



Aboriginal Health Research

2025 Aboriginal Health Research Scholarship

Guidelines

What are the Aboriginal Health Research Scholarships?

Our Aboriginal Health Research Scholarships are designed to increase the number of experienced and trained Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners and researchers working in health promotion in Western Australia (WA).

We will support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates in obtaining postgraduate formal academic training through an approved tertiary institution. This includes:

1. Graduate Certificates/ Postgraduate Diplomas/ Honours

Funding will be available for a maximum of one (1) year for courses relevant to Aboriginal health.

2. Master's Scholarship

Funding will be available for a maximum of two (2) years for completion of a master's research project related to Aboriginal health.

3. Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Funding will be available for a maximum of three (3) years for completion of a PhD research project related to Aboriginal health.

Before applying



1. Please contact us before developing your request on 133 777 or email research@healthway.wa.gov.au.



2. Review the Terms and Conditions on page 6 and 7 of these guidelines.



3. Read our [Strategic Plan 2024-2029: Creating a healthier Western Australia together](#). Your request must address one of our priority health areas.



4. Review our [Health Promotion Research Scholarships FAQs](#) to familiarise yourself with the assessment process, assessment criteria, funding conditions and employment details.



5. Master's and PhD students are encouraged to review our [Knowledge Translation Guide](#) to ensure the research component will have a clear plan for knowledge translation.

Request process

- ✓ Candidates must first complete an Aboriginal Health Scholarships Funding Request Form (word template) available on our website.
- ✓ Your research or scholarships grants office (at your administering institution) must submit your request via the **Lotterywest Healthway Grants Portal** (portal) on your behalf by the closing date.
- ✓ Requests submitted by the candidate or emailed directly to us will not be accepted.

Timeline

Key steps	Key dates
Funding request form submitted by the research/ scholarships grants office via the portal	5pm (AWST), Friday 13 June 2025
Candidate interviews (if required)	July/August 2025
Announcement of successful candidates	October 2025*

** Please note that these dates are an estimate and subject to change*

Salary and financial details

Candidates can apply for either a student or professional stipend, plus annual allowances.

Category	Salary
Student Stipend*	\$45,000 per annum
Professional Stipend*	\$65,000 per annum (maximum)

**These figures are non-taxable for full-time scholarships.*

Professional Stipend

Candidates who can demonstrate that they have been in full-time paid employment for a minimum of 12 months immediately prior to submitting their request will be eligible for a professional stipend of up to a maximum of \$65,000 per year for up to three years.

Please note that \$65,000 is the maximum annual amount and the exact level of the professional stipend offered by Heathway will be determined from the candidate's most recent salary level, after allowing for tax deductions.

Goods and Services Tax

The stipend levels and allowances are exclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST). We will pay the supported organisation the GST liability if the organisation is registered for GST purposes with an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Allowances

Up to \$15,000 per annum will be allocated to the institution for the scholarship. See what's covered below:

What's covered	Maximum request amount
Project costs	You can request up to \$8,500 per year for equipment and consumable materials needed to complete your research. Your request must include a detailed budget breakdown of these costs for each year of the scholarship. Purchasing of computers and large equipment generally will not be funded.
Travel for conferences/courses	<p>You can use up to \$3,000 per year to attend a conference, course or meeting that is relevant to your area of research, provided it has been approved in writing by your supervisor.</p> <p>This allowance covers attendance in Australia and overseas. International conferences are limited to one overseas trip throughout the duration of your scholarship. The funding can be used to contribute to one economy return airfare per year, accommodation and/or conference registration fees. The funding cannot be used to purchase food.</p> <p>You cannot request more than \$3,000 in any one year for travel related to conferences or courses.</p>
University fees	Full-time students can request up to \$1,500 per year for annual university and guild fees.
Textbooks	Up to \$500 per year can be allocated to the cost of textbooks.
Thesis	A funding contribution of up to \$800 is available for a master's degree and \$1,500 for PhD degrees to assist with thesis preparation (including printing) for examination.
TOTAL:	The annual overall total must not exceed \$15,000

Terms and conditions

To be considered eligible for an Aboriginal health scholarship:

- Candidates must be of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and reside in WA for the duration of the scholarship.
- Candidates must be planning to enrol in a postgraduate degree at a WA tertiary institution, focusing their studies on an area/s relevant to Aboriginal health.
- The research component must be aligned to at least one of our priority health areas listed on pages 10 and 11 of our [strategic plan](#).

Master's and PhD candidates must also ensure that the research component of their training addresses the below requirements:

- The proposed institution must be able to provide a supervisor with qualifications and experience in Aboriginal health.
- The research must be relevant to Aboriginal health and have a prevention and health promotion focus.
- Proposals must demonstrate that the local Aboriginal community has been consulted to confirm community need. Where relevant, the local Aboriginal community must be engaged to support the development, implementation and translation of the research project.
- A knowledge translation plan must be provided which describes how the research will be translated to inform policy or practice. This must extend beyond dissemination of results.
- A culturally secure research design and methodology must be demonstrated.
- Where relevant, the proposed research must align with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Ethical Conduct in Research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Communities: Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders 2018.

To facilitate the collaborative research process candidates are also required to:

- Engage with end-user partners to develop the proposal and undertake the project. It is recommended that candidates work with partner agencies to identify knowledge gaps and shape the research questions and the study design, where appropriate.
- Arrange to spend an agreed amount of time within a partner agency during the scholarship training to facilitate the consultation and collaboration process. The residency must be confirmed and agreed to by both parties upon submission of the request.

What we won't fund:

- Candidates receiving another scholarship or salary towards a research project.
- Candidates, research groups, institutions receiving any support either directly or indirectly from the following funding bodies associated with the following harmful industries are not eligible to apply:
 - tobacco, e-cigarette or other novel tobacco product companies or their related foundations
 - commercial gambling
 - unhealthy food and drink
 - alcohol.
- Research proposals limited to adapting or extending existing programs will not be prioritised.
- Scholarships will not be awarded to candidates undertaking study or the investigation of treatment for existing diseases, or for clinical or laboratory studies.
- Research projects that build on existing Healthway-funded initiatives and fail to demonstrate a need through provision of preliminary findings, will not be prioritised.



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