

Grant Guidelines 2024

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About the Rosemary Bryant Foundation

Nurses and midwives represent nearly two-thirds of registered health practitioners in Australia, working across diverse clinical and geographical settings. With approximately 360,000 nurses and midwives in Australia, they are uniquely positioned to have a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of all healthcare consumers.

The Rosemary Bryant Foundation (RBF) was established in 2017, through an initiative of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch), to develop and support the capacity of nurses and midwives through research. By raising and disseminating funds to support high quality, translatable nursing and midwifery research, the RBF aims to strengthen these professions through the development of evidence-based healthcare. Through the funding of high-quality nursing and midwifery research the RBF aspires to create a more informed and engaged workforce that can improve the health of the community now and for generations to come.

Our Vision: *All Australians receive the best possible nursing and midwifery care.*

Our Mission: *Improving health outcomes for all Australians through nursing and midwifery research.*

Grants Overview

The RBF funds high quality, translatable research that can be readily adopted and embedded into nursing and midwifery practice. Research funded by the RBF is collaborative and demonstrates partnership with nurses, midwives and early and mid-career researchers.

In the 2024 (calendar year), the RBF is offering one main round of funding with a pooled value of up to \$130,000 for eligible researchers focusing on nursing and midwifery care who are based in Australia. The \$130,000 in grant funding will be made available in amounts up to \$60,000

Key Dates

Opening Date	Closing Date	Notification Date
28 th February 2024	29 th March 2024	April 2024

Eligibility Criteria

A key purpose of RBF grants is to support and promote translational research. To achieve this, it is important that intended beneficiaries and stakeholders of the research are engaged early in its design and for the duration of the project. To facilitate this intent, it is strongly suggested that a stakeholder/stakeholder group¹ is listed as part of the application and that where relevant/possible they provide an accompanying letter of support for the project.

To achieve the aims of the grant, as well the strategic direction of the RBF, applications must clearly articulate the following information in their cover letter:

1. A detailed description of how the research assists to build capacity in the nursing and midwifery workforce, including practicing nurses, midwives and early career

¹ It is expected that the stakeholder / stakeholder group includes end-users e.g. nurses, midwives, other clinicians and/or consumers.

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researchers.

2. An extensive collaboration and partnerships between nursing/midwifery researchers and practising nurses/midwives.
3. A meaningful role for end users/health consumers across the research project.
4. A clear rationale for how the research will benefit South Australian health consumers.

In addition, the following eligibility criteria will apply to the project team:

1. The proposed project must be located/managed/operated under the auspices of a university, hospital or research institution(s) located within Australia.
2. The chief investigator must be employed by a university, health service or research centre/institute in Australia, for the duration of the project and have an affiliation with the administering institution.
3. The chief investigator must be registered in Australia as a nurse or midwife
4. The chief investigator must be a resident of Australia for the duration of the grant.
5. At least one project team member must be from outside the University/research centre setting (e.g. government, practice setting, consumer group).

Grant Application Process

The following documents will need to be provided:

1. Completed application form
2. A project budget
3. A copy of the chief investigator(s)'s Curriculum Vitae

Grant Assessment Process

Applications will be judged on their alignment with one (or more) of the RBF's core principles and likelihood of delivering a successful outcome using the following assessment criteria.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting
Alignment of the project with the RBF core focus area/s	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures the impact of existing nursing and midwifery clinical care practices. Explores new directions in nursing and midwifery clinical care environments to improve health outcomes. Extends the capacity and capabilities of nurses and midwives to build a resilient, sustainable, and collaborative workforce. Acts to inform policy and system level decision making regarding workforce composition, roles, support structures as well as recruitment, retention, and renewal strategies. Acts to translate research into practice to improve health systems, clinical practice, policy development and the education and training of nurses and midwives. 	30%
Scientific quality and track record	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates clear rationale and feasibility Demonstrates rigorous methodology and methods Indicates team capacity and track record Demonstrates clear monitoring and evaluation processes to measure the project's impact and establish areas for improvement/continued research 	40%
Significance and Translation	

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- Explores new directions in nursing and midwifery clinical care and care environments to improve health outcomes
- Demonstrates potential to lead to innovations that inform policy and system-level decision making regarding workforce composition, roles, support structures as well as recruitment, retention and renewal strategies
- Research can be readily and meaningfully translated into practice.

