



Healthy Research Program

# 2023 Targeted Research Round – Exploratory grants

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**Guidelines**

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

Healthway, the Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation, operates under the *Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation Act 2016* and funds activities relating to the promotion of good health. This includes funding for health promotion research projects that are applied in the real-world and directly linked to health promotion policy and practice in Western Australia (WA).

Each year we offer one Open Research Round and one Targeted Research Round for both the Exploratory and Intervention grant categories. The 2023 Targeted Research Round – Exploratory grant category is now open. The Intervention grant category will not be offered in this funding round.

## 1. About the guidelines

These guidelines provide an outline of the 2023 Targeted Research Round, including key dates, eligibility, requirements and the application and assessment process.

### Before applying:

1. Ensure that all of the eligibility criteria for funding can be met.
2. Consider the key dates for submission as outlined in Section 5.
3. Read the requirements for grant funding including the application and assessment process.

**It is strongly recommended that you contact us to discuss your proposal before submitting your application on 133 777 or email [research@healthway.wa.gov.au](mailto:research@healthway.wa.gov.au).**

## 2. The 2023 Targeted Research Round

The 2023 Targeted Research Round provides funding to eligible organisations for exploratory or formative studies that will address gaps in research and evidence to inform effective health promotion messaging for children and young people within the age ranges of 12 to 24 years. Funding will be prioritised to projects that address **vaping** or **healthy eating** however, projects which align to one or more of the following priorities will also be considered:

- Physical activity (including reducing sedentary behaviour)
- Mental health
- Alcohol-related harm
- Illicit drug use
- Gambling
- Solvent use
- Sexual health
- Sun safety.

Research must demonstrate potential and intent to impact policy, programs, and/or practice in WA, and improve health outcomes for children and young people.

Up to \$75,000 (excluding GST) in funding is available for up to 18 months for salary, project, and support costs. Additional funding of up to \$25,000 to support additional message testing and knowledge translation strategies may also be requested.

## 3. Children and Young People

We are seeking applications that will:

- Explore and provide evidence to strengthen current health campaigns and contemporary health communication strategies, and/or
- Support the design of new and innovative messaging strategies to address current, emerging, and rapidly evolving areas in public health.

Applicants are required to:

- Explore effective communication and healthy persuasion messaging strategies to promote positive health and wellbeing in children and young people (within the age ranges of 12 and 24 years), and their families, addressing one of the priorities identified above.
- Consider the unintended or adverse consequences of health messaging to children and young people (for example, the potential for adolescents to be at increased risk of developing body image issues and disordered eating through the promotion of healthy eating messages).
- Partner with community, health promotion, public health, marketing, and/or other relevant end-user agencies to apply the outcomes and findings to policy and practice in WA.

Researchers are strongly encouraged to engage with experts from other disciplines (such as marketing, communications, media, and public and health policy) in developing proposals and establishing multi-disciplinary teams.

## 4. Application and assessment process

Application for funding is a two-stage process:

### Stage 1: EoI process

- Applicant to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI). We will assess your application in consultation with relevant research experts and external agencies at our discretion.
- EoIs that adequately address the requirements outlined in section 7 will be invited to submit a full application (Stage 2).
- Formal correspondence will be sent to the administering institution and a Stage 2 application form will be provided. We will provide high level feedback and guidance on any areas that may need to be addressed in the full application.
- EoIs must be submitted through the applying institution's Research Grants Office via email to: [healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au](mailto:healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au). Applications submitted directly from researchers will not be accepted.

