



The Institute

basil hetzel institute for translational health research



The Hospital Research
Foundation Group

The Hospital Research Foundation Group Research Scholarships

***Support for students located at the Basil Hetzel Institute for
Translational Health Research (BHI), The Queen Elizabeth
Hospital (TQEH)***

Funding Guidelines v1.0

Round 1, 2025

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1. About The Hospital Research Foundation Group

The Hospital Research Foundation (THRF) Group exists to improve the health and wellbeing of our community. Our purpose is simple:

“Together, fight for better health and wellbeing for our community through life-changing medical research and improved healthcare.”

THRF Group is a profit-for-purpose organisation which raises funds through community donations, corporate support and proceeds from The Hospital Research Foundation Home Lottery program. These proceeds enable us to fund and facilitate medical research and patient care services across more than 50 areas of disease and illness, from birth to end of life.

THRF Group consists of 12 charities which work together to maximise health and wellbeing, and allow supporters to choose an area of healthcare that matters most to them. Through our Group structure, we are committed to delivering a progressive research and grants program that is sustainable, promotes collaboration and delivers impact for the community.

2. About THRF Group Research Scholarships

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH) precinct supports a vibrant research community through the co-location of researchers from the Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN) and South Australian universities. Research at the site is united by a mission to improve clinical care in South Australia through clinical research, therapeutic development, and translation of research outcomes into better patient care. The research activity at TQEH precinct is organised under the umbrella of the Basil Hetzel Institute for Translational Health Research (BHI).

Through teaching and research affiliations with all South Australian universities, the BHI provides valuable discovery science and clinical research training opportunities.

With funding support from THRF Group, several scholarship categories are on offer to support high-calibre students to undertake research at the BHI/TQEH. THRF Group Research Scholarships are offered via a competitive, application-based process and are open to **eligible new and commencing** undergraduate and postgraduate students to work on health and medical research projects at TQEH precinct with BHI-affiliated research supervisors.

3. THRF Group Research Scholarship Categories

3.1 Vacation Scholars

Scholarship funding: \$200/week for up to eight (8) weeks. Where possible, applicants are encouraged to secure part-funding from their enrolling institution, which THRF Group will match to reach a maximum total of \$200/week.

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- be undertaking their vacation research project under the primary supervision of a BHI-affiliated researcher
- undertake most of their vacation research project (no less than 70%) at TQEH precinct
- be undertaking their vacation research project as part of an undergraduate program at a university in South Australia, and in a discipline relevant to that undergraduate program
and
- possess study rights via:
 - Australian citizenship *or*
 - permanent residency in Australia granted by 31st October 2024 *or*

- a valid student visa.

3.2 *Honours Scholars*

Scholarship funding: \$5,000 for one (1) year.

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- be undertaking their Honours research project under the primary supervision of a BHI-affiliated researcher
- undertake most of their Honours project (no less than 70%) at TQEH precinct
- have completed, or be completing, the final requirements of a bachelor's degree in an area appropriate for the research that is to be undertaken
- have applied to enrol in, or be currently enrolled in, an Honours program at a university in South Australia commencing in first semester 2025
- not be in receipt of any other Honours scholarship
- and**
- possess study rights via:
 - Australian citizenship *or*
 - Permanent residency in Australia granted by 31st October 2024 *or*
 - a valid student visa.

If a Scholar is awarded more than one scholarship, they must notify THRF Group of their intention to withdraw their application or provide evidence that the other scholarship has been declined.

Evidence that enrolment has been accepted by the university is required before payments can commence.

3.3 *Masters by Coursework Scholars*

Scholarship funding: \$5,000 per year for up to two (2) years.

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- be undertaking their research project under the primary supervision of a BHI-affiliated researcher
- have completed, or be completing, the final requirements of a degree in an area appropriate for the Masters program that is to be undertaken (e.g. biomedical, biotechnology, medical, nursing, allied health, health science or social science)
- have applied to enrol in, or be currently enrolled in, a Masters by Coursework program which includes a research component
- undertake most (no less than 70%) of the research component of their Masters by Coursework at TQEH precinct
- and**
- possess study rights via:
 - Australian citizenship *or*
 - Permanent residency in Australia granted by 31st October 2024 *or*
 - a valid student visa.

If a Scholar is awarded more than one scholarship, they must notify THRF Group of their intention to withdraw their application or provide evidence that the other scholarship has been declined.

Evidence that enrolment has been accepted by the university is required before payments can commence.

3.4 Top-up for Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students

Supplementary or “Top-up” scholarships will be made available to highly ranked students successful in obtaining a **competitive** HDR scholarship, such as an Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship (RTPS) or similarly competitive university-funded equivalent, that are commencing their HDR program in 2025.

Scholarship top-up funding: Additional funding of \$8,000 per year for up to two (2) years for Masters by Research students, and up to 3.5 years for Doctor of Philosophy students, pro-rated for fractional candidature.

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- be undertaking their research project under the primary supervision of a BHI-affiliated researcher
- undertake most of their research (no less than 70%) at TQEH precinct
- have completed requirements to gain admission into an HDR program, e.g. Masters by Research or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- be enrolled in or be accepted for enrolment in an HDR program at a university in South Australia, commencing in 2025 and no later than 1st July 2025
- have applied for or been awarded a competitive university HDR scholarship (the “Base” scholarship)
and
- possess study rights via:
 - Australian citizenship *or*
 - Permanent residency in Australia granted by 31st October 2024 *or*
 - a valid student visa.

