

Commissioning new Indigenous artwork for NHMRC – RFQ



The National Health and Medical Research Council ([NHMRC](#)) is seeking a Request for Quote (RFQ) to commission a new Indigenous artwork piece by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artist.

Purpose and scope

NHMRC seeks to commission new Indigenous artwork, by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander artist, to be used across all communication channels, including web, print, email and presentations. The objective of having this new artwork is to create cohesive, accessible and professional materials that align with NHMRC's overarching branding and mission. This artwork will be a central visual element for Indigenous communication products in this space and will support the launch of NHMRC's new Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) in May 2026.

Key objectives

- **Versatility:** The new artwork should be designed so that both the entire piece and individual elements can be used independently. This flexibility will allow NHMRC to adapt the artwork for various formats and products, ensuring consistent visual identity across all Indigenous communications.
- **Integration:** The new artwork will be used alongside NHMRC's corporate branding, replacing the current Indigenous artwork created in 2013, which has been extensively used in multiple formats.
- **Identity:** The new artwork will be integral for effectively creating a new visual identity for NHMRC communication materials relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and researchers, ensuring consistent branding for both our external facing and internal voices.
- **Originality:** the new artwork must be wholly the original work of the artist, and the artist must have considered Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property considerations and have obtained any required permissions, and without the use of AI.

Artist direction



- **Connection to NHMRC’s mission:** The artwork should visually represent NHMRC’s mission of “Building a healthy Australia.” This includes themes of creating pathways to a healthier future, investing in and supporting health and medical research, providing evidence-based health advice guidelines and upholding ethical standards for the conduct of research, including prioritising community involvement in research.
- **Connection to NHMRC’s values:**
 - **Integrity** – We act with integrity and honesty in all situations
 - **Excellence** – We strive for excellence in everything we do
 - **Innovation** – We embrace change and inspire creativity and innovation
 - **Collaboration** – We work together as one team and with the community in a spirit of trust and cooperation
 - **Inclusion** – We are inclusive and treat everyone with courtesy and dignity
 - **Transparency** – We foster public trust through transparency.

A. Support for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2021-2031 (the Health Plan) which sets the policy direction for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing and is aligned with the National Agreement on Closing the Gap: The design could reflect and support the Health Plan and National Agreement on Closing the Gap, particularly.

- **Target 1:** Everyone enjoys long and healthy lives.
- **Target 2:** Children are born healthy and strong.
- **Target 4:** Children thrive in their early years.
- **Commitment to Reconciliation:** The design should honour and promote reconciliation, reflecting respect, understanding and partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Usage

- The artwork will be featured across future NHMRC communication channels, including, but not limited to:
 - Websites
 - Printed materials, such as the Annual Report, Report Cards, Ten of the Best etc
 - Email communications
 - Presentations, including PowerPoint templates
 - Social media.
- It will be used in conjunction with [NHMRC’s standard branding](#) to represent a unified and professional image.

Artist brief

Artists are invited to:

- Create a design that embodies NHMRC’s mission and values
- Incorporate elements that can be separated and used individually
- Consistent with NHMRC branding and colours
- Ensure the artwork is suitable for a wide range of digital and print applications
- Reflect NHMRC’s Commitment to Reconciliation and advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing

Design requirements

The artwork must:

- Be delivered as one complete piece, with the ability for NHMRC to extract individual design elements for standalone use
- Align with NHMRC corporate branding and colour compatibility
- Function across both digital and print applications
- Be supplied in editable vector formats (EPS, AI, SVG) and high resolution formats (PNG, TIFF)



- Include clear guidance on usage, colour variations, and element breakdowns
- Provide a short description of the image, including a name, and how NHMRC would reference/cite the image and you as the artist.

Deliverables

Please include the following:

1. Concept development

- Proposed approach and cultural considerations
- How your concept will represent mission, values, reconciliation and the Health Plan.

2. Artwork package

- Full artwork
- Individual elements
- Colour variations (light/dark backgrounds)
- Usage notes.

3. File formats

- Print ready
- Web optimised
- Vector + high resolution exports.

4. Cultural and intellectual property assurances

- Statement confirming original work
- ICIP considerations and permissions.

5. Timeline and milestones

- Your schedule is aligned with NHMRC's RAP launch in May 2026 (*timeframe details below for more info).

6. Cost breakdown

- Total quote (GST inclusive)
- Any optional add-ons such as licensing extensions, animation and extended usage rights(GST inclusive).

Timeframe	Activities
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Expression of Interest (EOI) opens (4 weeks) • Respond to artist queries and provide clarifications.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel shortlisting of EOIs (including Indigenous representation) • Cultural due diligence checks (ICIP) • Invite shortlisted artists to submit concept proposals.-diligence checks (ICIP)
Early-April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artists develop and submit concept proposals • Panel assessment of concepts against brief, cultural protocols, branding and cost • Selection of preferred artist.
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract finalised • Artist commences full artwork development • Ongoing check-ins between artist and NHMRC.-



May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final artwork delivered (full artwork and individual elements)• Internal approvals complete• Artwork integrated into RAP launch materials and Indigenous comms templates.
Late-May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artwork unveiled as part of NHMRC's RAP launch.

Portfolio and references

As this is a significant national commission, please include:

- A portfolio of relevant Indigenous artwork
- Any past client references, especially for cultural design or government/research organisations.

Please provide your quote by Wednesday 25 March 2026.

Quotes should be emailed to communications@nhmrc.gov.au and if you have any questions or require clarification, please reach out as we are happy to provide additional background.

We look forward to receiving your quote and greatly appreciate your interest in collaborating with NHMRC on this important and meaningful project.