# Step 1: Expression of Interest

### Vision

To enable research that can improve the health of the Gold Coast Community and the delivery of health care services.

### Mission

To facilitate innovative, collaborative and responsive health care research that benefits the Gold Coast Community and optimises our system of health care.

### Purpose

The Gold Coast Health (GCH) and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation (GCHF) Research Grants Scheme represents a partnership between the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service and the Gold Coast Hospital Foundation, the purpose of which is to facilitate:

* High quality health-related research
* Building the research capacity of Gold Coast Health and its staff
* A strong research culture within Gold Coast Health facilities
* Translatable research that results in improvements in patient outcomes, clinical practice, service delivery and population health in the Gold Coast region
* Engagement of Gold Coast’s health care professionals in research, providing support for staff at different levels of research expertise
* The building of meaningful collaborations between Gold Coast Health researchers and external partners
* Funding research that has the potential for wide dissemination across the Gold Coast, Australia and internationally.

The GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme 2018 will support up to $100,000 per project, for projects of one to three years duration.

### Administration

The GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme is administered through the Office for Research Governance and Development (ORGD) and in partnership with the GCHF.

The GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme for 2018 will involve a two-step application process. The first step involves submission of an Expression of Interest (EOI). Following review of the EOI by members of the Research Grants Committee, successful applicants will be invited to submit a Full Application. Details of the process follow.

Expression of Interest

The Expression of Interest has been introduced to streamline and simplify the research grant application process while also providing the support required to enhance application quality. The focus of the EOI is on the identification of exciting research ideas which address important areas of health and how the proposed research will contribute to improvements in patient care, clinical practice, service delivery or population health in our region. The feasibility of the project, including the proposed methods, resources and project timeline, should be consistent with the modest funding and relatively short timelines that apply to GCH & GCHF research grants. It is the aim of the GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme to build research capacity within GCH, as such collaboration is essential. Teams must engage at least one novice GCH researcher within in their research team to demonstrate commitment to building research capacity at GCH. Where the primary applicant is a novice researcher, they are encouraged to develop the project in collaboration with internal and/or external experienced researchers who can provide methodological expertise and act as mentors in the research process.

**Eligibility criteria**

* The lead applicant holds a continuing appointment (minimum FTE of 0.5) at GCH (permanent appointment or be temporarily appointed at GCH for the duration of the project; this includes applicants with conjoint appointments)
* The project will primarily be undertaken at GCH site(s)
* The proposed research is not currently funded by any other organisation, with the exception of situations where applicants are seeking joint funding, in which case this needs to be made clear in the budget section of the application
* The project has not previously been funded by the GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme.

**Submission process**

EOI opens Monday 30 Apr, 2018

An EOI template is provided to help prepare your submission; when finalised, this can be copied and pasted into the SmartyGrants system along with all applicants CVs and the Statement of Support signed by thePrimary Applicant’s Head of Department. Please note that there may be slight discrepancies between the off-line form and the SmartyGrants system.

Link to the SmartyGrants system, [*click here*](http://gchweb.sth.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-governance-education-and-research/research/research-grants.html)

The EOI submission process closes Friday 08 Jun, 2018 at 5pm

**Support to develop submissions**

If you were unable to attend the introductory Information Session please contact the ORGD to obtain a link to the recording, *click here*.

An EOI Development Session will be held on Friday 11 May, 2018 from 12:30 to 1:30pm. This session will provide an opportunity to review your project idea and application with experienced research staff. Location: GCUH Small Lecture Theatre and breakout rooms | Robina RH-A-1-Admin Meeting Room 1. RSVP with the Primary Applicants name and working title for the project by 04 May, *click here*. Please bring a current draft of your team’s EOI Submission template to this session.

If someone from your project team cannot attend the EOI Development Session and you would like further support, please contact the ORGD for assistance, *click here*.

Computer lab sessions are available to gain support uploading submissions to the SmartyGrants system, *click here* to register.

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| Date | Time | Location | Places |
| 29 May | 12:30 to 1:30pm | GCUH-E-G-026 PED | 8 |
| 31 May | 9:00 to 10:00am | GCUH-E-G-028 PED | 10 |
| 1 June | 10:00 to 11:00am | Robina RH-A-1-Admin Meeting Room 1 | 6 |
| 1 June | 12:30 to 1:30pm | Robina RH-A-1-Admin Meeting Room 1 | 6 |
| 1 June | 3:30 to 4:30pm | Robina RH-A-1-Admin Meeting Room 1 | 6 |
| 4 June | 9:00 to 10:00am | GCUH-E-G-028 PED | 10 |
| 6 June | 12:30 to 1:30pm | GCUH-E-G-028 PED | 10 |

The following links may also assist the development of your EOI:

* Gold Coast Health Strategic Plan 2016 – 2020, [*click here*](http://gchweb.sth.health.qld.gov.au/documents/PLA1443)
* Gold Coast Health Research Strategic Plan, *click here to request*
* Gold Coast Hospital Foundation link: [*click here*](http://gchfoundation.org.au/)

**EOI announcements 15 Jun, 2018**

All applicants will be notified of the decision outcome and successful applicants will be invited to submit a Full Application.

