**CREATE Grant-in-Aid Funding Opportunity**

**To encourage new collaborative research between CREATE Fellows**

**Background**

The Centre of Research Excellence in Pulmonary Fibrosis (CRE-PF) aims to transform and extend the lives of people with pulmonary fibrosis.

The CRE-PF recognises the importance of providing research students and early career researchers with the necessary training and skills to develop as future leaders of Pulmonary Fibrosis research. Our vision is to CREATE (CRE Advanced Training Environment) the next generation of outstanding investigators capable of developing and translating knowledge from bench-to-bedside, with a focus on the prevention of end-stage fibrotic lung disease and new treatments to improve the health of Australians affected by Pulmonary Fibrosis.

The goals of CREATE are to produce the next generation of outstanding Pulmonary Fibrosis researchers by:

1. Attracting and retaining high quality early to mid career researchers to Pulmonary Fibrosis research and supporting accelerated career progression;
2. Enhancing Pulmonary Fibrosis basic science and clinical and translational research training and building early to mid career researcher profiles; and
3. Enabling and enhancing collaboration of Pulmonary Fibrosis early to mid career researchers inter/nationally.

**Invitation**

In 2024, there is a CREATE Grant-in-Aid opportunity for the award of two (2) grants valued at **a total of $10,000** eachto assist new collaborative investigator led Pulmonary Fibrosis research within the group of CREATE Fellows. The objective of the CREATE Grants-in-Aid is to encourage new research which meets the [aims of the CRE-PF](https://www.cre-pf.org.au/research) and builds collaborations between CREATE Fellows drawn together through the CRE-PF.

The CREATE Grants-in-Aid Award are open to those who have been accepted as [CREATE Fellows](https://www.cre-pf.org.au/create-fellows). Fellows may apply for the CREATE Grant-in-Aid as part of a team of two (2) or more investigators. Applications may be **for a maximum of $10,000.**

Note that these funds can be used to support any research into Pulmonary Fibrosis which meets the [aims of the CRE-PF](https://www.cre-pf.org.au/research). In most cases, the CREATE Grant-in-Aid is not intended to provide sole support for the research activities. Instead it is designed to act as seed money to obtain pilot data to support attracting additional external funding; and/or as a travel grant assist with establishing a research project. For example, the Grant-in-Aid funding may be used to support:

* Travel and associated costs to permit investigators to spend time together to design the proposed discrete research project;
* Costs of equipment/consumables directly related to a proposed discrete research project;
* Additional laboratory work *directly related to* a proposed discrete research project;
* Technical staff costs *directly related to* a proposed discrete research project;
* Post-hoc statistical or bioinformatic analysis of a large dataset derived from another and/or research project.

Information should also be provided on any other potential sources of project funding and how the grant would be used if the application were to be successful. Preference may be given to applications which demonstrate most clearly how the Grant-in-Aid will leverage funding or significantly enhance the attractiveness of a subsequent grant proposal, or make best use of resources available from within the CRE-PF.

Applications will undergo assessment by non-conflicted members of the CREATE Program Advisory Committee. If there are no applications of suitable merit, the CREATE Program Advisory Committee has a right to decline to award the grant.

**Key Eligibility Criterion**

The CREATE Grant-in-Aid will be offered to group of individuals meeting the following eligibility criterion:

* The applicants must have been accepted as CREATE Fellows.
* The application must be for Pulmonary Fibrosis research (IPF, other idiopathic interstitial pneumonias, sarcoidosis, pneumoconiosis etc). Applications which have an exclusive occupational lung disease focus and do not further the understanding of Pulmonary Fibrosis will not be considered for funding.
* The proposed research must be investigator-led. Sponsored research will not be funded.
* The application must relate to new research collaborations, not to collaborative projects already underway.
* Preference will be given to applications including CREATE Fellows who have not previously been part of a successful CREATE Grant-in-Aid application.

