Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Award

Frequently asked questions:

- **What is an Expression of Interest (EOI)?**
  
  An expression of interest is a submission to the Heart Foundation. This submission outlines the type of funding you are wanting. Once an initial expression of interest is received, the Heart Foundation will request additional information depending on your submission this will help the peer review committee compare applications appropriately.

- **Who will review the Expression of Interest (EOI)?**
  
  The Heart Foundation will collate a panel of expert reviewers who are predominately Aboriginal and Torres strait Islander Research Professionals. They are experienced and interested in research and will review and determine who will receive the funding.

- **I’m not a cardiologist, can I still apply?**
  
  Cardiovascular health incorporates many facets, as the heart and circulatory system relate to many parts of the body. Examples of research the Heart Foundation regularly fund:
  
  - Biological heart function research
  - Stroke
  - Public health
  - Prevention strategies
  - Obesity
  - Diet
  - Sleep
  - Treatments
  - Health economics
  - Epidemiology
  - Biostatistics
  - Biomedical
  - Clinical
  - New strategies
  - Smoking cessation
• How much funding can I apply for?

There is a minimum of $2,500 and a maximum of $120,000 (per annum) of funding which can be applied for. The committee will review the EOIs and determine whether the requested funding is feasible and the best use of funding.

Here are some examples of funding the Heart Foundation gives out:

- Health Professional Scholarship – up to 3 years stipend of $40,000 +CPI (pro-rata)
- Postdoctoral Fellowship – 2 years stipend of $75,000 +CPI (pro-rata)
- Vanguard Award – once off payment of $75,000
- Collaboration and Exchange – once off payment of $5,000

• If I am successful what will happen next?

The Heart Foundation will contact successful/unsuccessful applicants to advise of their status/next steps.

• If I am successful what will the Heart Foundation require from me?

Depending on the type of funding awarded, the Heart Foundation may require any but not limited to the following:

- Progress reports
- Financial Acquittals
- Updates
- Video/Phone Update

The Heart Foundation maintains privacy requirements/legislation and will not use any information outside of the organisation without consent from awardees.

• Do I have to be an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander to apply?

Everyone is eligible to apply however application from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researcher professionals will be considered favourably

All applications submitted must show a significant benefit to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and have demonstrated support from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community/Communities/Elders.

• Do I have to add proof of Aboriginality?

No proof of Aboriginality is not required.

• Do I need to be a part of an NHMRC administering institution?
No, however if you are conducting research (project/fellowship/scholarship) you will need to join an NHMRC administering institution to administer the award. The Heart Foundation can help provide a link/contact to administering institutions and researchers.

- **Is there anything further I can provide to help my application?**

Any support letters/information from Elders/communities may be considered favourably. There will be an opportunity for you to provide any additional information that may be important to the peer review.

- **I am an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Intern/Research Assistant/Honours Student can I apply?**

Yes, the Heart Foundation hopes to support up-and-coming researchers!

- **Will everyone who applies for funding receive funding?**

Unfortunately, the Heart Foundation has only a limited amount of funding from our donors and as a result not all applicants will receive funding.

- **My proposal does not fit the parameters**

The Heart Foundation is open to receiving requests of flexibility in terms of funding/timeframe of award etc as long as the award meets the eligibility criteria. All requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may/may not be approved depending on award and request.

- **My query is not listed here:**

For further information please contact Adele at:

research@heartfoundation.org.au or call (03) 9321 1581