

The Sved Williams Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

Terms of Reference



RANZCP
Foundation

Authorising Body:	Board via the RANZCP Foundation Committee
Responsible Committee(s):	RANZCP Foundation Committee
Responsible Department(s):	Membership & Events
Document Code:	TOR The Sved Williams scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

Description

The Sved Williams Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perinatal and Infant Mental Health is established to contribute to achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and their children in the first 1000 days of their children's lives, and to expand current knowledge and build capacity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perinatal and infant psychiatry.

This scholarship provides up to A\$50,000 in funding over a two-year period.

Eligible applicants may apply for the scholarship for the purposes of:

- training or relevant educational activities in perinatal and infant psychiatry
- research into practices which bring better family support at times of family formation
- translation of evaluated existing programs which enhance Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander perinatal mental health to other places within Australia
- developing or delivering mental health literacy initiatives for perinatal families in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, or
- another purpose that is directly linked to achieving the objectives of this scholarship.

This scholarship is made possible thanks to a generous donation received from RANZCP Fellow Associate Professor Anne Sved Williams AM, and Dr Tony Williams.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to apply, the applicant must:

1. be a current RANZCP Fellow or Associate (Trainee) member who is in good standing with the RANZCP; and
2. identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, including being a member or eligible to be a member of the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA), and have demonstrable links to their community.

The scholarship may be awarded to one successful applicant or to multiple successful applicants who will receive an allocation of the total scholarship funding.

The scholarship may be awarded to an individual, or to a team of people. Where the scholarship is awarded to a team, at least one team member must be a RANZCP Fellow or Associate (Trainee) who meets all the eligibility criteria and who must be the lead primary researcher or project lead with respect to the work of the applicant team.

The successful scholarship award recipient/s must perform their supported research or project within Australia and within two years from the date the award is made, or by another time agreed to by the RANZCP.

Scholarship funds must not be used as top-up or additional funding for another research project that is currently in progress, or that is being funded through other means, (e.g. for an existing program or project officer role in an external organisation)

The scholarship may be used in addition to any other RANZCP grant or RANZCP award received for the same proposal or project.

Form of award

The scholarship includes:

1. up to A\$50,000 in funding (that may be paid in instalments);
2. a framed award certificate; and
3. an invitation to accept the award certificate at the College Ceremony during the RANZCP Congress.

The recipient/s will also be encouraged to submit an abstract and present the work during the RANZCP Congress.

Application process

Applicants are required to submit a completed scholarship application form, accompanied by the following supporting documents:

1. A current curriculum vitae;
2. At least one referee's report;
3. Where the applicant is applying to use the scholarship for research purposes, evidence that the research project has gained ethics approval from a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC), or evidence that an application for ethics approval has been submitted. Funds will not be released to successful applicant(s) until ethics approval has been confirmed and provided to the RANZCP.
4. Where the applicant(s) is/are applying to use the scholarship for purposes other than research, information regarding how the use of the funds will achieve the objectives of the scholarship.
5. Documentation of the analysis tool/s and method of dissemination of findings. It is expected that the applicant (or applicant team) has planned and designed the study and can articulate how they will participate in the data acquisition/collection and data analysis. This could include applying for access to data, chart reviews and development of an analysis plan. Inclusion of expert statistical advice is acceptable as part of the proposal plan.
6. Evidence of an implementation plan, or an explanation of the capacity for the proposal to be implemented towards achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and their children in the first 1000 days of their children's lives.
7. Details of the proposal budget including all proposed spending.
 - a. For *research-based proposals*, scholarship funding can be utilised for costs associated with the preparation, conduct and analysis of the research. Applicants should ensure that their proposal budget supports the intent and purpose of the research and its capacity to achieve the overall objectives of the scholarship.
 - b. For *non-research-based proposals*, scholarship funding can only be used for direct costs associated with the project delivery itself (e.g. training course or tuition fees, or costs of preparing and delivering mental health literacy initiatives for perinatal families in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities).
8. Disclosure of previous individual research funding and/or applications for other RANZCP grant/s.
9. Additional information that assists confirm the applicant's background as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

Applications should be completed using the prescribed application form available on the [RANZCP Foundation website](#) and sent to foundation@ranzcp.org by the closing date specified on the website.

Selection criteria

The selection panel will review and assess all applications according to the following selection criteria:

1. Originality
2. Scientific merit
3. Capacity to:
 - a. contribute to achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents and their children in the first 1000 days of their children's lives; and
 - b. expand current knowledge and to build capacity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perinatal and infant psychiatry.

Selection panel

The RANZCP will convene a selection panel for the purposes of assessing all applications and making a recommendation to the RANZCP Foundation Committee, and the RANZCP Board.

The selection panel will consist of the following RANZCP representatives:

1. The Chair of the RANZCP Foundation (who will Chair the selection panel);
2. The RANZCP Board Representative member of the Foundation Committee;
3. The South Australian representative of the Section of Perinatal and Infant Psychiatry, or a delegate; and
4. Two (2) representatives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Mental Health Committee.

At least one (1) selection panel member must identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. Preference will be given to a nominee who is a member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health Committee.

The Chair of the selection panel may co-opt additional members with particular expertise if required (e.g. from the Committee for Research), or a person external to the RANZCP that has particular expertise which could support the selection panel in assessing the proposal.

It is the responsibility of all members of the selection panel to comply with the RANZCP [Declaring and Managing Conflict of Interest Guideline](#) and to promptly take appropriate action to effectively manage the conflict of interest. In the event that a conflict of interest is identified:

1. the Chair will be responsible for addressing the conflict and taking appropriate steps to ensure the integrity of the selection process is maintained; or
2. where the Chair declares a conflict of interest, and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements, the decision will be deferred to the remaining members of the selection panel.

All decisions of the selection panel must be approved by:

1. the RANZCP Foundation Committee; and
2. the RANZCP Board.

The RANZCP:

1. will decide to award scholarship funds commensurate with the amount it determines is necessary for the applicant to complete the proposal assessed.
2. may decide to award the scholarship funds to a successful applicant in instalments or as a single amount depending on the nature of the proposal.
3. reserves the right to make no award of the scholarship if it does not receive any suitable applications that, in its opinion, are capable of achieving the objectives of the scholarship.

Contact information

Please contact foundation@ranzcp.org.

Revision record

Contact: Manager, Membership Development

Date	Version	Approver	Description
February 2022	1.0	B2022/2	New document – Board approved
2024			NEXT REVIEW