



Guideline for Smithson Psychology Micro-Grant Scheme 2021

Overview

The Smithson Psychology Micro Grant Scheme (SPMGS) offers annual funding of up to \$10K on a competitive basis for early career academic staff to undertake activities associated with the advancement of their research.

Guidelines

Eligibility

- a) All ANU Psychology academic staff level A-C and within 5 years of award of PhD, at 0.2 FTE or more, regardless of term of appointment (continuing; contract).
- b) Staff who currently are not receiving research funding from an external body (e.g., ARC, NHMRC, Rotary, Government, etc.) during the year of the SPMGS round will be given preference over those who are receiving such funding.

Selection criteria

Applicants need to demonstrate that the funds will be used strategically to facilitate the development of their research career, e.g. to collect pilot data for a subsequent grant application to an external grant body or to enhance the quality of a manuscript for submission to a high impact outlet.

Use of funds

- a) The funds can be used on any reasonable expense associated with the completion of the research project, e.g. research assistance; participants' costs; materials and equipment, etc.
- b) The funds are not to be used for travel, conference costs, study leave, teaching costs, or academic visits.
- c) Fund holders are required to follow the usual propriety considerations in regard to management of the funds.
- d) Fund holders are required to expend the funds within a 12 month period. If the funds have not been expended within 12 months, the fund holder must submit a report to the ANU Psychology Research Committee advising whether an extension is requested or the reason for returning the funds.

Application

Applicants will submit a maximum two A4 page proposal outlining;

- i. Project plan including proposed research outputs
- ii. Significance of project to the applicant's research direction
- iii. Significance of project to ANU Psychology and how it will benefit ANU Psychology;
- iv. Project budget

Selection Process

- a) The SPMGS is a competitive process
- b) Applicants will be considered by a subgroup of the ANU Psychology Research Committee (or equivalent)
- c) Applications will be considered on the basis they satisfy the selection criteria, have a budget that is properly justified and a reasonable timeline for completion.
- d) The committee reserves the right not to fund applications that are deemed to be of insufficient merit.

Reporting

Grant holders are required to provide a brief project report to the ANU Psychology Research Committee within 3 months of project completion. This report should include:

- i. how the funds have been spent
- ii. the benefits of the project
- iii. any specific outcomes, e, g., data gathered included in ARC grant proposal; manuscript submission
- iv. any variation of the project and/or use of the funds from the application should be described