous Community Health Research grant and is understood to be acting for and in concurrence with all Chief Investigators.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title, first name, surname |  |
| School, Faculty |  |
| Level of current appointment (e.g. level A) |  |
| Commencement date of current appointment |  |
| End date of current appointment |  |
| If fractional indicate percentage |  |
| Employed on a research grant (y/n) |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Work address |  |
| Email |  |
| Gender |  |
| Highest academic qualification |  |
| Year of award |  |
| Please outline any career disruption you wish the panel to consider especially in terms of ECR/MCR status |  |

# **Additional Chief Investigator (CI) details**

Please complete for each person listed on the project. Copy and paste additional boxes for each CI as needed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title, first name, surname |  |
| School, Faculty |  |
| Level of current appointment (e.g. level A) |  |
| Commencement date of current appointment |  |
| End date of current appointment |  |
| If fractional indicate percentage |  |
| Employed on a research grant (y/n) |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Work address |  |
| Email |  |
| Gender |  |
| Highest academic qualification |  |
| Year of award |  |

# **Project details**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Q1 | Title of project  |  |
| Q2 | What is the health-related situation, issue or problem affecting Indigenous Australian communities that this project is trying to address? (max. 150 words in lay terms) *Ref: selection criteria 1, 3* |  |
| Q3 | How will your project address this situation, issue or problem? (max. 150 words in lay terms) *Ref: selection criteria 1, 3* |  |
| Q4 | Is this a new or existing project? Please note, preference will be given to new projects rather than projects that are part of a programme of research already funded. |  |
| Q5 | Actual or expected project commencement date  |  |
| Q6 | Expected project duration |  |
| Q7 | Total cost of project A$ (inclusive of GST)  |  |
| Q8 | Total funding sought A$ (inclusive of GST)Note: up to $30,000 |  |
| Q9 | Provide a full, itemised budget outlining how you would spend the funding in terms of: personnel, equipment, maintenance, travel and other areas. Please note, funding from this internal scheme cannot be transferred to other research institutions. *Ref: selection criteria 4* |  |
| Q11 | Which one (or more) of the following will this project address? (✓) *Ref: selection criteria*  |  | Trialling new and improved ways of tackling entrenched health problems |
|  | Supporting vulnerable and at-risk individuals to improve their physical, mental and social wellbeing |
|  | Facilitating access to reliable, current and targeted health information and education |
|  | Building capacity to cope with health challenges through improved resilience, social connectedness, mentoring and peer support |
| Q11 | Description of the project, including measureable objectives, methods, research plan, timetable and specific activities to address the health-related situation, issue or problem in Q2 above (max. 300 words) *Ref: selection criteria 1, 4* |  |
| Q12 | How does your project make a measureable improvement on health outcomes, wellbeing and lives of Indigenous communities within Australia? (max. 250 words in lay terms)*Ref: selection criteria 1* |  |
| Q13 | How does this project align to the priorities identified in the *Healthy Lives* (Chapter 6, pp 80-93) and/or *Child Mortality* (Chapter 2, pp 23-26) priorities identified in the [2017 Prime Minister’s Closing the Gap report](http://closingthegap.pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/ctg-report-2017.pdf) and the University’s strategic priorities within the [NeW Futures Strategic Plan 2016-2025](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/225680/2015-1050-NeW-Futures-A4Program_06_Print_WEB.pdf)? (max. 150 words)*Ref: selection criteria 2* |  |
| Q14 | Who will benefit from your project? Include approximate numbers. (max. 100 words)*Ref: selection criteria 1, 3* |  |
| Q15 | What are the main outcomes you expect to achieve? (max. 200 words in lay terms)*Ref: selection criteria 1, 2, 3* |  |
| Q16 | How will you evaluate the program against its stated objectives and expected outcomes? (max. 200 words in lay terms)*Ref: selection criteria 1, 4* |  |
| Q17 | How will you ensure this program remains sustainable after the initial funding period? (max. 100 words)*Ref: selection criteria 5* |  |
| Q18 | Any other information to support your application (max. 200 words) |  |

# **Certification and endorsement**

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**CERTIFICATION: TO BE SIGNED BY LEAD CHIEF INVESTIGATOR (CIA)**

I certify that all the details in this application are correct.

I understand that research within the University must be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines for Responsible Practice in Research and specifically that clearance for research involving humans, animals and/or safety implications must be obtained before the research commences.

I declare that all persons listed as Chief Investigators have agreed to take part in the proposed research.

By submitting the application, I confirm agreement to mandatory, periodic written reporting on project progress so updates can be communicated to donors and UON senior leaders.

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Signature Date

**CERTIFICATION: TO BE SIGNED BY HEAD OF SCHOOL**

I certify that the project can be accommodated within the general facilities in my School and that sufficient working and office space is available for any proposed additional staff. I am prepared to have the project carried out in my School under the circumstances set out by the applicant.

I have noted the amount of time which the investigator will be devoting to the project and confirm that it is appropriate to existing workloads.

I have noted my School will be responsible for funding ongoing maintenance costs for this piece of equipment (if applicable).

Note: A confidential statement may be forwarded to the Assessment Panel if advisable.

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Signature Date Print Name

**ENDORSEMENT: TO BE SIGNED BY ASSISTANT DEAN (RESEARCH)**

I have reviewed and endorsed this application for submission to the Assessment Panel in my capacity as the Faculty Assistant Dean (Research).

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Signature Date Print Name