



Healthy Research Program

2024 Targeted Research Round Exploratory grants

*Contemporary Measurement of
Health Behaviours*

Guidelines

2024 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. The 2024 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 2024 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 recommended that you contact us to discuss your proposal before submitting your application on 133 777 or email research@healthway.wa.gov.au.

2. The 2024 Targeted Research Round

The 2024 Targeted Research Round will provide funding to eligible organisations for exploratory or formative studies that focus on *Contemporary Measurement of Health Behaviours* aligned with Healthway priority areas including increasing healthy eating, increasing physical activity, improving mental health, preventing harm from alcohol, creating a smoke-free WA (including vaping), or Aboriginal health.

Accurate data on the prevalence of health behaviours is imperative to inform and evaluate health promotion and public health investments. Healthway is seeking applications for research focused on identifying new and innovative ways to measure health behaviours.

Applicants are encouraged to explore new and innovative methods, technologies and/or tools to measure health behaviours. This may include for example the investigation of geographic information systems (GIS), social media monitoring, wearable devices, automation, and advanced data modelling. Healthway is particularly interested in applications that will test solutions that can be applied to a variety of different health issues and settings.

The research must demonstrate potential and intent to inform and evaluate policy, programs, and/or practice in WA, and improve health outcomes for the Western Australian community. Up to \$200,000 (excluding GST) in funding is available for up to two years for salary, project, and support costs. This increased level of funding for exploratory grants is offered for this round with consideration to the level of innovation sought and potential costs associated with accessing and utilising different technology, software or other items not typically required.

3. Contemporary Measurement of Health Behaviours - Requirements

Applicants are required to:

- Explore innovative methods and/or tools to measure health behaviour/s that address a Healthway priority health area/s.
- Demonstrate how it is intended the measurement can be used to evaluate and/or inform health promotion policy, programs and/or practice in WA.
- Partner with community, health promotion, public health, government, and/or other relevant end-user agencies who will utilise the outcomes and findings to inform and/or evaluate policy and practice in WA.
- Researchers are strongly encouraged to engage with experts from other disciplines (such as marketing, economics, media, environment, science, business, technology, public and health policy), where appropriate in developing proposals and establishing multi-disciplinary teams.

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

- Direct relevance of the project to contemporary measurement of health behaviour, and a Healthway strategic priority area, or Aboriginal health.
- Ability for the research to contribute to new evidence that has potential to inform health promotion practice and/or policy in WA.
- An innovative approach that addresses a current gap in health promotion research.
- A knowledge translation plan which describes how it's intended the research will inform decision making, monitoring and evaluation within a policy or practice context.
- How the proposed research will improve community health outcomes in WA.
- Established partnerships with end-user organisations that will support the research and assist with the translation of findings into policy and/or practice.
- A multidisciplinary research team with relevant expertise.

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.
- Evaluation of an existing program where there is no demonstration of broader applicability.

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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 3 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 an online application process on the [Lotterywest Healthway Grants Portal](#). Applications submitted via email directly from researchers or the research institution 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 Healthway's 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.
- Healthway will make recommendations to the Healthway Board based on the Committee's assessment, available budget, and alignment to Healthway priorities.
- Applications will be scored against the following criteria, with emphasis on points 1-4:
 1. Contribution of the research to contemporary measurement of health behaviours.
 2. Quality of the translation plan to demonstrate intent and capacity for the research to inform policy, programs and/or practice in WA.
 3. Relevance and appropriateness of the end-user partnerships and the collaboration and engagement strategies. Evidence of input into the design and development of the research by partners and relevant experts, including community, and other non-research related partnerships.
 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, 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 and the ability of the findings to be utilised and integrated into future practice.

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.

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5. Key dates

Key steps	Key dates
Eols due	5pm (AWST) Wednesday 31 January 2024
Successful Eols for Stage 2 announced	Friday 1 March 2024
Stage 2 (full applications) due	Friday 12 April 2024
Successful grant applicants announced	July 2024*

*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), however the central focus of the research must be 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.
- 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 industries are not eligible for funding:
 - Tobacco, e-cigarette or other novel tobacco product companies or their related foundations
 - Commercial 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. Reporting Requirements

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 2024 Targeted Research Round Eol form from [Healthway’s website](#). Details on how to complete the form are provided on pages 8-11 of these guidelines. Submit the completed Eol to the responsible officer at your administering institution.

