

2024 Healthway Resident Research Fellowship

Guidelines

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Who we are

The Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation (Healthway) 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 aligned to our priority areas outlined in our [Strategic Plan: Active Healthy People: 2018-2023](#).

Our Health Promotion Research Fellowship program is designed to increase the number of experienced and trained researchers working in health promotion research in WA and focuses on capacity building for the candidate, knowledge translation and improving community health outcomes.

We fund practical research that can demonstrate real-world applicability with direct links to health promotion programs and policies in Western Australia (WA). We seek applications for innovative, sophisticated, and rigorous projects of significant importance that can demonstrate the ability to influence health promotion policy and /or practice in WA.

1. The Healthway Resident Research Fellowship

In 2024, we are trialling a special, one-off funding round to appoint a **Healthway Resident Research Fellow (Fellow)**. This Fellowship is designed to support mid - senior Career Research Fellows who have held a PhD for at least three years and can demonstrate suitable professional experience.

This funding opportunity is designed to:

- Support the Fellow to develop expertise in health promotion policy and practice.
- Provide the Fellow links to networks and stakeholders that will support translation of their research.
- Allow Healthway and the Fellow to work together closely, providing additional opportunities for knowledge translation through our work with the community, and two-way learning opportunities.

The Fellow will remain an employee of their employing and administering Research Institution (**Institution**) and remain at all times the legal responsibility of the Institution. However, it is expected that the Fellow will spend an agreed amount of time working at Healthway's premises to better support collaboration, learning and integration of the Fellow's program of work. Fellows will be engaged in Healthway activities that are directly related to the Fellowship project.

2. How to prepare

Before applying:

- Read the guidelines and consider the eligibility criteria, research proposal requirements and rules applying to accessing additional Healthway grants in Section 9.
- Read our Strategic Plan *Active Healthy People: 2018-2023* for alignment to priority areas and target groups.
- Consider the key dates for submission as outlined in Section 5.
- Read the requirements for Fellowship grant funding including the application and assessment process.
- Contact us to discuss your proposal on 133 777 or research@healthway.wa.gov.au.

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2. Research Proposal Requirements

Candidates can apply for up to three (3) years of funding to undertake their program of work and residency with us.

To be considered for funding, an application MUST:

- Focus their project on one of the key themes listed in section 3 and be relevant to contemporary health promotion.
- Clearly describe the intention and capacity of the proposed research to improve community health outcomes in WA.
- Provide a knowledge translation plan which describes how the research will be translated to inform policy and/or practice. This must extend beyond the dissemination of results.

Projects that centrally focus on Aboriginal health MUST demonstrate that:

- The research design and methods are culturally secure and consistent with the National Health and Medical Research Council's [Ethical Conduct in Research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Communities: Guidelines for Researchers and Stakeholders](#).
- The collection, use and storage of data is compliant with the [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Data Principles](#).
- Consultation has occurred with Aboriginal community groups and leaders during the development of the proposal, and that a genuine co-design community-led approach will be undertaken.
- At least one Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is included as a supervisor.

To facilitate the collaborative working process, candidates are required to:

- Engage with relevant end-user partners to develop the proposal and undertake the research program. It is recommended that candidates work with a partner agency to identify knowledge gaps, and shape the research questions and the study design, where appropriate.
- Spend up to two days per week working at Healthway to facilitate the collaboration process and knowledge sharing.
- Be available to provide us with expert advice on areas directly related to the Fellowship program of work. This may involve contributing to project or policy development via membership on a project advisory group or presenting research results to staff or key stakeholders to support decision making within Healthway.
- Meet monthly with our senior management team to discuss project progress, identify opportunities for two-way collaboration, networking, professional development, and knowledge translation.

Research that will NOT be considered for funding includes:

- Clinical or laboratory studies, or trials of treatments or therapies for existing conditions or diseases.
- Studies that primarily focus on evaluating existing government services or policies. These types of projects may be considered where partnerships are clearly identified with the relevant agencies, there are strong links to health promotion, and the proposed translation pathway for the results is described.

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3. Key research themes

Applicants are required to undertake a program of work that is aligned to one of the following key themes or target areas.

1. **Health equity:** Research projects are encouraged that will help contribute to an environment where everyone can attain their full potential for health and wellbeing. The Fellow would also support our efforts to apply a health equity lens across our strategic priorities and programs of work.
2. **Healthy eating:** Research projects are encouraged that focus on policy or practice that will create environments and/or promote healthy eating in children and young people. The Fellow would also support and inform our healthy eating activities.
3. **Public Health System Change:** Research projects are encouraged that will inform system-wide changes to promote good health in WA, aligned with Healthway's priority health areas. This may include neighbourhood and built systems, commercial and economic systems, or food systems. The Fellow will also help us embed a systems-change approach across our grant making and project-based investments.
4. **Harmful Industries:** Projects are encouraged that will investigate the commercial determinants of health, examine harmful marketing to support development and implementation of policy and practice solutions for WA. The Fellow will also support our leadership and advocacy efforts to reduce exposure to harmful industries.

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4. Application and assessment process

Application for funding is a two-stage process:

Stage 1: Assessment of applications.

Stage 2: Panel interviews for shortlisted candidates only.

Stage 1: Assess applications

We will assess applications in consultation with relevant experts and external agencies (at our discretion). All applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Relevance and alignment of the proposed research to health promotion, our strategic priorities, and a key theme (as identified in Section 3 above).
- Research methodology and scientific validity of the proposed research.
- Strength of external partnerships and the knowledge translation plan.
- Candidate's ability to conduct the proposed research.
- How the Fellowship will contribute to the candidate's career in health promotion.

