



Lowitja Institute Postgraduate Top-up Scholarship

Application Form

Closing date is **Friday 16 April 2021 (midnight AEST)**

About the Lowitja Institute

The Lowitja Institute is Australia's national institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. For over 20 years the Institute has overseen research covering all areas that contribute to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including the social and cultural determinants of health and wellbeing.

The Institute is committed to pursuing a new generation of solutions that make a real difference to the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We will do this by continuing to work with our Lowitja Institute network to invest and support:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander priorities and collective ways of working;
- Knowledge creation (research) and translation that benefits Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples first and foremost;
- Work that recognises the strength and agency of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; and
- Work that is culturally, ethically and intellectually rigorous.

Our scholarships

The Lowitja Institute is committed to increasing the capacity and capability of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research workforce. Our scholarships provide an opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to develop skills relevant to effective health research and contribute to strengthening the workforce. The Institute aims to build the capacity and capabilities of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander health research workforce at all study levels (Certificate IV through to postgraduate).

The scholarships offered in 2021 aim to enhance the capabilities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants in the following high priority research areas:

- Research administration/research management
- Project management
- Governance
- Leadership
- Policy
- Knowledge Translation

In 2020, the Lowitja Institute is offering three types of scholarships:

- Postgraduate top-up Scholarship
- Graduate Certificate, and
- Certificate IV.

Postgraduate Top-up Scholarship

The Lowitja Institute is offering three (3) Postgraduate top-up scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in their second year of postgraduate study. The focus on the second year of study is to provide support to students at a critical period in their research. The 2021 Postgraduate scholarships are available to any topics relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, where the focus is to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The top-up scholarship funds can be spread over a couple of years. It includes:

- \$30,000 stipend to the student, and
- \$10,000 travel costs for conferences and study/research related.

Eligibility criteria

The eligibility criteria for this scholarship are:

- The applicant must be an Australian citizen,
- The applicant must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person,
- The applicant must be enrolled in their second year as a full-time or part-time postgraduate student (PhD or Master by Research) at an Australian University by June 2021, and

- The applicant must have a supervisor, a research topic, and provide evidence of having completed their confirmation process.

How to apply

1. Review the eligibility criteria.
2. Submit the **application form** and **all supporting documentation** (see page 10 of this form for more information) to scholars@lowitja.org.au by **Friday 23 April 2021**.
3. Applicants will receive an email acknowledging receipt of their application submission. If an email is not received within 48 hours, the applicant must contact Anthea Burns t: 03 8341 5517 or e: anthea.burns@lowitja.org.au . It is an applicant's responsibility to ensure their application and CV has been received.
4. Applications should be submitted to scholars@lowitja.org.au by **Friday 23 April 2021 (midnight AEST)**. **No late or incomplete applications will be accepted**. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit their application by the due date.

Application Form

Please do not delete or re-format any of the content such as questions or instructions. Please comply with the word limits. Please note that, if you do not complete all relevant sections of this application or do not supply all the requested supporting documentation it will not be possible for the Lowitja Institute to process your scholarship application.

Contact details	
Title	
First name	
Last name	
Date of Birth	
Phone number	
Mobile	
Email	
Postal Address	
Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Proof of origin may be required if your application is successful</i>

Enrolment details	
<i>Evidence of your enrolment will be required if offered a scholarship</i>	
Name of enrolling University	
Campus location	
Faculty/School	

Level postgraduate degree	<input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> Master by Research
Title of enrolled postgraduate program	
Commencement date	
Proposed completion date	
Administering Institution	<i>Insert name of scholarship funds administering institution if different from university of enrolment.</i>

Supervisor details

The Lowitja Institute has a network of supervisors and mentors available to scholarship recipients. If you are seeking a supervisor or mentor in your postgraduate studies, please contact Anthea Burns for more details.

Do you require support to find supervisors?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – if yes, move to 'Other Financial Support' <input type="checkbox"/> No
Primary Supervisor	
Name of Primary Supervisor	
Institution + campus	
Phone	
Mobile	
Email	
Secondary Supervisor	
Name of Secondary Supervisor	
Institution campus	
Phone	
Mobile	

Email	
<i>Attach written confirmation from each supervisor</i>	

Other financial support	
Have you applied for or received other financial support?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have applied for or have received other financial support <input type="checkbox"/> No, I have not applied for or have received other financial support
<i>Provide the details of any other financial support you have applied for or have received</i>	

Research activity details

Lowitja Institute Research Principles

The Lowitja Institute is committed to the highest standards of integrity in research practice. As the national institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, and being an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation, it is incumbent upon us to demonstrate what integrity in research practice, and ethics, means for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research. The five principles that underpin the Lowitja Institute's approach to ethical research are:

1. Beneficence – to act for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the conduct of our research
2. Leadership by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
3. Engagement of research end users (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities, policy makers, other potential research users)
4. Development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research workforce and
5. Measurement of impact in improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's health.