9. Submission

Please contact us to discuss your proposal before submitting your application on 133 777 or email research@healthway.wa.gov.au.

- Eols must be submitted online via the Lotterywest Healthway Grants by the responsible officer of the administering institution, generally the Research Grants Office by **5pm, Wednesday 31 January 2024**. Please discuss any specific internal requirements with your institution.
- Applications can only be submitted on the Grants Portal by the responsible officer or the administering institution. Individual researchers do not have access to the Grants Portal and applications submitted directly from individual researchers will not be accepted.
- 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 of the outcome of Eols.
- Successful applicants will have an additional six (6) weeks to submit their Stage 2 (full) application.

If the applying Institution or Organisation has not previously used the new Grants Portal, please note the following:

- All users and organisations will need to be registered prior to submitting a grant request through the Grants Portal.
- Email addresses must be unique to the user and can only be registered once (e.g. john.smith@organisation.com or chairperson@organisation.com or john.smith@bigpond.com). To ensure data and user details are secure, generic email addresses such as admin@organisation.com or reception@organisation.com can no longer be accepted.
- Once your organisation is approved, you will need to enter the Grants Portal and update all of your organisation information and attach mandatory documents prior to submitting a grant request. Once submitted, our Customer Service Team will review and validate the organisation details.

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- You may begin drafting a grant request while your organisation details are in the process of being validated; however, you will not be able to submit a grant request until your organisation details have been validated.

As the registration and validation process may take some time, we strongly encourage users and organisations to register and update their organisation details as early as possible to avoid the risk of not being able to submit a grant request by the grant request deadline.

For further guidance on the Grants Portal please review our [Grantee how-to guide](#). If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on 133 777 or healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au.

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Completing an EoI

Information required	Word/character count	Explanation
Administrative details		
1. Administering Institution details	Complete table	The full name of the institution responsible for administering the grant. 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. 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 2024 Targeted Research Round. Please indicate the relevant priorities on the application form. For more information on Healthway's strategic priorities refer to the Strategic Plan ' Active Healthy People: 2018-2023 '.
Project description		
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 measurement of health behaviours using a contemporary and innovative method or model. Please demonstrate that this research will not duplicate similar research being funded from elsewhere. 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.
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.

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6.4 Research methods	150 words	<p>Summarise the proposed study design, including the instruments and methods of data collection.</p> <p>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.</p>
6.5 Research outcomes and benefits to the WA community	200 words	<p>Explain how this research will be used and contribute to best practice in health promotion, improve measurement of health behaviours and lead to improvements in design, delivery and/or evaluation of health promotion policy and/or practice in WA.</p>
Proposed translation strategies		
7. Research translation strategies	300 words	<p>Outline the plan to translate the results of the study to demonstrate intent and capacity for the research outcomes to influence health promotion practice and health outcomes for the WA community.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This section needs to demonstrate how the research will be translated beyond traditional communication and dissemination strategies, such as journal publications and presentations.</p> <p>For support in developing this section, please review the Healthway Knowledge Translation Guide.</p>
Collaboration and partner agencies		
8. Partnerships with relevant agencies, organisations, and Aboriginal community, where appropriate.	Complete table	<p>All applicants are required to establish partnerships with relevant individuals and/or community, government, and health organisations that will assist with the translation of findings into policy or practice. Partnerships with experts from other disciplines and sectors (such as technology, economics, media, and public and health policy etc) are strongly encouraged. 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.</p> <p>It is desirable that key partners be appointed to the research team, advisory committee, or steering group.</p>

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		Please note that for Aboriginal health research, it is a requirement that Aboriginal community members are engaged in developing and implementing the research.
Chief Investigations and the research team		
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>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, 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>
Indicative budget		
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>A total of up to \$200,000 is available for up to two years for salary support, project, and support costs.</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 2024 due to the assessment and approval processes.
Other funding		
12a. Submission of application to other funders	Complete table	Only complete this section if the same application is being submitted for total funding to another funding body.

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12b. Other funding partners	Complete table	<p>We encourage joint funding of health promotion research. Jointly funded applications will be considered where the major emphasis of the research is health promotion.</p> <p>Applications should clearly identify what project objectives can be achieved should the application for funding from other partners be unsuccessful.</p>
12c. Referral to Lotterywest	Indicate Yes or No	<p>Please provide consent for Healthway to share and discuss your application with Lotterywest.</p> <p>There may be opportunities to align your application with the Lotterywest grants program or co-funding opportunities.</p>
Certification		
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>