**Conditions**

1. The grant will be competitive and open to teams of two (2) or more [CREATE Fellows](https://www.cre-pf.org.au/create-fellows) from two (2) or more institutions.
2. Applications should include a summary of the rationale for the proposed study, the scientific design, intended duration and whether or not it has gained ethical approval.
3. Applications should include a statement regarding any confirmed funding sources for the study.
4. Grantees are expected to commence their project within six (6) calendar months of being awarded. If the award is not taken up within this timeframe the monies will be forfeited.
5. In applying for research funding from CREATE funds from the CRE-PF, applicants must confirm that they will:
   1. Ensure the ethical conduct of research under the grant;
   2. Identify any applications to other organisations for the same project;
   3. Acknowledge the support of the CRE-PF in any publications (including scientific articles, press releases and abstracts) arising from work carried out under the grant; and
   4. Provide a Final Report on the funded work within 12 months of commencement of the grant, signed by each investigator. Note that completion of the funded work may not coincide with completion of the project in its entirety.
6. By virtue of the signature of the appropriate supervisors/group leads and Head of Department for First Collaborator on the application form, supervisors/group leads and Heads of Department confirm that they will ensure:
   1. That monies given by the CRE-PF will be administered by their institution only for the purpose designated by the CRE-PF and in accordance with the relevant institutional policies and processes;
   2. That physical facilities and infrastructure support will be provided and maintained to allow research under the grant to proceed; and
   3. That the applicant/s has/have the work time available to undertake the proposed study when existing commitments are considered.
7. Any grant will be conditional upon the relevant institution and the applicant(s) entering into an appropriate form of agreement with the CRE-PF as to the disposition of the grant.
8. Recipients of grants may be asked by the CRE-PF to present the results of the funded research at a public symposium, in media or other promotional activity organised by the CRE-PF.

Applications will be assessed by non-conflicted members of the CREATE Program Advisory Committee. The judging criteria for the submitted applications are as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| Criterion | Weight |
| Originality of idea and impact of study | 20% |
| Feasibility of project, including appropriateness of methods and budget | 30% |
| Potential strength and impact of collaboration | 30% |
| Track record of CREATE Fellow investigators | 20% |
| Total | **100%** |

**Timeline**

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| --- | --- |
| **Date / time** | |
| **1 April 2024** | Applications open |
| **3 June 2024**  **Midnight (AEST)** | Applications close  Submit to Kate Christian: [katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au](mailto:katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au) |
| **June –July 2024** | Review period for applications and correspondence with applicants if required |
| **15-22 July 2024** | Notification of successful applicants |
| **26-27 July 2024** | Official recognition of award recipients – ARLDSC 2024 |

**Enquiries**

Contact details:

Kate Christian

CREATE Training Coordinator

Email: [katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au](mailto:katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au)

0414 704 701

**CREATE Grant-in-Aid 2024**

**APPLICATION FORM**

**TO APPLY**

1. Please complete all sections of this form.
2. Use a minimum size 11 Calibri font
3. Breach of guidelines will deem the application not valid (Including font size and references).

Applicants are required to submit their applications, as a single PDF file, by email to [katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au](mailto:katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au).

Please direct enquires to Kate Christian, CREATE Training Coordinator on [katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au](mailto:katherine.christian@sydney.edu.au) or 0414 704 701.

**DEADLINE**

**Email submission to be dated no later than 3 June 2024.**

**APPLICANTS’ DETAILS**

**First Collaborator**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | Dr Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other: | | | | |
| **First Name** |  | | | | |
| **Last Name** |  | | | | |
| **Institution** |  | | | | |
| **Job Title** |  | | | | |
| **Work Address** |  | | | | |
|  | Suburb | | State | | Postcode |
| **Contact** | T: | M: | | F: | |
| Email: | | | | |
| **Signature** |  | | | **Date**: | |

