

Applications open:	Friday 1 July 2022
Applications close:	Wednesday 31 August 2022 5pm AEST
Outcomes advised:	Mid-December 2022
Grant Schemes:	<u>Early and Early-Mid Career Researcher Seed Grants</u> Four (4) grants of up to \$80,000 each for 18-month projects addressing the research priority areas.
	<u>Tim Glendinning Memorial Young Adult Stroke Grant</u> One (1) grant of up to \$75,000 for a 2-year project addressing the research focus.
	<u>Nancy & Vic Allen Stroke Prevention Memorial Grant</u> One (1) grant of up to \$100,000 for a 2-year project addressing the research focus.

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1. Introduction

As the voice of stroke in Australia, we support researchers who work towards the next innovation in stroke prevention, treatment and recovery.

Thanks to our generous supporters, we can continue to champion research, foster new ideas and expand stroke knowledge. Stroke Foundation has awarded almost \$5.6 million in research grants to more than 200 researchers since the inception of our grants program in 2008. Aligning our research for greatest impact is an enabling goal in our [Stroke Strategy 2024: Empowering, Supporting, Connecting](#).

This Research Grant Application Guide serves to outline the overarching funding rules of Stroke Foundation Research Grants. This document should be read before completing an application form.

2. 2023 Grant Schemes

Three grant schemes are offered for funding from 2023 for stroke research teams in Australia to test their ideas and tackle evidence and implementation gaps in stroke prevention, treatment and recovery.

Early and Early-Mid Career Researcher (EMCR) Seed Grants

Four (4) grants of up to \$80,000 each for 18-month projects addressing any of our Seed Grant Research Priority Areas:

- › Developing health services and pathways to improve early identification of stroke with a specific focus on underserved communities (examples include marginalised groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and socially isolated people).

One (1) Seed Grant is allocated to this priority area in this grant round (subject to assessment of appropriate quality for funding).

- › Translational and implementation research of evidence-based care pathways of stroke management. Projects must specifically assess how to improve adoption or implementation of evidence-based treatments/processes, that have been shown to be effective, within health or home settings.

Only studies using a translational design, where the core component is implementation of existing evidence to address this priority area, will be considered for funding. Therefore, studies to test or develop new or unproven treatments/processes within this priority area, will not be considered for funding.

- › Long-term community support beyond 6 months post-stroke (e.g. interventions to improve continuity of care, community health services, primary care, social isolation).

- › Long-term psychosocial recovery beyond 6 months post-stroke (i.e. interventions for recovery of cognition, communication, and emotional and social wellbeing).

Depending on the research question, this could be designed as a feasibility or efficacy study relevant to this priority.

1. Principal Investigators must not be a previous Stroke Foundation Seed Grant recipient.
2. Principal Investigators must meet the [EMCR definition](#).
 - › Consideration is given for career disruption and extenuating circumstances. Applicants can seek assessment of EMCR qualification during the grant round. Refer to Section 5 and provide clear calculations and explanation in the application form.
3. The Seed Grant period applies - this is effective 18 months from the start of the award year (i.e. 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024).

Tim Glendinning Memorial Young Adult Stroke Grant

One (1) grant of up to \$75,000 available to researchers of any career stage for a 2-year project that addresses:

The needs of young adults who may feel isolated and marginalised after stroke.

1. **Applications preferred for funding will:**
 - › Address psychosocial challenges and/or interventions.
 - › Focus on people who experienced a stroke aged 18-35 years.
 - › Meaningfully engage people with lived experience of young stroke in the co-design of solutions.

- › Test feasibility, implementation or qualitative research based on what young adults who have had a stroke consider important.
2. Principal Investigators who have previously received any Stroke Foundation Research Grant are eligible to apply.
 3. A 2-year Grant period applies - this is effective from the start of the award year (i.e. 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024).

Nancy & Vic Allen Stroke Prevention Memorial Grant

One (1) grant of up to \$100,000 available to researchers of any career stage for a 2-year project that addresses:

Primary prevention of stroke including feasibility and implementation studies to manage stroke-specific risk factors (e.g. atrial fibrillation, high blood pressure). Management approaches may include evidence-based integrative healthcare, behavioural change and education strategies.

1. **Applications preferred for funding will address:**

- › Unique stroke risk factors and not duplicate other general public health campaigns.
- › Evidence-based integrative healthcare approaches. This could include feasibility pilot trials of new interventions, unique behaviour change interventions or implementation of primary prevention strategies with known effectiveness.
- › Outcomes of identification, reduction or management of known risk factors for stroke.