This means that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people must be meaningfully involved in the research and requires people to work together in genuine, transparent and mutually respectful partnerships. A Lowitja Institute Scholarship recipient's postgraduate research will be required to demonstrate sound ethics practice. This process is to be informed by:

- *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007*
- *Values and Ethics: Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research and the Guidelines for Ethical Research in Indigenous Studies*
- *Keeping Research on Track: A guide for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples about health research ethics*

Resources to support ethical practice can be found at the Lowitja Institute Ethics Hub at: www.lowitja.org.au/ethics

Research activity title (maximum 20 words)

Research activity or question (maximum 100 words)

Describe your research question and research objectives

Research Aim and Objective (Maximum 100 words)

Provide a detailed outline of the overall Aim of your research activity (what you hope to achieve) and the Objective (the actions/steps you will take to achieve your Aim)

How will your research benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and community? (Maximum 300 words)

Provide a detailed outline of the short, medium and long term benefits to the community, including how you will involve and engage community throughout the activity to ensure they benefit from the activity.

Research significance (Maximum 300 words)

Provide a detailed outline of the significance of the proposed research and why it's important in the broader context, the benefits and its overall impact to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. How does the research proposal extend prior knowledge or respond to emerging or future health trends?

Overview of the research activities to date and proposed second year research activities (Maximum 300 words)

Provide an overview of the research activities completed as part of this project to date and a detailed outline of your proposed second year research activities.

Knowledge Translation Plan

The Lowitja Institute considers it is vitally important that our investment in research results in lasting positive impact on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Knowledge translation (KT) is the complex series of interactions between knowledge holders, knowledge producers and knowledge users, with the goal of achieving research impact, which we define as positive and sustainable long-term benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, beyond the realm of academia.

This reciprocal process of combining experiential wisdom with academic research underpins the Institute's approach to KT and research impact. KT is not only the dissemination of research findings, but also the process of setting research priorities and developing research questions, selecting methodologies, and the collection and analysis of data. Effective KT must centre Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and their wisdoms throughout in order to achieve maximum research impact.

Those successful in receiving a Lowitja Institute Scholarship, will be required to complete a Knowledge Translation (KT) plan as a deliverable of the Scholarship Agreement. The Lowitja Institute will assist scholars workshop the most effective KT activities to translate their research findings and achieve maximum research impact.

Ethics approval

Have you obtained Ethics approval for your research activity

- No – Please explain reason for not obtaining Ethics below
- Yes – Please provide evidence

If you answered no, please explain why you have not obtained Ethics approval for your research activity (Maximum 300 words)

Lowitja Institute Research Principles

Describe how your project demonstrates the following Lowitja Institute Principles (Maximum 300 words for each)

1. Beneficence – to act for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the conduct of our research

2. Leadership by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

3. Engagement and involvement of research end users (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities, policy makers, other potential research users)

4. Development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research workforce

5. Measurement of impact in improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's health

Intellectual property (IP) and Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP)

The Lowitja Institute recognises the fundamental importance of identifying and classifying intellectual property (IP) and Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) developed from research activities funded by the Institute, as well as protecting background IP provided to research activities by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people along with that of other participants in research collaborations. Lowitja Institute-funded research activities are also required to recognise ICIP rights which are the protection of traditional knowledge, cultural practices and knowledge systems developed by Indigenous peoples. ICIP can include ecological knowledge, ancestral remains, cultural tools, languages, performances, ceremonies, artwork, music, sacred sites, oral stories, medicinal knowledge and so on. Applicants should be aware that, if they are successful in obtaining funding for their research, IP and ICIP will be discussed and negotiated to achieve an equitable outcome for all parties as part of the Institute's general research funding agreement negotiations.

Is there any background IP (BIP) to be brought to your research?

*Background IP is IP that was developed before the research commenced and that you will use in your research. Please identify any background IP that you will bring to your research. BIP can include specific know-how, existing data, photographs, notebooks, discoveries, frameworks, tools etc. **(Maximum 200 words)***

Supporting academic information

Ensure all supporting documentation meets the requirements of the application and correspondence from an institution or organisation must be on official letterhead. Allow sufficient time to obtain or prepare your supporting documentation.

Attach your supporting documents to your application email

Qualifications

Attach official documentation of your recent academic qualification/s – Institution, award, year, etc.

Evidence of Confirmation

Curriculum Vitae

Attach a CV, maximum of 4 A4 pages

Academic Supervisors

Attach **Supervisors Form** – you will require a response from each of your proposed supervisors. The form is at <https://www.lowitja.org.au/page/services/grants-and-scholarships/postgraduate-top-up-scholarships>

(If you are seeking support to find supervisors – **this requirement is not applicable**)

Other any relevant documentation

Details of other financial support etc.
Ethics Letter of Approval

How did you find out about the Post-Graduate Lowitja Institute Scholarship? (Please provide details below.

Please complete the applicant declaration in the next page

Applicant Declaration

I declare that the information supplied in this application is true and correct. I have original copies of all submitted documents and I understand that the Lowitja Institute may request sighting the original documents for the purpose of verification. I acknowledge that all documents submitted will become the property of the Lowitja Institute and, as such, will not be returned to me.

Yes / No

I understand that the information collected in this application form will enable the Lowitja Institute to assess my application and, if my application is successful, create a legally binding Scholarship Agreement. I also understand that if I do not complete all relevant sections of this application or fail to supply all supporting documentation my application will not proceed.

Yes / No

I understand that it is a serious offence under the Criminal Code of the Australian Commonwealth to give misleading or false information and I acknowledge that the Lowitja Institute reserves the right to reverse any decision made about my scholarship application funding if it is found that I have provided misleading or false information.

Yes / No

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Signature	
Date	