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Healthy Research Program

2022 Open Intervention Research Round



Guidelines 2022

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 health promotion research projects. Healthway funds practical research that can demonstrate real-world applicability, with direct links to health promotion policy and practice in Western Australia (WA).

Each year Healthway undertakes one Open Research Round and one Targeted Research Round for both the Exploratory and Intervention grant categories. These guidelines are for the 2022 Open Intervention Research Round.

1. About the guidelines

These guidelines provide an outline of the 2022 Open Intervention 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 of applications as outlined in Section 5.
3. Read the requirements for grants funding including the application and assessment process.

It is strongly recommended that you contact Healthway to discuss your proposal before submitting your application on 133 777 or email research@healthway.wa.gov.au.

2. The 2022 Open Intervention Research Round

Healthway's 2022 Open Intervention Research Round will provide funding to eligible organisations for research projects that develop and test a new health promotion intervention or lead to the development of a health promotion policy intervention with the purpose of improving community health outcomes.

Proposals are encouraged that address one of Healthway's strategic priorities including creating a smoke-free WA, preventing harm from alcohol, improving mental health, increasing physical activity, increasing healthy eating, or Aboriginal health.

Proposals that address other health promotion issues will be accepted and assessed in accordance with the criteria provided in section 3.

A key feature of Healthway's 2022 Open Intervention Research Round is a focus on knowledge translation, and researchers are required to demonstrate how their research will be applied to policy and/or practice to lead to improvements in community health.

Funding limits for this scheme are up to \$120,000 per annum (excluding GST) for up to three (3) years, an additional \$30,000 per annum is available in the year or years the intervention will be developed. The additional funds for intervention development will not generally be awarded for each year of a three-year grant. These grants are primarily intended for salary support, project, and support costs.

3. Application and assessment process

Applications for Healthway research funding is a two-stage process:

Stage 1: EoI process

Applicant to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI), which will be assessed by Healthway in consultation with relevant research experts and external agencies at the discretion of Healthway.

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. Healthway will provide high level feedback and guidance on any areas that may need to be addressed in the full application.

EoIs and full applications must be submitted through the applying institution's Research Grants Office via email to: healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au. Applications submitted directly from researchers will not be accepted

Stage 2: Full application process

At this stage, all full applications will be assessed by experts from outside of WA. External agencies, additional experts and project partners may also be consulted at the discretion of Healthway. Healthway may 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:

1. Ability to directly improve community health outcomes.
2. Development and/or contribution of the research to policy and practice in WA.
3. The quality of the translation plan to demonstrate how the findings will be integrated into current practice and achieve sustainable, community health outcomes.
4. The relevance of end-user partnerships, and appropriateness of the collaboration and engagement strategies.
5. Strength and rigour of the rationale and methodology (including literature review, research design, sample selection, methodology and cultural appropriateness, if appropriate).
6. Track record, multi-disciplinary composition (where appropriate) and capability of the research team. Performance and outputs from previously held Healthway research grants will be taken into consideration, where appropriate. This will include the quality of reports provided to Healthway from previously held research grants.
7. Appropriateness of the budget, and overall value for money regarding the contribution of this research to health promotion in WA.

Board and Ministerial approval

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

4. 2022 Key dates

Key steps	Key dates
Open Intervention Research Round opens	Monday 20 June 2022
Eols due	5pm, Friday 19 August 2022
Announcement of successful Eols for Stage 2	Friday 23 September 2022
Stage 2 (full applications) due	5pm, Friday 4 November 2022
Announcement of successful grant applicants	April/May 2022*

*Please note that this date is an estimate, as we are unable to provide an exact date due to Board decisions requiring sign off by the Minister for Health; Mental Health.

5. Eligibility

To be eligible for Healthway research funding, a number of criteria applies:

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.

Four grant rule

- A Chief Investigator in any one year may not receive funding for more than four of Healthway's Intervention research grants.
- The four-grant total includes Eols that are in the process of being assessed by Healthway.
- The four-grant rule applies to Intervention Research Grants. It does not include Exploratory Research Grants, Scholarships or Fellowships. A Healthway grant remains current until all milestone requirements and acquittals have been received and acknowledged by Healthway.
- The four-grant rule applies to all Chief Investigators only. Associate Investigators are excluded.

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 the development, implementation, and translation of the research.
- 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 Healthway research 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 that Committee as complying with the relevant National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Ethics Program.

