



The Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Research Scholarship in the Allied Health Sciences

Prospectus and Conditions of Award

CLOSING DATE: 30 JUNE 2016

1.0 General

The Sir Robert Menzies Memorial Foundation offers one scholarship each year for full-time postgraduate research in one of the allied health sciences. The award is tenable for up to two years at an Australian tertiary institution with facilities for postgraduate clinical or clinically focused research. Graduates in evidence-based allied health disciplines are encouraged to apply. Projects involving animal testing and/or projects exclusively in laboratory science will not be supported.

2.0 Tenure

2.1 The scholarship is open to students in a research only PhD program or equivalent level 10 qualification (as per the Australian Qualifications Framework) which is likely to be completed during the two year tenure of the scholarship. The applicant will usually have completed the first stage of the PhD project. This will be recognised as completion of the first study and/or collection of a significant amount of data at the time of application.

2.2 A successful applicant will be expected to take up the scholarship in January 2017.

3.0 Purpose

3.1 The purpose of the scholarship is to try to improve the health of Australians by supporting an outstanding applicant from one of the non-medical allied health disciplines, or from an applicant who is working directly in applied clinical research.

4.0 The Award

4.1 The scholarship provides emoluments to contribute toward the cost of living, books and charges. The level of remuneration will be \$40,000 per annum, free of income tax. Payments will normally be made to the host institution each quarter.

4.2 The award is tenable for up to two years for the period stated in the letter of award, subject to the scholar's satisfactory progress. Each six months, the scholar's institutional supervisor will be expected to submit to the Foundation a written report on the scholar's progress.

4.3 It is anticipated that scholarship recipients will engage in alumni activities and, if or when able, make a voluntary contribution back to the scholarship program.

5.0 Selection

5.1 The scholarship will be awarded on merit to the person who best meets the qualifications and qualities set out in this prospectus. The selection committee will meet in Melbourne to interview short-listed applicants in mid-August.

6.0 Selection Criteria and Qualifications for an Award

6.1 The primary criterion is that of academic excellence, assessed on the candidate's tertiary performance and publication record. Applicants should list the papers they have authored and which have been published (or accepted for publication) in refereed journals. This should not include abstracts or papers in preparation.

6.1.1 The Menzies Foundation recognises the following allied health disciplines: audiology, dietetics, exercise physiology, nutrition, occupational therapy, optometry, orthoptics, physiotherapy, podiatry, psychology, social work, and speech pathology.

6.1.2 Applicants must have obtained first class honours, or equivalent, in prior study.

6.2 The selection committee will give preference to persons with leadership qualities who are likely to make a contribution to the further development of the allied health sciences in Australia.

6.3 Applicants must be enrolled as full-time students at commencement of the scholarship period. The applicant should spend no more than 8 hours per week in paid employment during business hours. Exceptions can be made for clinicians where the clinical practice is providing the subjects for the research project.

6.4 Applicants must provide a specific research proposal, developed in consultation with the postgraduate supervisor at the institution where the award is tenable.

6.5 Applicants must have a project outline and ethics approval or be in the final iterations of receiving ethics approval from their institution(s) at the time of application. Ethics committee approval of the research project is necessary before an award can be made.

6.6 At the time of application, applicants must be Australian citizens or have permanent residency as defined in the 2007 Australian Citizenship Act.

6.7 The Menzies Foundation scholarship cannot be held concurrently with another scholarship or award similar in value or purpose. A recipient will be required to relinquish other scholarships held at commencement of the Menzies scholarship. However, with prior approval from the Foundation, a recipient may receive supplementary funding from other sources, such as grants and bursaries, to support activities that are essential to the successful completion of the research project.

7.0 Termination of the Scholarship

7.1 The Foundation may terminate a scholarship if:

- (a) the research is not being carried out with competence and diligence; or if satisfactory progress is not being made; or if reporting on the project is unsatisfactory;
- (b) the applicant ceases to be engaged on the project, or is absent from the project for more than one month without prior approval and/or without the knowledge and approval of the Menzies Foundation;
- (c) the project, in the opinion of the Menzies Foundation, ceases to pursue the approved objectives.

7.2 Upon early completion or termination, monies already paid to the host institution and not duly expended or committed shall be returned.

8.0 Application

8.1 The online application form will be available from **1 May 2016** at <https://applications.menziesfoundation.org.au>

8.2 Original or legally certified copies of documents such as academic transcripts or residency status documentation must be immediately available to the Menzies Foundation on request and will be required at interview.

8.3 For queries about the guidelines or questions in the form, please contact the Menzies Foundation at menzies@menziesfoundation.org.au.