

Early Career Research Incentive Award Guidelines

AIM

The ERCIA is designed to encourage academic staff members of the Faculty to increase their research productivity. A guiding principle for the ERCIA is that it will best achieve its aim by the recipient working in close collaboration with a mentor (a more senior, successful researcher).

ELIGIBILITY

Those eligible to apply for an ERCIA must

- Hold a full-time or at least a .5 fractional appointment as a Level A, B or C academic of the Faculty of Education.
- Have been employed at ACU National for at least one (1) year (equivalent full-time) prior to the implementation of the plans in the award.
- Have completed a Doctoral qualification within the previous 5 years
- Have demonstrated promise in research by achieving research productivity in the form of DEST recognized categories and/or competitive research grants.

GUIDELINES

Funds can be applied for use in a variety of ways – hiring of research assistants, travel for mentor etc. Below are listed some suggested schemes for which the award could be made.

- Grant preparation assistance (To assist those with less experience in the grant application process to be able to increase the probability of being successful).
- Links – provision of funds for the maintenance/development of linkages with researchers at other institutions. (Such linkages may lead to joint grant applications)
- Conduct a pilot study to support a larger grant application (Evidence of research in an area is crucial for success in larger grant applications).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should prepare a submission totaling no more than 6 pages setting out the following:

1. A detailed and argued plan, including time line and outcome(s), of the process and activities they seek to undertake.
2. Specification of the role of the mentor in the process and activities.
3. A signed statement by the mentor indicating their support for the application and their willingness to fulfill the role as specified.
4. A detailed and justified budget for up to but not exceeding \$5,000
5. An indication of support by their Head of School
6. An up-to-date CV.

In addition the following is also required:

1. A statement indicating research track record relative to opportunities.
2. An explanation on how the application supports the strategic direction of the Faculty of Education, Employing Bodies and/or DEST research directions.
3. Expected impact resulting from the output of this research.

Applications should be forwarded to the Executive Officer, Office of the Associate Dean, Research, Research Training and Partnerships, Faculty of Education (PO Box 456, Virginia, Qld, 4014) or emailed to: rtp.assocdeaned@acu.edu.au Applications will be considered by the Faculty Research Standing Committee, Chaired by Professor Warren. Notification of the result will be within four weeks of the closing date.

REPORTING

Interim reports: submitted according to the time-line given in the application OR at the end of semester, if the grant is for a longer period than one semester.

Final report: To be submitted within one month of completion according to the timeline agreed to on application. The final report should also include evidence of output, eg., drafting of DEEWR/DIISR recognized publications, grant applications etc.

CONSTRAINTS

Variations from the approved budget must be passed by the Faculty Research Standing Committee. The ERCIA cannot be used in conjunction with nor as a substitute for other schemes available within ACU National.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: July 2009