**Full Application**

Full Application (by invitation) due 10 Aug, 2018

Announcements will be made at the Research Week Conference, mid November, 2018

**Contact and enquiries**

Please refer questions to the Office for Research Governance and Development’s Grants Coordinator.

To email *click here*or telephone 07 5687 8310

EOI Submission template

This template has been provided to prepare EOI submissions off-line, then ‘copy and paste’ final text into the SmartyGrants system. Please note that there may be slight discrepancies between the off-line form and the SmartyGrants system.

The Statement of Support signed by the Primary Applicant’s Head of Department forms part of the submission requirements.

Link to the SmartyGrants system, [*click here*](http://gchweb.sth.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-governance-education-and-research/research/research-grants.html)

## Details of the project team:

### Primary Applicant

Name:

Position:

Email:

Provide a GCH email address that is frequently (at least weekly) accessed

Telephone:

Organisation:

Affiliated with Gold Coast Health Research Group / Department / Service:

Qualifications:

Role in the project:

Upload current CV to SmartyGrants

### Co-Applicant

Name:

Position:

Co-Applicant Organisation:

Affiliated with Gold Coast Health Research Group / Department / Service:

Qualifications:

Role in the project:

Upload current CV to SmartyGrants

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Name:

Position:

Co-Applicant Organisation:

Affiliated with Gold Coast Health Research Group / Department / Service:

Qualifications:

Role in the project:

Upload current CV to SmartyGrants

Please add further Co-Applicants as required.

## Assessment criteria

The EOI submission will be judged according to how well responses comply with the information requested under each heading. For an application to progress to the Full Application stage it is imperative that responses to sections marked by an asterisk substantially meet these requests. Other sections provide important background and context to enable a clearer understanding of responses to asterisked sections. Scores will not be assigned to EOIs and they will not be ranked. The research track record of applicants will not be a criterion at the EOI stage but applicants who are invited to submit a full application may be encouraged to strengthen sections of their proposal by collaborating with more experienced researchers or seeking methodological advice.

## Title:

Accurately and concisely describe the nature of the project.

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Maximum 25 words

## Background and rationale:

Provide a short summary of the problem and the relevant literature. Identify relevant knowledge gaps and link these in with well-constructed arguments for undertaking the proposed research. Please emphasise novel and/or important aspects of the proposed research and how it relates to the clinical, health service or population health needs of the Gold Coast Community.

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Maximum 300 words

## \*Primary aim, research question and study outcomes:

State the main aims of the research. Link these to the background and rationale and translate them into specific researchable questions with appropriate outcomes. If appropriate, use the PICO (Patients Intervention, Controls, Outcome) framework.

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Maximum 100 words

## \*Study design, methodology and project plan:

Outline the proposed study design. Identify the target population or sample and state how they will be recruited / obtained. Specify what data will be collected and give an outlined data analysis plan. If necessary, indicate what methodological and/or analytical support you will be seeking (it is not necessary for this to be secured at the EOI stage).

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Maximum 300 words

## \*Impacts:

Clearly define the possible impacts of the study and how these may translate to a measurable effect on the health or healthcare of the Gold Coast Community (it is understood that these may not be achieved during the term of the research project).

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Maximum 150 words

## \*Collaboration and capacity building:

Describe the collaborations that exist or intend to be formed to deliver this project. Also outline how the research capacity of staff who are new to research (and others) will be developed as part of their participation in the project. (Examples include: learning specific laboratory, clinical, or research skills, learning how to do a literature search and critique the literature; undertaking an evidenced-based practice course; learning specifically about HREC/Governance, data management and analysis, or project management)

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Maximum 150 words

## Approximate cost:

Estimate the total cost of the research project, the approximate amount being sought in this application and any financial or in-kind support being obtained from other organisations.

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Maximum 50 words

## Current funding:

List all grant applications submitted to date for (or directly related to) this project.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grant | Year | Successful / Under review | Amount awarded | Funding attributed to |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Add additional lines as required

## References:

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Maximum 7 (up to 5 from “Background and rationale”)Statement of Support:

Please have your Head of Department sign this Statement of Support, then scan and upload this page to the SmartyGrants system.

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| Primary Applicant’s Name: |  |
| Project title: |  |

* I am aware of the project outlined in the Expression of Interest being submitted for funding support from the 2018 GCH & GCHF Research Grants Scheme.
* This project will have the support of this Department if the funding request is successful.

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| Department:Head of Departments Name: |  |
| Signature: |  |
| Date: |  |

**Checklist**

Please check you have completed the following requirements to finalise your submission:

* Meet all the eligibility requirements for this grant scheme
* All fields have been completed in the SmartyGrants system
* All applicants current CVs have been uploaded to SmartyGrants
* A signed Statement of Support from the Primary Applicant’s Head of Department has been uploaded to SmartyGrants
* Application submitted in the SmartyGrants system by 5.00pm on Friday 8 Jun, 2018