Note: This grant is focused on primary prevention with participants expected to be people without stroke.

2. Principal Investigators who have previously received any Stroke Foundation Research Grant are eligible to apply.
3. A 2-year Grant period applies - this is effective from the start of the award year (i.e. 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024).

- 2.1. In addition, the following applies across all grant schemes:

1. Eligibility criteria – see Section 4.
2. Preference for funding given for applications including some, or all, of the following criteria:
 - › Translational and implementation research¹.
 - › Innovative projects with potential for national reach.
 - › Studies to enable a research project to be developed such that it could be supported by a recognised grant-giving agency (e.g. NHMRC, MRFF) in subsequent years.
 - › Applications that follow the CONSORT² criteria; TIDieR guidelines³; and observational studies that follow STROBE⁴ criteria.
 - › Clear demonstration of engagement or involvement of people with lived experience and/or community throughout the research cycle.
 - › Considered inclusion methods.

¹ [Translational-Research-Framework.pdf \(saxinstitute.org.au\)](https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/Translational-Research-Framework.pdf)

² <http://www.consort-statement.org/>

³ Better Reporting of Interventions: Template for Intervention Description and Replication (TIDieR) Checklist and Guide Hoffman et al. BMJ 2014

⁴ The Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) Statement: Guidelines for Reporting Observational Studies von Elm et al. PLoS Med 2007

3. Definitions

Term	Description
Administering Institution	An Australian University or Australian research body responsible for certifying and supporting the application and providing the basic infrastructure, oversight and accounting for the project.
Career Disruption	A prolonged interruption to a Principal Investigator's capacity to work (e.g. medical condition, pregnancy, carer responsibilities).
Chief Investigator (CI)	Supporting research investigator team members.
Community	A broader term used to describe people relevant to the study, which may include health professionals, population groups and people with or without lived experience of stroke.
Early and Early-Mid Career Researcher (EMCR)	An investigator within 7 years FTE (equivalent of seven cumulative full-time years) of research experience from the date of having a doctorate (PhD) or equivalent research qualification awarded, and no more than 12 calendar years since their first publication, as at the grant round close date. The definition is inclusive of investigators with or without a PhD.
People with lived experience	Survivors of stroke, their carers and significant others.
Principal Investigator (PI)	The lead applicant named on the application.
Relative to Opportunity	Consideration of an Investigator's track record and research contribution relative to their career stage and prior opportunities available (e.g. considering extended period of travel, clinical duties, teaching).
Sub-study	An add-on study to the main protocol, which asks a separate research question and includes new data collection or analysis from new or existing study participants.

4. Eligibility Criteria in all grant schemes

4.1. The following conditions apply to all grant schemes, in addition to criteria specific to each grant scheme as described in Section 2:

1. **The proposal must clearly and directly address the grant scheme's research priority area(s) or the research focus.**

The application's response to Question 1.4 'Relevance and significance to the stroke research priority area(s)/research focus' is reviewed for eligibility prior to applications progressing to independent peer review. It is therefore important that the response addresses the specified components of the grant scheme's research priority area(s) or research focus, as an eligible or ineligible decision is based on this response for this criterion.

2. **One distinct proposal per PI per grant scheme** will be accepted.

For example: A PI may submit one project proposal for the Tim Glendinning Memorial Young Adult Stroke Grant and submit a different project proposal for an EMCR Seed Grant. A PI may be successful in each grant scheme in which they have applied. If it is found that the same project has been submitted in multiple schemes, those applications will be deemed ineligible.

3. **The research must be carried out in Australia.**

4. **Engagement of people with lived experience and/or community** in the study design or ongoing conduct of the research.
 - › For this criterion, engagement that is meaningful and proportionate to the project is encouraged and accepted.
 - › Lived experience remuneration⁵ must be included in the project budget (e.g. sitting fees, coverage of expenses).

5. **The project timeline does not exceed the grant period.**

The grant period is intended to include time for ethics approval. A proposal that is building upon existing work ('pre-work'), such as engagement of people with lived experience and/or community in study design, pending or existing ethics approvals, can apply where all other conditions are met. Pre-work relevant to the proposal may be indicated in the project timeline, without altering the grant period's effective start date.

6. **Justification of the proposal's inclusion and exclusion criteria.**

Proposals that provide considered inclusion methods, such as for people with communication impairments and from marginalised and disadvantaged populations relevant to the study, will be highly regarded. See Section 6.