- Research groups/organisations or individuals who are receiving support from funding bodies associated with harmful industries, as defined in these guidelines, are not eligible for funding.
- Research involving an externally funded campaign or program must demonstrate the appropriate permissions have been provided from the program or campaign funder regarding trademarked properties.

6. Requirements

What will NOT be considered for funding:

- An EoI for the same or a similar study that has already been submitted for an Exploratory Research Grant in the same financial year.
- 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 will not be funded unless it can be demonstrated that the outcomes will have broader health promotion applicability and influence the practices of partner agencies that are external to the existing investment being evaluated.
- Research that is limited to adaptations or simplified extensions to existing programs will not be prioritised.
- Research that builds on existing Healthway funded research projects and that does not sufficiently demonstrate a need through the provision of preliminary findings will not be prioritised.

To be considered for funding, an EoI MUST:

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

Reporting:

- Successful applicants (following Stage 2) will be required to submit annual project reports at the end of each year of the project, and a final report detailing the project outcomes following completion of the project.
- In addition, 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.
- Annual and final financial reports are also required to be submitted with project reports. These should outline the expenditure of funds in line with the approved budget and must be certified by an authorised finance officer at the administering institution.

7. Completing an Eol

Download and complete the Eol form (2022 Open Intervention Research Round). Details on how to complete the form are provided in pages 5 – 9 of these guidelines.

8. Submission

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

Completed Eols must be emailed to healthway@healthway.wa.gov.au via the responsible officer of the administering institution, generally the Research Grants Office by 5pm, Friday 19 August 2022. 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. Healthway will communicate the outcome via the Research Grants Office, and successful applicants will have an additional six (6) weeks to submit their Stage 2 (full) application.

Completing an Eol

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). <i>Please note that Chief Investigators are responsible for ensuring they adhere to eligibility requirements prior to submission. Changes to the list of nominated Chief Investigators in order to adhere to the rules are not permitted after the Eol has been submitted.</i>
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 strategic priorities or nomination of another health promotion priority issue. The priorities should be checked on the application form. If a health promotion issue that falls outside of Healthway's strategic priorities is the focus of the research, please contact Healthway to discuss the application prior to submission. A strong justification for the research will be necessary. 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 and intervention	300 words	Rationale for the need for the research. Include an explanation on what new evidence this research will provide, how it addresses a current gap in health promotion research. Detail how it will improve the health outcomes of children and young people. Please demonstrate that this research will not duplicate similar research being funded from elsewhere. Please attach references to support the justification.

Information required	Word/ character count	Explanation
6.2 Describe the proposed intervention research project	200 words	Describe the research intervention that you intend to develop and/or test. This section should identify the type of intervention, for example, a program or policy and indicate which year/s you plan to develop the intervention.
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. 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	<i>Explain how this research will be used and contribute to best practice in health promotion and improve community health outcomes.</i>
Proposed translation strategies		
7. Research translation strategies	300 words	Outline the plan to translate the results of the study to ensure the research outcomes will influence programs, policy, or other health promotion activities in the WA community. 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. This section needs to demonstrate how the research will be translated beyond traditional communication and dissemination strategies, such as journal publications and presentations. Please review the Healthway Knowledge Translation Guide 2021 for support in developing this section.

Information required	Word/ character count	Explanation
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 organisations that assist with the translation of findings into policy or practice.</p> <p>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> <p>Please note that for Aboriginal health research, it is a requirement that Aboriginal community members are engaged in the development and implementation of the research.</p>
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>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>

Information required	Word/ character count	Explanation
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>Up to \$120,000 per year is provided for these grants, an additional \$30,000 is available in the year or years that the intervention is being developed. The additional funds for intervention development will not generally be awarded for each year of a three-year grant.</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 June 2023 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.
12b. Other funding partners	Complete table	Healthway encourages joint funding of health promotion research. Jointly funded applications will be considered where the major emphasis of the research is health promotion, and such applications should clearly identify which of the project objectives can be achieved should the application for funding from other partners be unsuccessful.
12c. Referral to Lotterywest	Indicate Yes or No	<p>Please provide consent for Healthway to share and discuss your application with the Lotterywest.</p> <p>There may be opportunities to align your application with the Lotterywest grants program or co-funding opportunities.</p>
Q. 35 Certification by Partnering Agencies	Complete table	<p>The details and signatures of the personnel from your partner agency(s) must be provided to confirm, on behalf of their agency, that they are supportive of the fellowship program.</p> <p>Electronic signatures are acceptable.</p>

Information required	Word/ character count	Explanation
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, they should certify whether they have access to appropriate facilities to undertake the research proposal.</p>