Applicants are **ineligible** if any of the following apply:

- They have completed a degree at the same or higher level
- They are receiving salary to undertake the proposed study, or are in receipt of any other supplementary stipend/support funding in addition to a “base” competitive HDR scholarship, including (but not limited to) an existing BHI Top-up scholarship, via the CALHN Clinician PhD Pathway, Westpac Scholarship or other supplementary scholarship. If in doubt, please seek advice about your eligibility prior to application.

Evidence that an HDR scholarship has been awarded and enrolment has been accepted by the university is required before payments can commence.

4. Terms and Conditions for funding

All scholarship applicants must have contacted a qualified research supervisor working at the BHI, TQEH and have been accepted by that supervisor to undertake research within their program. It is an expectation that students will undertake most of their research (no less than 70%) at TQEH precinct.

A recipient of a THRF Group Research Scholarship should seek their own taxation advice from the Australian Taxation Office or their own personal taxation advisor on the status of income derived from a scholarship.

Only ONE (1) application will be considered for each applicant.

THRF Group-funded scholars (except Vacation Scholars) are required to:

- attend at least two-thirds of the research seminars at the BHI
- provide progress reports against agreed milestones to THRF Group as per the reporting guidelines or upon request.

All THRF Group-funded scholars agree to:

- submit an abstract for presentation at the annual TQEH Research Expo
- acknowledge THRF Group funding support in all presentations and papers etc.
- provide updates about their research to THRF Group Communications and Marketing teams upon request
- participate in media opportunities coordinated by THRF Group where necessary, including radio and local and national media announcements. Relevant media advice and preparation will be available via THRF Group's Communications team
- ensure THRF Group is consulted regarding any media opportunities led by the recipient's university, SA Health or other organisation.

All THRF Group-funded scholars are permitted to:

- obtain funds from other sources for travel, fieldwork, equipment, or other expenses not covered by the Scholarship award
- receive minor awards, allowances, or income derived from limited part-time work undertaken within the guidelines set by their university in relation to their degree program.

Please note that all other policies, processes and requirements relating to student enrolment, candidature and scholarship administration (including scholarship extension, if applicable), are the responsibility of the enrolling institution. In the event of any changes or queries regarding these matters, THRF Group-funded scholars are advised to contact the relevant student administration branch at their enrolling institution in the first instance.

If the scholarship holder discontinues their involvement with the research project before its completion or can otherwise no longer meet the requirements of this scheme, scholarship payments will cease, and the enrolling university will return any remaining funds to THRF Group.

5. Referee Reports

All applications must be accompanied by a [Primary Supervisor statement](#).

In addition, Higher Degree by Research, Honours and Masters by Coursework applicants must also provide an [Academic Referee report](#) from someone other than the Primary Supervisor.

All statements/reports are to be provided on the required templates (download available from the links above or those provided in the application form) and are to be submitted, in confidence, to THRF Group's Research Office at grants@hospitalresearch.org.au by the round deadline.

6. Selection process

Applicants and their proposed research will be assessed on excellence, impact and strategic priority. The BHI Scholarship Selection Committee will consider the academic merit and any prior research experience of the applicant, the quality of the proposed research, the suitability of the intended supervisor and group, and the capacity of the group to support the applicant's project. THRF Group and the BHI Scholarship Selection Committee reserve the right to request additional information if deemed necessary for evaluation.

The BHI Scholarship Selection Committee will make funding recommendations to THRF Group's CEO. The final funding decision will be made by THRF Group, informed by reviewer assessments, and determined by funding availability. This decision will be final, and no further negotiations will be entered into.

Successful applicants and their AI will be notified by THRF Group, and THRF Group will prepare a funding agreement for the nominated AI.

Please note that THRF Group may vary the available funding under this scheme at its sole discretion. THRF Group reserves the right not to fund any application for any reason, including where the relevant project personnel and/or Administering Institution have not fulfilled their obligations under previous THRF Group funding agreement/s, including but not limited to reporting, financial acquittal, and acknowledgement requirements.

7. How to apply

Applications **must** be completed and submitted online through THRF Group's SmartyGrants platform **by the deadline indicated below**. No extensions will be granted.

Only electronic submission through the SmartyGrants system will be accepted.

Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt of the application by email following submission to the SmartyGrants platform. If the email is not received (after checking junk/spam folders), applicants should assume that the submission has not been received and re-attempt submission.

Once the round closes, the submitted application cannot be amended. Incomplete, incorrectly submitted or late applications will not be considered.

Applicants are advised not to use Internet Explorer with SmartyGrants, due to incompatibility issues. Google Chrome is the recommended browser.

Unless otherwise specified in the application form, all uploaded files should be provided in PDF format. File names should include a short description of the item followed by the applicant's family name, for example "Transcript_Smith.pdf".

Vacation, Honours and Masters by Coursework applications	Higher Degree by Research applications
Apply at: https://hospitalresearch.smartygrants.com.au/2025-BHI-Round1-VHM Applications close Friday 29th November 2024 at 4:00 PM (ACDT)	Apply at: https://hospitalresearch.smartygrants.com.au/2025-BHI-Round1-HDR Applications close Friday 31st January 2025 at 4:00 PM (ACDT)

All enquiries should be directed to grants@hospitalresearch.org.au. Incomplete, late or incorrectly submitted applications will not be considered.

8. Key dates

	For Vacation, Honours and Masters by Coursework applications	For Higher Degree by Research applications
Round opens	Monday 16 th September 2024 at 12:00 PM (ACST)	
Applications close	Friday 29 th November 2024 at 4:00 PM (ACDT)	Friday 31 st January 2025 at 4:00 PM (ACDT)
Applicants advised of outcome	By 20 th December 2024 unless otherwise notified	By 28 th February 2025 unless otherwise notified