

## Women's Academic Fund Guidelines 2015-16

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### About the program

The Queensland Government's *Advance Queensland* initiative focuses on growing the economy and creating jobs. This includes investing in science and innovation in order to attract and retain the best and brightest research minds, and encouraging researchers to keep working in their chosen profession.

The Advance Queensland Women's Academic Fund supports women in maintaining their research careers, and supports Queensland organisations in promoting the achievements of Queensland's female researchers.

### Benefits

The program will:

- encourage female researchers to return to their research careers following maternity leave
- support female researchers to enhance their professional reputations through attendance at national or international conferences as an invited presenter, or when participating on research committees
- promote lectures or presentations that highlight the contributions of Queensland's female scientists.

### Available funding

The Advance Queensland Women's Academic Fund is open to applicants all year round and applicants can apply under the following categories:

- **Maternity Funding:** Up to **\$25,000** (excluding GST) for eligible organisations to employ another researcher, or a research/laboratory assistant, to assist the primary researcher by:
  - maintaining research progress while the primary researcher is on maternity leave, or
  - by assisting the primary researcher when she resumes her research following maternity leave.
- **Carer Funding:** Up to **\$1,000** (excluding GST) for eligible female researchers to cover any relevant out-of-pocket child care or respite care expenses, in excess of their usual carer arrangements, while presenting at a national/international conference, or sitting on a professional research committee. Maximum two applications per calendar year per researcher.
- **Women's Lecture Funding:** Up to **\$2,000** (excluding GST) for an eligible organisation to arrange conferences, lectures or presentations highlighting the work of leading female researchers. Maximum two applications per calendar year per organisation.

A total pool of \$1 million, is available over three years. Applications will continue to be accepted until the funding pool is exhausted.



## Eligibility criteria

### Maternity Funding:

Applications must be for female researchers who:

- are employed by a Queensland university or publicly funded research institute or organisation based in Queensland that is registered for GST and has an Australian Business Number
- have maternity leave approved by the employing organisation
- are Australian citizens, or have Australian residency (permanent or temporary)
- have a PhD research qualification
- intend to resume research duties following maternity leave.

### Carer Funding:

Applications must be for female researchers who:

- have dependent children in their care or other family care responsibilities
- are employed by a Queensland university or publicly funded research institute or organisation based in Queensland that is registered for GST and has an Australian Business Number
- are Australian citizens, or have Australian residency (permanent or temporary)
- have a PhD research qualification
- have been invited to present their research at a relevant conference or to participate on a professional research committee.

### Women's Lecture Funding:

Organisations applying:

- can be either public or private sector organisations
- must be Queensland based organisations that are registered for GST and have an Australian Business Number

## Funding conditions

### Maternity Funding:

- The funding will be paid to a Queensland employing organisation to contribute to the salary of a new researcher, or a research/laboratory assistant, maintaining research progress while the primary researcher is on maternity leave.
- The employing organisation must provide details of the researcher's approved maternity leave, including the duration of the approved maternity leave, and confirmation that the researcher intends to resume research duties following the maternity leave.
- Upon returning from maternity leave the researcher must provide a brief report on how the funding was used, and how it benefited their research career.
- \$500 (excluding GST) is provided for each week the primary researcher is on maternity leave up to a maximum of \$25,000 (excluding GST).

### Carer Funding:

- Funding can only be claimed for care arrangements that are in excess of any standard child care/respite arrangements that the researcher has in place.
- Funding is only applicable for the period of additional care time required for the researcher to complete the eligible activity (e.g. travel to and present at a conference, or professional research committee).
- Applicants must provide evidence of invitation to present at a conference or participate on a professional research committee.

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## Women's Lectures Funding:

- The funding will be paid to the applicant organisation.
- Eligible expenses include room/venue hire costs if external to the organisation, promotional material associated with the presentation, and the travel costs of conference presenters.
- Funded organisations are to provide a short report back to the department on the event, and its outcomes.

## Application evaluation

Applications will be assessed to ensure that they meet the eligibility conditions for funding.

Applications will be assessed within two weeks of submission.

Applicants may be contacted during the assessment process to clarify information provided in the application and/or to request additional information to enable appropriate consideration.

## Privacy

The Queensland Government collects and collates information from the application form to evaluate applications for the program. Only authorised departmental officers and approved grant assessors have access to this information.

Applicants should note that broad details of successful proposals, agreed outcomes, progress and the level of funding awarded may be published by the Queensland Government. Some information may be used to promote funded projects.

Your personal information will not be disclosed to any other third party without your consent, unless required by law or for the purposes of *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

For audit purposes, the Queensland Government is required to retain the applications and other supplied support material.

The provisions of the *Right to Information Act 2009* apply to documents in the possession of the Queensland Government.

## How to apply

Applications can be submitted online at any time.

## Further information

**Web:** [qld.gov.au/advanceqld](http://qld.gov.au/advanceqld)

**Email:** [advancequeensland@dsiti.qld.gov.au](mailto:advancequeensland@dsiti.qld.gov.au)

**Facebook:** [Advance Queensland](https://www.facebook.com/AdvanceQueensland)

**Twitter:** [@AdvanceQld](https://twitter.com/AdvanceQld)