7. **The project budget must be justified and meet the grant criteria for funding.**

Grant funds can be used to support personnel such as research assistants, lived experience contributors, casual help or PhD stipends, and for consumables and small items of equipment or other assistance necessary to carry out a specific project. Salary on-costs can be included in the project budget.

- 4.2. An application will be deemed **ineligible** if it contravenes an eligibility condition or other requirement as set out in this Guide.

Ineligibility conditions in all grant schemes include (this list is not exhaustive):

1. The proposal's relevance to the grant scheme's specified research priority area(s) or research focus is unclear.

This is based on review of the application's response to '1.4 Relevance and significance to the stroke research priority area(s)/research focus.' If the response provided is unclear or deemed to be indirectly addressing the grant scheme's research priority area(s) or research focus, the application will be deemed ineligible and will not proceed to independent peer review.

2. Laboratory-based or pre-clinical research proposals are ineligible.

Stroke Foundation's research priorities have a clinical focus.

3. Proposals for sub-studies of existing projects with significant funding.*

*This is assessed case-by-case, taking into consideration:

- i. the amount and timeframe of the existing funding;
- ii. what value the proposed work would add to the existing project; and
- iii. justification for why the proposed work is outside the existing funding's scope.

Note: Existing funding that is less than the grant being applied for is generally considered acceptable in relation to this criterion.

4. Ineligible Budget items

⁵ Refer [Consumers Health Forum of Australia: Guidelines for Consumer Representatives](#)

Stroke Foundation Research Grants do not fund indirect costs (i.e. institutional fees, infrastructure, overheads). These costs should be excluded from the application’s Budget.

5. Proposals to fund equipment only.
6. A project timeline that exceeds the grant period.
7. Exceeding the specified response limits.
8. Applications that contain incomplete or unanswered questions.
9. Applications that do not differentiate the institutional contact and the Principal Investigator.
10. Applications that have modified the application form template (i.e. added sections, added appendices, altered font size, line spacing or margins).

5. Career Disruption

- 5.1. Stroke Foundation uses similar criteria to NHMRC for career disruption. Applicants should refer to this Application Guide and include all of these details in the relevant sections of the application form.
- 5.2. For the EMCR Seed Grant scheme:
 1. Consideration is given for Principal Investigators with career disruption or other extenuating circumstances that have affected their time in research since their research qualification date (e.g. date of PhD or equivalent, refer Table 1 below for an example) and time since their first publication.
 2. Applicants can seek assessment of EMCR qualification during the grant round by:
 - › Email to research@strokefoundation.org.au, including details of the Principal Investigator Eligibility section in the application form.

Note: Timeframes for this assessment cannot be guaranteed during the grant round.
- 5.3. Consideration includes additional research outputs relative within the criteria relevant to the grant scheme.

Table 1: Career Disruption example of no more than 7 years FTE since PhD

Appointment description	Time period	Effective FTE
PhD awarded	20 December 2014	-
Full time research position	1 January 2015 to 31 December 2016	2.00
0.5 FTE research position due to child raising duties	1 January 2017 to June 30 2020	1.75
Full time research position	1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020	0.50
Clinical position with 0.5 FTE for research	1 January 2021 to 30 June 2022	0.75
Total FTE since PhD	FTE from 2015 – 2022	5.00 FTE

6. Inclusive Research

‘Inclusive’ is one of Stroke Foundation’s guiding principles. Proposals are assessed for their wider relevance to the community.

Inclusion plans are encouraged to consider reach, representation and diversity of: gender; race; ethnicity; culture; language; communication; age; geographic location; and marginalised, disadvantaged and socially isolated populations relevant to the research focus.

Consideration of, rationale and methods for inclusion of priority groups relevant and appropriate to the study should be evident. Proposals should also address plans to test or not test for differences in population groups, and why that is or is not appropriate.

- › In justifying **inclusion criteria**, applicants should ensure they provide brief details on:
 - › their proposed methods for facilitating inclusion of people from different populations.
 - › details about why the individuals are the appropriate individuals to accomplish the scientific goals of the study.
- › In justifying **exclusion criteria**, applicants should demonstrate how inclusion would be inappropriate for the study.
- › In relation to people with **communication impairments**:

Communication disorders post-stroke are common and include people with aphasia, apraxia of speech, dysarthria and cognitive-communication disorders. This population is often excluded from stroke research due to difficulties in recruitment or perceptions that people with communication impairments cannot provide consent or information for research.⁶

Inclusive methods could include: modified information and consent forms/procedures, inclusion of communication supports in interviews or treatment sessions, modified outcome measures where possible, access to expertise in communicative inclusion.