30%

The Foundation team will assess all applications received for compliance against the eligibility and funding criteria prior to being presented to the RBF Grant Committee. A grants committee with representation from the RBF Board and independent advisors drawn from the higher education sector and health care organisations will review all eligible applications.

The Grants Committee will meet following the close of applications and make their recommendations to the RBF's Board. Outcomes will be communicated to the chief investigator shortly thereafter, as well as posted on the RBF website and social media accounts where appropriate. The successful applicants may be requested to present their project to the Grants Committee and/or Board.

The RBF reserves the right to not award funding if it is deemed that no suitable applications have been received. In some instances, an amount lower than the requested funding amount may be offered.

Funding and Invoicing

A budget must be detailed and uploaded as part of the grant application. The RBF reserves the right to seek further clarification regarding the budget as per the 'Assessment Process' and 'Conditions of Grant'.

Examples of budget items supported include:

- Essential field research expenditure
- Research assistance
- Equipment (and its maintenance) and consumables required specific to the project (under \$5000)
- Publication and dissemination of project research outputs
- Essential specialised IT equipment and software/apps
- Essential travel costs including economy travel costs for domestic and/or international travel and accommodation
- Attendance at forums/conferences/workshops to engage external partners and develop collaborative opportunities

Examples of budget items **not** supported include:

- Costs not directly related to the project
- Professional membership fees
- Education fees for professional development
- Salaries and/or on costs, in whole or in part, for chief investigators
- Offsetting teaching/marking responsibilities of chief investigators by funding lecturing/tutoring personnel
- Severance/ termination pay for staff or research personnel
- Capital equipment in excess of \$5,000
- Institutional brokerage fees, administrative overhead or infrastructure levy on grants

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Leverage Funding

Leveraged funding that will contribute to the direct research costs is not a requirement of the grants. However, leveraged funding can be sought and reported as part of the budget where the total cost of the project exceeds the grant amount. If leveraged funding is achieved this must be evidenced by a letter of support from the funding source.

Project Timeframe and Reporting

The grant timeframe is for 2 years. The anticipated commencement date is 1 August 2024.

Reporting:

- The chief investigator will be required to submit an interim progress report including budget expenditure. A report template will be emailed to the chief investigator at five months from date of commencement
- At the completion of the project, the chief investigator will be required to submit a final report and budget acquittal statement that outlines what has been achieved, how funding has been expended and the next steps for the research. A report template will be emailed to the chief investigator at two years from date of commencement.

Conditions of the Grant

1. A single institution must be nominated as the administering Institution.
2. Successful projects will be required to invoice the RBF prior to the release of funds.
3. The chief investigator will be responsible for monitoring the project expenditure, and for liaising with the administering institution concerning the payment of accounts.
4. The research team must conform to the administering institution's policies on any relevant research ethics, governance, safety and export controls requirements.
5. Where projects involve the collaboration of industry partners or other institutions, it is the recipient's responsibility to ensure that legal agreements regarding intellectual property and commercialisation have been executed prior to the commencement of project.
6. Funding will be released once ethics approval, governance, safety, export controls and/or legal requirements have been met (if applicable).
7. In some instances, use of the allocated funding may be extended with evidence of extenuating circumstances. Any balance of funds remaining must be returned to the RBF.
8. Any significant changes to the project, or project team, must be communicated to the foundation via info@rbf.org.au
9. Reporting requirements:
 - a. The chief investigator will be required to provide an interim and final progress report as requested by the RBF. This report should be completed on the provided template.
 - b. At conclusion of the project the chief investigator will be required to provide a final report and acquittal statement, completed on the template provided.
10. The chief investigator must be able to provide evidence of dissemination of the research.
11. The chief investigator must be prepared to present and/or submit a paper for the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Branch's conference in South Australia and/or the state/territory where the research project was based.
12. The chief investigator must be willing to be involved in promotional activities for the Foundation relating to the research project e.g., being photographed, videoed, quoted in articles/media releases etc.

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Further Information

The RBF strongly encourage all potential applicants to contact the RBF with any questions regarding their application prior to submitting. To learn more about RBF grants or the application process please visit www.rbf.org.au

Should you have any enquiries regarding the grants please contact:

Wendy Foster

Rosemary Bryant Foundation

08 8334 1938

wendy.foster@rbf.org.au

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