



# Options for salary support in NHMRC's new grant program

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NHMRC provides salary support to enable researchers to conduct research. NHMRC expects that researchers who receive a salary from their institution will not apply for a salary from NHMRC, so that the number of applications that can be funded is maximised and those who need salary support have the maximum opportunity for funding.

## Investigator Grants

Investigator Grants provides researchers with salary support, where applicable/requested, and is intended to provide researchers with the flexibility to pursue important, new directions for their research as they arise and to form collaborations as needed. Informed by consultation with the sector and advice from NHMRC's Council and Principal Committees, NHMRC has tried to balance supporting researchers in a variety of circumstances (including those who work part-time for personal or professional reasons) whilst also ensuring that the scheme is fair and transparent.

### Full-time researchers with a research-only role

Full-time researchers may apply for a full-time Investigator Grant salary as outlined in the Investigator Grants grant guidelines.

### Full-time academics with a teaching and research role

If full-time academics with a teaching and research role wish to apply for a salaried Investigator Grant, there are a couple of options they may wish to consider:

Academics who spend **≥80% full-time equivalent (FTE) on research** may apply for a full-time Investigator Grant salary as outlined in the Investigator Grants grant guidelines.

Academics who spend **>20% FTE on teaching/administration** may apply for a full-time salaried Investigator Grant if they transfer to a full-time research role (≥80% FTE on research) by 1 January of the year the grant is to commence, or a part-time (professional) Investigator Grant salary to cover the proportion of FTE spent on research.

### Part-time researchers

NHMRC's Investigator Grant scheme has been designed to offer researchers flexible working arrangements, with part-time opportunities available for both professional and personal reasons. For further information refer to the Investigator Grants grant guidelines and the fact sheet – *Supporting flexible working arrangements for researchers via Investigator Grants*.

### Other appointments

Applicants who hold the following positions **by 1 January of the year the grant is to commence** may apply for an Investigator Grant but are not eligible for salary support if they hold:

- roles where the overarching responsibility is leadership of an independent Medical Research Institute (e.g. Director, or Chief Executive Officer (CEO))
- roles where the overarching responsibility is leadership of an institute or centre under university or hospital governance (e.g. Director or CEO), or



- academic administrative roles such as Dean, Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor or Pro Vice-Chancellor.

For further information refer to the Investigator Grants grant guidelines.

## **Synergy, Ideas and Strategic and Leveraging Grants**

NHMRC Research Support awards may provide salary support for Chief Investigators (CIs) based on Personnel Support Packages (PSPs) levels 1-5, if based in Australia for at least 80% of the funding period. Any exceptions to this policy and other conditions are outlined in the grant guidelines for each Grant Opportunity.

Researchers seeking salaries outside the range of PSP 1-5 must do so via NHMRC's Investigator Grant scheme. CIs based overseas are not normally able to draw a salary from a NHMRC grant unless stated otherwise in the relevant scheme-specific grant guidelines. Further information about the salary support available in each scheme is outlined in the grant guidelines for each scheme.