### Stage 2: Full application process

- All full applications will be assessed by experts from outside WA. External agencies, additional experts and project partners may also be consulted at our discretion. We may also conduct further shortlisting of applications following the external review process.
- Healthway's Research Assessment Committee will assess the shortlisted applications and participate in a panel discussion to identify fundable projects.
- Applications will be scored against the following criteria, with emphasis on points 1-4:

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

1. Development and/or contribution of the research to best practice health promotion messaging for children and young people.
2. The quality of the translation plan to demonstrate intent and capacity for the research to inform current policy and/or practice in WA.
3. How relevant and appropriate are the end-user partnerships and the collaboration and engagement strategies.
4. Strength and rigour of the rationale and methodology (including literature review, research design, sample selection, methodology and cultural appropriateness, if appropriate).
5. Track record, multi-disciplinary composition (where appropriate) and capability of the research team. Performance and outputs from previously funded Healthway research projects will be taken into consideration, including the quality of reports provided.
6. The relevance of the budget, and overall value for money regarding the contribution of this research to health promotion in WA.

During the scoring process, loadings will be applied to applications that address vaping or healthy eating.

## Board and Ministerial approval

The Healthway Board makes all funding decisions and reserves the right to contact any person or organisation when seeking information on which to base its decisions. The decisions made by the Board will be referred to the Minister for Health; Mental Health for approval.

## 5. Key dates

| Key steps                             | Key dates                           |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Eols due                              | 5pm (AWST), Tuesday 31 January 2023 |
| Successful Eols for Stage 2 announced | Friday 3 February 2023              |
| Stage 2 (full applications) due       | Friday 17 March 2023                |
| Successful grant applicants announced | June 2023                           |

*\*Please note that this date is an estimate, pending Board decisions and Minister for Health; Mental Health approval.*

## 6. Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding:

### Western Australian based research

- At least one Chief Investigator must be based and reside in WA for the duration of the grant.
- The first named Chief Investigator and the administering organisation may be based outside of WA (but within Australia) as long as the central focus of the research is on WA.
- The majority of grant monies should be spent in WA.

### Aboriginal health research

- At least one Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person must be named as a Chief Investigator.
- 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*.
- Aboriginal community members must be engaged in research development, implementation, and translation.

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

- A culturally secure research design and methodology must be demonstrated.

## **Other criteria**

- Incorporated organisations based within Australia (includes not for profit, companies, and statutory bodies) are eligible to apply for funding.
- Applying organisations must have access to an Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) to ensure that any project which includes research involving humans is reviewed and approved by the IEC and complies with the relevant National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Ethics Program.
- Research groups/organisations or individuals who are receiving support either directly or indirectly from funding bodies associated with the following harmful or unhealthy industries are not eligible for funding:
  - tobacco companies or their related foundations
  - gambling
  - unhealthy food and drink
  - alcohol industries.
- Research involving externally funded campaigns or programs must demonstrate that permissions have been provided from the program or campaign funder regarding trademarked properties.

## **7. Requirements**

To be considered for funding, an EoI must demonstrate and/or provide:

- Direct relevance of the project to health promotion messaging for children and young people.
- An ability for the research to contribute to new evidence that will inform health promotion practice and/or policy in WA.
- The proposed project addresses a current gap in health promotion research.
- A clear pathway to a health promotion program or policy.
- How the proposed research will improve community health outcomes in WA.
- An outline of a knowledge translation plan which describes how the research will inform policy or practice for practical implementation.
- Established partnerships with end-user organisations that will support the research and assist with the translation of findings into policy or practice.
- The research team has the relevant expertise and is multidisciplinary.

The following will not be considered for funding:

- Similar research that is being funded elsewhere.
- Clinical or laboratory studies, or trials of treatments and therapies for existing conditions or diseases.
- Studies that primarily focus on evaluating existing services or policies. These studies may be considered if it can be demonstrated that the health promotion outcomes can be applied broadly and will influence the practices of partner agencies outside of the study.
- Research that builds on existing Healthway funded research projects, which does not sufficiently demonstrate the need for additional research through the provision of preliminary findings will not be prioritised.

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

## Reporting

Successful applicants (following Stage 2) will be required to submit the following at the conclusion of the project:

- Project report that details the project outcomes.  
Financial report that outlines the expenditure of funds in line with the approved budget and must be certified by an authorised finance officer at the administering institution.
- A one or two page “Community Stakeholder Brief” which includes an outline of the research, its outcomes relating to policy and/or practice, and next steps is to be provided to all participating stakeholder and community groups (including Aboriginal communities where relevant). A copy of this must be submitted to Healthway for publishing on its website.