For example: “People with aphasia of any severity will be included in this research through the use of modified consent forms and outcome measures [see detail in plan]. Only those individuals without capacity to consent will be excluded in this study.”

Note: Specific studies targeting people with communication impairments may also be relevant and inclusive procedures should also be applied to those research protocols.

Resources to help stroke researchers enable people with aphasia to participate in research are available from [The Collaboration of Aphasia Trialists](#).

7. People with lived experience and community engagement

The ‘Voice of Lived Experience’ and safe, supportive and positive engagement are guiding principles for Stroke Foundation. Engagement of people with lived experience and/or community in the design and ongoing conduct of the research is a key component in the assessment of proposals.

Applicants are encouraged to:

- › take our co-designed e-learning module on how to [work effectively with people with lived experience](#).
- › refer to the Consumers Health Forum of Australia and NHMRC Statement available at: <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/statement-consumer-and-community-involvement-health-and-medical-research>
- › refer to the Consumers Health Forum of Australia, Guidelines for Consumer Representatives: <https://chf.org.au/guidelines-consumer-representatives/you-start/your-entitlements-consumer-representative>

8. Application procedure

- 8.1. Application forms are available on the Stroke Foundation website from the opening of the Round: [Current grants | Stroke Foundation - Australia](#)
- 8.2. The application form should contain all information necessary for assessment without the need for further written or oral explanation, or reference to additional documentation. All details included must be current at the time of application.

⁶ Brady MC, Fredrick A, Williams B. People with aphasia: capacity to consent, research participation and intervention inequalities. *Int J Stroke* 2013; 8: 193–196.

- 8.3. All applicants are required to use the application template and adhere to length and formatting requirements as stated in the application form and outlined below. Any applications not adhering to the template will be deemed **ineligible**.

Formatting Component	Requirement
File format	Word or PDF are acceptable
Page size	A4
Page margin	1.7cm left and right margin, 2.5cm top and bottom margin
Page limits	As stated within the application form.
Font	Arial Size 11
Line spacing	Single

- 8.4. Applicants who seek any Stroke Foundation contribution in the proposed project, apart from funding of the grant if the application is successful, (e.g. in-kind activities, a Stroke Foundation representative as an investigator), must follow our [Research Partnership Framework](#) and application process.

Note: No preference is given to applications involving Stroke Foundation as a contributor. Assessment of research partnership applications is overseen by Stroke Foundation’s Research Advisory Committee in accordance with governance protocols (e.g. transparency, fairness, conflict of interest management). Requests received outside of the timeframes specified in the [Research Partnership Framework](#) will not be considered for Stroke Foundation research grant rounds and Stroke Foundation cannot guarantee timely consideration within this period. Tier 1 support (e.g. endorsement, letters of support) is not applicable to applications in our research grant rounds.

9. Submission deadline

- All applications must be fully signed and submitted via email to research@strokefoundation.org.au by the closing date and time (Wednesday 31 August 2022 5pm AEST). **Late submissions will not be considered.**
- Submitted applications will receive a return email acknowledgement from Stroke Foundation. **Please ensure you have received this acknowledgement prior to the deadline.**
- For queries or to confirm receipt contact research@strokefoundation.org.au or phone Research Coordinator, Michelle Adamson on (03) 9918 7215.

We understand that situations arise at the last minute that can delay applications. For this reason, we encourage applicants to submit your application at least a day ahead of the deadline. Please be aware that Stroke Foundation will **not** allow extensions and will **not** allow any applications after the deadline. This includes any IT issues that arise during the submission process. We recommend that you confirm with your research office the timing required for certification and the procedure for submission. Any applications received after the deadline will be deemed **ineligible**. **This ensures an equitable process for all applicants.**

10. Review process

- 10.1. Stroke Foundation’s research grant review process is robust and independent and focuses on impact and evidence. It adheres to a strict Conflict of Interest policy. The decision-making process is final and there is no appeal process.
- 10.2. The [Research Advisory Committee](#) (RAC) oversees the Stroke Foundation Research Program. All eligible applications are reviewed, scored and ranked by independent reviewers. Each funding scheme will be reviewed independently by reviewers allocated to the one scheme. Funding recommendations are based on the highest-ranking applications. The RAC’s funding recommendations require Stroke Foundation Board approval.

