



Central Australia Academic Health Science Network

Quick Response Grants Scheme and Guidelines 2024

The Quick Response Grants Scheme (QRGS) enables internal grant rounds for short discrete research projects with specific requirements. These QRGS rounds are released annually and are open to all Central Australia Academic Health Science Network (CA AHSN) partners. The CA AHSN Strategic Plan 2020-2023 values and principles (see appendix 1) and 'A guide for health researchers working with Aboriginal people in central Australia'¹ must be considered in preparing applications.

Timelines: Applications close Thursday 29th February 2024

Grant will be processed by the 30th April 2024

Expenditure must be complete and acquitted by 31st December 2024.

Detailed below are the 3 grant categories with maximum funding allocation per grant.

Grant Purpose: (per funding agreement)

- Giving grants for short discrete research projects
- Grants designed to allow community partners to seek assistance in building capacity in designing and developing research proposals
- Grants for individual professional development initiatives for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers such as attendance at conferences and training courses
- Enable capacity building, at the level of community partners as well the professional development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers

Funding grants

1. Discrete projects

Grants allocated for the discrete project round are research or evaluation projects and can apply for up to \$45,000. This grant can also be used for seeding funding, such as a scoping study, to provide information for a larger study grant.

2. Non-research institute capacity development project

These grants are up to \$12,000 and are to assist non-research partners with engagement in research. This grant can provide assistance with:

- Engaging research expertise to write a research proposal
- Assist with qualitative or quantitative data skills
- Writing a research report.

3. Research/ Knowledge Translation and Evaluation – Open grant

¹ Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Congress Research October 2021)
[MASTER Researchers-Guide_designed-FINAL-21-11-03.pdf \(caac.org.au\)](https://www.caac.org.au/MASTER_Researchers-Guide_designed-FINAL-21-11-03.pdf)

Research/ Knowledge Translation and Evaluation is an important element of CA AHSN's work. Grants in this category are up to \$20,000 and are specifically used to:

- Undertaking innovative translation activities of CA AHSN funded projects that enhances the research / knowledge translation already incorporated into the project that includes;
 - providing feedback to participants, health services and community groups and gaining insight into how the research findings are to be used;
 - preparation and implementation of research outcomes through health promotion materials specifically to improve health of individuals, families and communities;
 - assistance with embedding evidence from research findings into screening and treatment guidelines, health surveillance and monitoring.
- Undertake process, outcome or impact evaluation related to CA AHSN funded projects or on projects that are relevant to CA AHSN.

Eligibility

To be eligible in applying for a Quick Response Grant, the following initial criteria need to be met:

- The applicant is an employee of a current CA AHSN partner.
- The applicant's employment is directly related to research, research translation or evaluation
- The applicant is developing skills in research and evaluation (except for Grant 3).
- Aboriginal Investigators are included in the grant or have clear leadership roles.
- Applicant's activity is undertaken in the Barkly and Central Australian regions.
- Applicants are encouraged to include expertise from within the CA AHSN partnership, unless there are limitations and expertise needs to be sought from elsewhere.

Funding will not be considered for:

- Extending or broaden the scope of a current CA AHSN project
- Salaries, unless contracting expertise.
- Purchase of assets or items usually provided by the workplace (computers, other office equipment, lease or purchase of vehicles)
- Capital works or infrastructure including modifications to buildings or offices
- Subscriptions, training, conference or publication costs including open access journals

NB: Priority will be given to applications that meet the above criteria. Applications that partially meet the above criteria will receive secondary consideration and will be awarded based on merit and budget constraints.

Referee

- Please provide the contact details from an Aboriginal organisation in the Barkly region and/or CA.

Appendix 1: CA AHSN Strategic Plan 2020-2023 VALUES & PRINCIPLES

Aboriginal Leadership and Self Determination. CA AHSN values building the capabilities of Aboriginal organisations, researchers and staff to have a central role in determining the research, leading the research and using the research.

Aboriginal workforce capabilities. CA AHSN is committed to growing and supporting Aboriginal organisations and individuals in active participation in all aspects of research.

Strengthening Primary Health Care. Committed to the broader cultural, social and environmental aspects of primary health care to support comprehensive improvements in health outcomes

Working Two-Way. CA AHSN is committed to privileging Aboriginal knowledge systems and ways of working to ensure sharing skills, knowledge and understandings between non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal partners is valued and equitable.

Aboriginal Cultural Competence. Is embedded in the way we work.

Research is Community and Health Service driven. Needs and concerns are raised by communities and services who lead the research approach with partnering research institutes.

Use a strengths-based approach. A Strengths focus, in how research is designed, implemented, analysed and translated.

Aboriginal Data Sovereignty. Research Data Governance is at the forefront of designing, undertaking, disseminating and translating research to ensure Aboriginal control in how data is used, stored and shared. This is informed by Human Research Ethics Guidelines, privacy and confidentiality legislation.