## 8. Completing an Eol

Download and complete the 2023 Targeted Research Round Eol form from [Healthway's website](#). Details on how to complete the form are provided on pages 9 –12 of these guidelines.

## 9. Submission

**Please contact us to discuss your proposal before submitting your application on 133 777 or email [research@healthway.wa.gov.au](mailto:research@healthway.wa.gov.au).**

- Completed Eols must be emailed to [healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au](mailto:healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au) via the responsible officer of the administering institution, generally the Research Grants Office by **5pm, Tuesday 31 January 2023**.
- Please contact your institution’s Research Grants Office as they may have an earlier closing date.
- Please adhere to the stated space and word limitations on the Eol, as exceeding the word limits may render your Eol ineligible.
- All applicants will be notified approximately four to six (4-6) weeks from the Eol closing date on the outcome of their application. We will advise the Research Grants Office if your application has been successful.
- Successful applicants will have an additional six (6) weeks to submit their Stage 2 (full) application.

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

## Completing an EoI

| Information required                         | Word/<br>character<br>count      | Explanation  |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Administrative details</b>                |                                  |  |
| 1. Administering Institution details         | Complete table                   | The full name of the institution responsible for administering the grant.<br><br>In instances where a research project is to be carried out in more than one location, please only provide one administering institution for each grant.   |
| 2. Contact person: Chief Investigator A      | Complete table                   | Full contact details of the Chief Investigator A.  |
| 3. Eligibility                               | Check relevant boxes             | Confirmation of the eligibility requirements (explained in more detail in Section 6 of these guidelines).  |
| 4. Project title                             | 75 characters (including spaces) | Nominate a project title. This will be used by Healthway to identify the project.<br><br>The title should accurately describe the nature of the project and be understandable to the general community.  |
| 5. Alignment with Healthway priorities       | Check relevant boxes             | Alignment to Healthway priorities for the 2023 Targeted Research Round. Please indicate the relevant priorities on the application form.<br><br>For more information on Healthway's strategic priorities refer to the Strategic Plan ' <a href="#">Active Healthy People: 2018-2023</a>  |
| <b>Project description</b>                   |                                  |  |
| 6.1 Rationale/justification for the research | 200 words                        | Include an explanation on what new evidence this research will provide and how it addresses a current gap in effective health promotion messaging and communications. Detail how it will improve the health outcomes of children and young people.<br><br>Please demonstrate that this research will not duplicate similar research being funded from elsewhere.<br>Please attach references to support the justification. |
| 6.2 Describe the proposed research project   | 200 words                        | Describe the research project, main activities and the context and background, where appropriate.  |

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

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| 6.3 List the proposed research objectives   | 150 words      | State the specific and quantifiable objectives. These can still be in draft form and can be refined in the full application if the EoI is successful.  |
| 6.4 Research methods  | 150 words      | Summarise the proposed study design, including the instruments and methods of data collection.<br><br>Scientific rigour will not be assessed in the EoI, so technical and specific detail on sample size, validity, recruitment methods and statistical power calculations are not required here.  |
| 6.5 Research outcomes, and benefits to the WA community   | 200 words      | Explain how this research will be used and contribute to best practice in health promotion and improve children and young people's health outcomes.  |
| <b>Proposed translation strategies</b>  |                |  |
| 7. Research translation strategies  | 300 words      | Outline the plan to translate the results of the study to ensure the research outcomes will influence health promotion communications in the WA community.<br><br>Describe the programs or policies currently operating and by whom, to demonstrate how the research will add value to existing work or inform new policies and programs in WA.<br><br>This section needs to demonstrate how the research will be translated beyond traditional communication and dissemination strategies, such as journal publications and presentations.<br><br>For support in developing this section, please review the <a href="#">Healthway Knowledge Translation Guide</a> . |
| <b>Collaboration and partner agencies</b>   |                |  |
| 8. Partnerships with relevant agencies, organisations, and Aboriginal community, where appropriate. | Complete table | All applicants are required to establish partnerships with relevant individuals and/or organisations that assist with the translation of findings into policy or practice. Partnerships with experts from other disciplines (such as marketing, communications, media, and public and health policy) are strongly encouraged.<br><br>Please provide the name/s of the individuals and/or organisations and detail the nature and level of support that will be provided to the proposed research. Partnerships can be under negotiation and unconfirmed in the EoI but must be confirmed upon submission of the full application.                                    |



# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

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|   |                | <p>It is desirable that key partners be appointed to the research team, advisory committee, or steering group.</p> <p>Please note that for Aboriginal health research, it is a requirement that Aboriginal community members are engaged in developing and implementing the research.</p>   |
| <b>Chief Investigations and the research team</b> |                |   |
| 9. Chief Investigators and the research team      | Complete table | <p>List all the Chief Investigators and Associate Investigators in the research team. It is generally expected that Chief Investigators will have a significant role in implementing and guiding the research project. At least one Chief Investigator must be based and reside in WA for the duration of the grant.</p> <p>Chief Investigator (A) must demonstrate an ability or track record in managing and coordinating major research studies.</p> <p>At least one (1) Aboriginal person should be named as a Chief Investigator if the research focuses on Aboriginal health.</p> <p>An Associate Investigator (AI) is defined as an investigator who provides some intellectual and/or practical input into the research and whose participation warrants inclusion of their name on publications.</p> <p>All applications are required to have a multi-disciplinary team, where appropriate, for example an epidemiologist, statistician, health promotion researcher, researchers from other disciplines and a health promotion practitioner. Please identify the skills of the research team and note if they are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.</p> |
| <b>Indicative budget</b>                          |                |   |
| 10. Budget  | Complete table | <p>Provide an indicative cost of the research project including the total amount requested from Healthway and the total in-kind and cash committed by other partners. Please note that Healthway will not generally support salary costs in the grant at a Professor or Associate Professor level and salary on-costs are capped at 30%.</p> <p>It is a requirement that the majority of the research funds be spent in WA.</p> <p>Up to \$75,000 is available over 18 months for salary support, project, and support costs.</p>   |

# 2023 Targeted Research Round Guidelines

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|  |                    | <p>An additional \$25,000 is available to support the delivery of message testing and knowledge translation strategies. Please clearly outline the budget items if you are requesting the additional funds.</p> <p>Do not include GST in the budget.</p>  |
| 11. Dates  | Complete table     | Please outline the proposed start date and finish date of the study. The start date must be on or after 1 July 2023 due to the assessment and approval processes.   |
| <b>Other funding</b>   |                    |   |
| 12a. Submission of application to other funders  | Complete table     | Only complete this section if the same application is being submitted for <b>total</b> funding to another funding body.   |
| 12b. Other funding partners  | Complete table     | We encourage joint funding of health promotion research. Jointly funded applications will be considered where the major emphasis of the research is health promotion. Applications should <b>clearly identify</b> what project objectives can be achieved should the application for funding from other partners be unsuccessful.   |
| 12c. Referral to Lotterywest   | Indicate Yes or No | Please provide consent for Healthway to share and discuss your application with the Lotterywest. There may be opportunities to align your application with the Lotterywest grants program or co-funding opportunities.  |
| <b>Certification</b>   |                    |   |
| 13. Signatures of Chief Investigators and Certification by the Administering Research Office | Complete table     | <p>The EoI is invalid without the signature(s) of those listed as Chief Investigator(s), and the Administering Organisation's Research Office, who is certifying that the facilities available are appropriate to meet the needs of the project.</p> <p>Electronic signatures will be accepted.</p> <p>Where applicants are not formally attached to institutions, please certify whether you have access to appropriate facilities to undertake the research proposal.</p> |