Applications that address the criteria to a high level will be invited to a panel interview. The candidate and the responsible officer from the relevant administering Institution will receive formal correspondence outlining the interview details.

Stage 2: Panel interviews for shortlisted candidates only

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview to discuss their proposal, including how it will contribute to best practice in health promotion, its potential to support our vision of a healthier WA, demonstrated skills and experience, and their future career in health promotion. The panel will comprise Healthway staff and representatives from the Research Assessment Committee.

Board and Ministerial approval

The Healthway Board makes all funding decisions and reserves the right to contact any person or organisation to seek more 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
Applications open for submission through the Lotterywest Healthway Grants Portal	Thursday, 1 st February 2024
Applications due	5pm (AWST), Friday 1 st March 2024
Shortlisted candidates announced	Friday 22 nd March 2024
Interviews conducted	Late March / early April 2024
Successful Fellow announced	Early June 2024
Signed contract returned to Healthway	30 th June 2024

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

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6. Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, the following eligibility criteria needs to be demonstrated:

- This grant is for mid - senior Career Research Fellows who have held a PhD for at least three years and can demonstrate suitable professional experience.
- Candidates and their nominated supervisor/s, department and Institution are not eligible to apply if they are Research groups/organisations or individuals who are receiving support either directly or indirectly from funding bodies associated with the following harmful industries; 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.
- Candidates must have Australian citizenship or permanent resident status. Successful candidates must reside in WA for the duration of the Fellowship and conduct most of their research within WA.
- Successful candidates must have a PhD from a recognised university.
- The Fellowship is designed to be undertaken in a full-time capacity. A part-time undertaking may only be considered if the candidate can demonstrate that circumstances such as a medical condition or major family commitment would preclude a full-time Fellowship. Please let Us know if you would like to be considered for a part-time Fellowship at the time of application.

7. Financial details

Funding will be available for a maximum of three (3) years, renewable at the end of each year, subject to a suitable progress report being received.

Stipend – Mid – Senior Career Researcher
Year 1 - \$119,541
Year 2 - \$119,541
Year 3 - \$119,541

These figures will be taxable. The stipend will go directly to the Institution at which the Fellow enrolls, to be paid to the Fellow through that Institution's payroll.

In accepting to administer the Fellowship, the Institution will provide the facilities and services, together with the normal overhead expenses necessary for the Fellow to undertake the research program and will also assume responsibility for the allocation of the additional allowances.

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Goods and Services Tax

The salary levels and allowances identified in these guidelines are exclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST). Healthway agrees to pay to the organisation the GST liability if the organisation is registered for GST purposes with an Australian Business Number (ABN).

Allowances

An additional allowance of \$5,000 will be allocated each year to the Institution to cover the following items:

Travel for conferences/courses

Funding of up to \$2,000 may be used to attend (in person or virtually) a conference, course or meeting that is relevant to the Fellow's area of research and has been approved in writing by the project supervisor.

Maintenance, technical assistance or equipment costs

Funds for equipment and consumable materials can be used where such items are necessary. Maintenance costs may include travel costs associated with conducting surveys or fieldwork, consumables, computer programming and preparation or data storage. The Fellow will be required to justify to the supervisor the necessity for such funds. No further credit for these items will be available from Healthway. The purchase of computer equipment will not generally be funded by Healthway.

Additional allowance for research costs

An additional sum of up to \$10,000 in allowances is available for project costs directly associated with the Fellowship, at the discretion of Healthway. These project costs must be allocated and expended within one calendar year only and itemised in the budget section of the application. Project costs may include costs associated with data collection and dissemination activities.

8. Employment details

Employment outside the research project

The Fellow may undertake with the permission of the project supervisor, teaching or other duties of up to an average of 10% of hours for each working week. See section 9 for rules relating to applying for funding.

Superannuation and on-costs

Healthway will pay a superannuation allowance up to 17% or equivalent to that of the scheme at the Institution in which the Fellow is situated. Healthway will pay on-costs up to 7% for payroll tax and 0.5% for workers compensation or equivalent to that of the scheme at the Institution in which the Fellow is situated.

Leave entitlements

The Fellow will be entitled to a total of 20 days paid leave per annum, to be taken during the tenure of the Fellowship. This leave will not be considered cumulative. Fellows will be entitled to sick leave in accordance with the conditions set out by the individual Institution.

Parental leave of up to 12 months may be taken, during which time the Fellowship will be temporarily suspended. No other type of leave, loadings or payments will be provided by Healthway.

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9. External funding applications

Fellows will not be advantaged when it comes to information or access to funding and grant rounds run by Healthway.

The following guidelines therefore apply:

1. The Fellow cannot be included in any Healthway grant applications that are directly connected to a Healthway project, or program of work they are involved in at Healthway.
2. The Fellow can be appointed a co-investigator on a Healthway research grant application (if the proposal is not associated with their Healthway work) but cannot be appointed as the project lead or Chief Investigator A.
3. The analysis of any perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest will be made on a case-by-case basis. The Fellow's appointment should be highlighted in the funding application.
4. These requirements will remain in place until 12 months after completion of the Fellowship.

Once the 12 months following completion of the Fellowship has expired, there are no restrictions placed on the Fellow for applying to Healthway for funds in any capacity.

10. Submitting a request

The Grants Office will need to submit a request on behalf of the applicant via the [Lotterywest Healthway Grants Portal](#) when it opens on 1 February 2024. In the meantime, if you have any queries, please contact research@healthway.wa.gov.au.