**Second Collaborator**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | Dr Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other: | | | | |
| **First Name** |  | | | | |
| **Last Name** |  | | | | |
| **Institution** |  | | | | |
| **Job Title** |  | | | | |
| **Work Address** |  | | | | |
|  | Suburb | | State | | Postcode |
| **Contact** | T: | M: | | F: | |
| Email: | | | | |
| **Signature** |  | | | **Date**: | |

*Add more CREATE Fellow collaborators if required.*

**SUPERVISOR’S DETAILS FOR EACH CREATE FELLOW**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First Collaborator:** | | | | | | | |
| **Principal Supervisor / Research Group Lead** | | | | | | | |
| **Title** | | Prof A/Prof Dr Mr Ms Other: | | | | | |
| **First Name** | |  | | | | | |
| **Last Name** | |  | | | | | |
| **Institution** | |  | | | | | |
| **Postal Address** | |  | | | | | |
|  | | Suburb | | State | | | Postcode |
| **Contact** | | T: | M: | | F: | | |
| Email: | | | | | |
| **Signature** |  | | | | | **Date**: | |
| **Signature Head of Department** |  | | | | | **Date**: | |
| **Name Head of Department** |  | | | | | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Second Collaborator:** | | | | | | | |
| **Principal Supervisor / Research Group Lead** | | | | | | | |
| **Title** | | Prof A/Prof Dr Mr Ms Other: | | | | | |
| **First Name** | |  | | | | | |
| **Last Name** | |  | | | | | |
| **Institution** | |  | | | | | |
| **Postal Address** | |  | | | | | |
|  | | Suburb | | State | | | Postcode |
| **Contact** | | T: | M: | | F: | | |
| Email: | | | | | |
| **Signature** |  | | | | | **Date**: | |

*Add more supervisor details for further CREATE Fellow collaborators if required.*

***Notes:***

* *Supervisor’s signatures above indicate knowledge and support of Fellows undertaking this research project and that Fellows have the required time and resource support to do so.*
* *Head of Department signature for First Collaborator above indicates knowledge and support of Fellow undertaking this research project.*
* **“First Collaborator” Applicants are responsible for checking whether their institution requires completion of any other forms or institutional approvals before applying for external funding.**

# **RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

**1. Project Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** |  |
| **Expected commencement date** |  |
| **Expected completion date** |  |

**2. Lay Summary of Proposed Project**

Provide a plain language summary of the proposed project that can be used in a media release or similar (maximum 100 words).

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**3. Project Aims**

Describe the project aims in 1-2 sentences.

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**4. Project Proposal**

Provide a detailed description of the proposed project. Include a description of its originality, methods, feasibility and potential impact (maximum 800 words in total).

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**5. Budget and Budget Justification**

Outline the proposed budget for the requested funding, including a brief justification and information about any additional funding sources if applicable (maximum 100 words). Maximum funding request is $10,000.

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**6. Collaboration**

Outline how the project will establish collaboration between CREATE Fellows and improve competitiveness of subsequent grant application/s (maximum 200 words).

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**7. Collaborator Track Record Relative to Opportunity statements**

Summary of key research track record aspects which you would like to highlight (one page maximum for each CREATE Fellow applicant). This will be assessed relative to stage of career.

*Include, for example:*

* *Time since PhD enrolment or completion*
* *Contribution to the field of research*
* *Overview of top publication/s including reasons why they are important in the field*
* *National / international standing including invitations to speak, committee membership*
* *Research support including grants / fellowships*
* *Professional activities (committees, conference organisation / participation)*
* *Collaborations*
* *Community engagement and involvement*

**Checklist for Submission:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Details** | **✓** |
| Completed standard application form (preceding pages) |  |
| Signature of approval from Principal Supervisor/Research Group Lead for each Collaborator indicating support for the project |  |
| Head of Department signature for First Collaborator |  |
| Documents to substantiate the application, if applicable |  |

Grant funding will be paid to the successful applicants via the usual institutional channels for First Collaborator. It is the responsibility of the Fellows to ensure they have complied with institutional policy and processes with respect to application for external funding.