- 10.3. When reviewing the applications, reviewers are asked to score against each of the criteria outlined in the Descriptors (Descriptors available on the Stroke Foundation website: [Current grants | Stroke Foundation - Australia](#)). Each application is scored with a weighting of 40% for “Research Program” (scientific quality), and 20% for each of “Relevance” to the scheme, “Impact” and “Team Track Record”, by five independent reviewers. The reviewers each receive the same number of applications and, after scoring them, are asked to rank each application. Within each scheme, all of the ranks from all of the reviewers are then combined into one overall ranked list. The RAC is provided with a de-identified copy of each ranked list. These lists provide a basis for funding recommendations.
- 10.4. Grants offered within this round represent the full allocation of Stroke Foundation’s research grant funding pool as determined by the Stroke Foundation Board. Resubmissions, either in part or in full, are not considered outside of a grant round. Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to reapply in the next grant round.
- 10.5. Stroke Foundation does not guarantee that an award will be made for each grant call. If there is no application judged by Stroke Foundation to fit directly within the criteria of the grant call, Stroke Foundation reserves the right to award no application.
- 10.6. Feedback from the independent peer review is available upon request.

Timeline:

- › Applications received: by Wednesday 31 August 2022 5pm AEST
- › Applications checked against eligibility criteria: by 1 September 2022
- › Peer reviewers declare conflicts of interest: by 5 September 2022
- › Applications assigned and sent to independent peer reviewers: by 9 September 2022
- › Peer reviewers assess and rank applications: by mid-October 2022
- › RAC review ranked lists and recommend funding: early November 2022
- › Board approval of funding. Advice to applicants and reviewers: December 2022

11. Conditions of Research Grant Award

- 11.1. Successful applicants and their institutional contact will receive a Letter of Award and a copy of the Conditions of Research Grant Award by email to advise the offer of award.
- 11.2. The Head of Department must sign acceptance of the Conditions of Research Grant Award for, and on behalf of, the Administering Institution.
- 11.3. Conditions include but are not limited to:
 - › The research undertaken must conform to the principles set out by the [NHMRC’s Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 \(Updated 2018\)](#) and [The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) and any other conditions required by Human Research Ethics Committees.
 - › Funding for Research Grants will not be released to the nominated institution until all relevant documentation, particularly in relation to ethics approval, have been received and lodged with Stroke Foundation.
 - › Reporting and acquittal requirements.
 - › Agreement to perform the activities specified in the original application. If the Recipient is unable to perform, or to continue to perform, activities in relation to the award, Stroke Foundation must be notified and a variation process may apply.

- › Expenditure of funds within the grant period and in accordance with the budget submitted, unless a variation has been approved by Stroke Foundation.

12. Enquiries

Any enquiries should be directed to:

Stroke Foundation: Research Coordinator, Michelle Adamson

Email: research@strokefoundation.org.au

Telephone: 03 9918 7215

13. Acknowledgements

- 13.1. We would like to acknowledge Royal Melbourne Hospital Research Directorate for their assistance in providing materials and advice in the development of these documents.
- 13.2. Stroke Foundation's practices are consistent with the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#), confidentiality obligations, legislation, privacy principles, ethical and publication requirements, which protects any IP in the application, the provision of sufficient detail for peer review and access to information provided within Stroke Foundation's Research Program for evaluation purposes. Stroke Foundation's organisational policies, including information and systems security, encompass the preservation of confidentiality, integrity and secure access to information that is required for Stroke Foundation to fulfill its mission and ensure continuous improvement of its work. We take all reasonable steps to ensure researchers are informed of the use of information that is provided to us.

Appendix 1: FAQ's

Grant Types

1. **How are the grant types decided?**

The Research Grant funding pool is reviewed and agreed annually by the Stroke Foundation Board based on the organisation's strategic objectives and financial performance.

The RAC consider key inputs and are instrumental in determining the type, priority areas and number of grants in the funding round.

In recent years, our Seed and [Endowment](#) Grants have been funded annually. The Lady Marigold Southey Aphasia Grant was introduced in the 2022 Grant Round and our aim is to continue investment towards specific Aphasia research (at a minimum biennially) through the generosity of our donors.

Career Stage

2. **Does career stage eligibility criteria only apply to the Principal Investigator?**

Yes.

3. **Is a PhD or a medical degree a pre-requisite to apply?**

No.

4. **Are PhD students eligible to apply?**

Yes.

5. **Do I need to include my PhD certificate to prove my eligibility?**

No, simply state when you received your PhD in the appropriate section of the application form.

