# UON 2017 Researcher Equipment Grants Scheme FAQs

## Are applications restricted to a minimum cost per equipment item?

Yes, applications have a minimum cost per item of $5,000

## Can software be considered equipment under these grants?

In the nature of being innovative, software may be able to assist in conducting research and the CI would need to argue whether the purchase is a strategic investment.

## Can we apply for this grant to support service or maintenance contracts?

No. This grant round is for new equipment only. Previous business cases for purchasing equipment should have included how the piece of equipment will be maintained and supported in future.

## Can PhD students apply for grant funding?

This round is for staff only as a strategic investment for UON.

## Can equipment be purchased to aid teaching objectives e.g. Equipment to assist with virtual reality simulations for teaching?

As per #2 in the spirit of being innovative, virtual reality software may be able to assist in conducting research and the CI would need to argue whether the purchase is a strategic investment. As this Equipment round is for the purpose of supporting high quality research, the application would have to state that the equipment purchase is for research purposes rather than teaching (though the equipment could be used as a teaching tool as a secondary benefit).

1. Can staff from UON Singapore apply?

Yes. This equipment grants round is open to all researchers across UON.

## Can faculties put in an application on behalf of their faculty?

Yes. As long as the Chief Investigator has not put in another application and the application can demonstrate the funding will go towards a strategic infrastructure purpose, if it will replace current infrastructure and/or whether the equipment provides collaborative support to the research group.

## What if I can only get one quote?

If your equipment purchase is between $5,000 and $49,999 you will need two quotes. However, if due to the specific nature of your research, there is only one suitable supplier for your piece of equipment, it is possible to request an ‘Exemption Application’ through RFS. You can access this option when you select ‘Create Request for Quotation (RFQ)’ (see pic below). Please note, the EA needs to be processed prior to the equipment being purchased, as backdated exemptions are not approved after the purchase has occurred.

