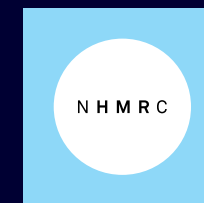


Investigator Grants

Improvements gained through application-centric peer review



BUILDING
A HEALTHY
AUSTRALIA

KEY INFORMATION



NHMRC's peer reviewers include current and previous grant awardees, previous years' reviewers and self-nominated researchers.



Using research classification data at close of round, reviewers were pre-matched to applications to limit reviewer burden.



Reviewers declared their suitability and conflicts of interest against a list of up to 245 applications matched to their area of expertise.



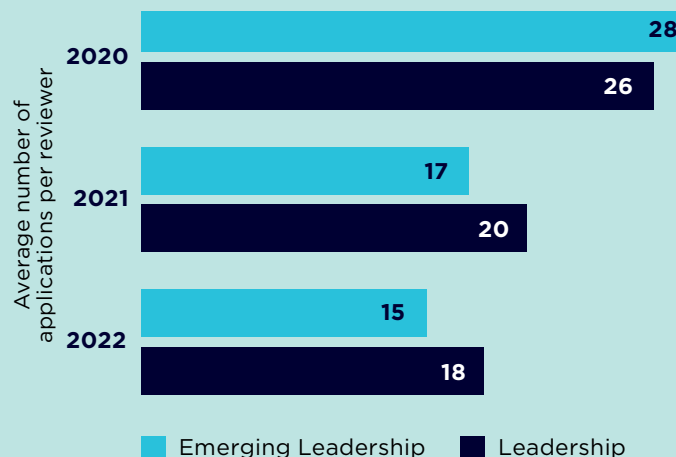
Removal of panels allows ultimate flexibility to allocate applications to reviewers who have the most appropriate expertise.



In 2022, 7044 independent assessments were made on 1409 applications. All but one application received 5 assessments.

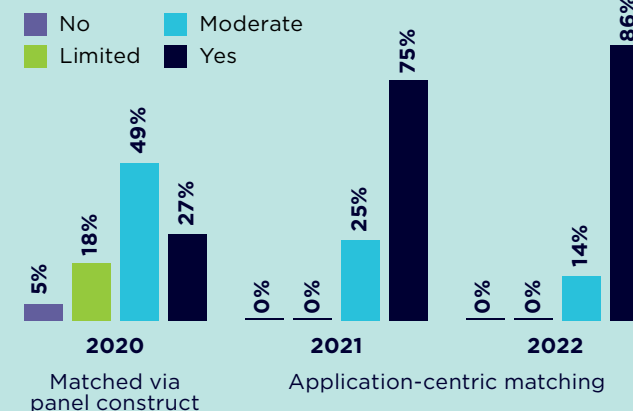
REDUCED ASSESSMENT BURDEN

Reviewer burden for Emerging Leadership and Leadership Categories substantially decreased with the introduction of application-centric peer review in 2021, with modest improvements in 2022.



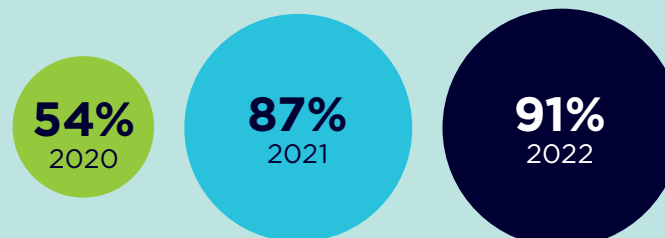
OPTIMISED SUITABILITY OF REVIEWERS

Application-centric peer review significantly improves the matching of suitably qualified assessors to applications. In 2022, 86% of assessments were done by reviewers who selected the highest level of suitability ('Yes'). No applications were assessed where the reviewer had 'No' or 'Limited' suitability once application-centric peer review was fully implemented.



FEEDBACK FROM PEER REVIEW SURVEYS

"In general, the applications assigned to me matched my area of expertise." **(Strongly Agree/Agree)**



BENEFITS

- 1 Reduced peer reviewer workload.
- 2 Increased use of the most suitable peer reviewers.
- 3 Improved peer reviewer satisfaction of matching expertise to applications.