6. **What evidence is needed to show experience in stroke research?**

Provide this in the track record statement on the application form. Any stroke related publications can be listed in the table for the 5 most relevant publications produced by the investigators.

Applying

7. **I'm having trouble choosing the priority area that best fits my project?**

Unfortunately, it is not for us to decide which category of priority that it best falls into. Many research projects do not fit fully into one priority and may span across a few different ones. You are welcome to choose more than one priority, but ensure that this is justified in Question 1.4.

8. **Am I eligible if stroke has not been my main area of research?**

Yes, this is based on your proposal meeting the eligibility criteria. However, one component of the scoring is track record. It is advisable to include team members with experience in stroke research.

9. **Can a researcher be named on multiple applications?**

A researcher can be named as the Principal Investigator in one application per grant scheme, and in multiple applications in each grant scheme as a Chief Investigator.

10. **What format should applications be submitted in?**

Word doc is the preferred format for all research grant applications. PDF format is also acceptable.

11. **Who should submit the application i.e. Principal Investigator, or internal research grants office?**

Either is acceptable. It is important that you confirm this arrangement ahead of submission, as well as gain the emailed acknowledgement of receipt following submission. You may wish to cc all in the

submission as well. Both the Principal Investigator and internal research grants office are required to sign off the compliance checklist provided in the application form prior to submission.

12. Are copies of CVs and ethics required?

No. The information in the application template will be sufficient and should not require any further attachments. If you are successful, ethics approval will be required then.

13. Are references required in the Project Summary (Section 1) of the application form?

Responses are acceptable without references in Section 1 of the application form. However, anything based on prior work should be cited and then listed in the reference table (Section 5).

Research Team

14. Is there any limit to the number of Chief Investigators included in the application?

The limit is for 10 investigators in total to be listed, inclusive of the Principal Investigator.

15. For the Early and Early-Mid Career Researcher Seed Grants, can senior researchers or senior advisers of the stroke research be added as Chief Investigators?

Yes, we encourage mentoring by mid-career and senior researchers and anticipate that the Early or Early-Mid Career Principal Investigator is supported by an experienced research team.

16. What if a Principal Investigator is transitioning from a different field of research to stroke (clinical) research?

This is fine as long as the research meets the criteria. Details of the transition can be included in the Track Record Statement referring to “relative to opportunity”. The same career stage rules apply regarding FTE years post-PhD/research qualification and career disruption, regardless of the research focus. For example, in the EMCR Seed Grant scheme, if a PI has worked for 10 years in research, but only 3 years in stroke related fields, they are ineligible to apply.

Grant funds

17. Are grants subject to the GST of Stroke Foundation?

Yes.

18. Does Stroke Foundation cover indirect costs (i.e. institutional fees/infrastructure costs/overheads)?

No, Stroke Foundation does not cover any of the above costs.

19. Can grant funding be used for equipment, research assistant salaries, consumables and travel?

Grant funds can be used for support personnel such as research assistants, casual help or PhD stipends, consumables and small items of equipment or other assistance necessary to carry out a specific project. The project budget must be justified and meet the grant criteria for funding.

20. Can on-costs be included as part of salary cost in the budget?

Yes. On-costs are an unavoidable part of the salary cost and can be included in the project budget.

21. Can severance pay be included in grant acquittals?

No. We only include costs that support the actual cost of the project, and so severance pay would not be included.

International

22. Does Stroke Foundation award grants internationally?

No, Stroke Foundation does not award grants to Administering Institutions that are outside of Australia.

23. Is a project eligible if it is led by Australian researchers but data are collected internationally?

The project could be considered if it also collected data for Australia or would benefit survivors of stroke in Australia.

24. Can a researcher from another country be the Principal Investigator for the grant, but the research be completed at an Australian University?

People from overseas can be a Principal Investigator, but the research must be done in Australia and administered by an Australian institution. You should highlight your contribution and explain the practicalities of conducting the study.

Research Engagement

25. How does Stroke Foundation support engagement of people with lived experience and community in research?

We practice and promote engagement of people with lived experience and community in research and Stroke Foundation projects via:

- › Digital platforms, including our websites ([Stroke Foundation](#), [EnableMe](#), [InformMe](#)), social media and online communities
- › Our co-designed e-learning module on how to [work effectively with people with lived experience](#)
- › Stroke Foundation newsletters, emails and publications
- › Featuring the work of our funded research projects in Stroke Foundation events (online and in-person), such as webinars, meetings and functions.