

# Lung Foundation Australia - Better Breathing Foundation PhD Scholarship in Chronic Lung Disease

### Background

Via the [Hope Research Fund](https://lungfoundation.com.au/hope-research-fund/), Lung Foundation Australia is pleased to partner with the Better Breathing Foundation to offer a PhD Scholarship in Chronic Lung Disease valued at **$126,000 +GST over 3.5 years**, with funding commencing from 1 July 2022. Students with an allied health background who are about to commence a PhD in chronic lung disease research are invited to submit an application. The student must be a resident in Australia throughout the period of the research program.

Scholarship funds include $91,000 +GST to support the student stipend and $35,000 +GST to support research costs over 3.5 years (total $36,000/year). Projects that are supported by the student’s host institution via a matched-funding arrangement (minimum University funding $45,500 + GST over 3.5 years) are highly encouraged and applications will be regarded favourably. If available, University funding **must** be confirmed by a letter of support from an authorised officer of the University.

Relevant domains of research include any form of clinical, population, laboratory or genetics research. The topic of sedentary behaviour will be excluded from this round of applications. Projects which focus on the lung health of Australia’s First Nation’s people are highly encouraged.

## Eligibility

1. This Fellowship is open to individuals who are eligible for post-graduate university studies in Australia **and** will be enrolling at an Australian University to conduct their PhD in 2022.
2. Applicants **must** be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia who has an undergraduate degree in one of the allied health disciplines and, if relevant, has professional accreditation in their chosen profession.
3. Applicants **must** be able to demonstrate clinical or research experience in respiratory disease or another chronic disease.
4. Applicants **must** be supported by a senior investigator (Supervisor) with a strong track record in a related research field. A letter of support on university / institution letterhead co-signed by the Supervisor and an authorised research administrative officer from your university / institution **is required** as part of your application.
5. Matched funds provided by the applicant’s host institution to extend the value of the research investment provided by the Hope Research Fund are **highly encouraged**. Applicants must confirm matched funding (minimum $45,500 + GST over 3.5 years) in the letter of support provided with the application.
6. Applicants **must** not be currently receiving any form of other scholarship funding as part of their PhD studies.
7. Applicants **must** be a member of Lung Foundation Australia (Health Professional Category). Evidence of membership is required as part of the Grant application.
8. Successful applicants **must** be prepared to become a professional member of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ) upon awarding of the Scholarship.

## Terms and Conditions

1. The PhD Scholarship in Chronic Lung Disease is subject to the terms and conditions of the [Lung Foundation Australia Research Grants and Awards Policy](https://lungfoundation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Research-Grants-and-Awards-Policy_050221_ext.pdf)
2. The duration of the Scholarship is 3.5 years / 42 calendar months from the date of commencement.
3. Scholarship funds (the Award) are paid upon notice of commencement of the research project (25% total Award value) and upon submission of annual progress reports (20% total Award value) and the final reporting milestone (15% of total Award value)
4. The successful recipient will be known as the Lung Foundation Australia – Better Breathing Foundation Allied Health PhD Scholar for the duration of the award.
5. If the Scholarship is not taken up within twelve (12) calendar months the Award will be forfeited.
6. Applicants must agree to participate in marketing and communication's activities to promote the Foundation and the Hope Research Fund.
7. The Scholarship will be awarded in April-May 2022 with funds available from 1 July 2022 onwards.
8. To measure impact of the Hope Research Fund and track contribution to researcher career progression, the Scholar must report annually on Scholarship progress **and** future research outputs for up to five years following the end of the Scholarship via the Foundation's
ResearchFish platform.
9. The Scholar is required to submit the results of the research for possible presentation at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the TSANZ or an equivalent international meeting within 12 months of completion of the funding.
10. Any publication/s arising from research funded through the Scholarship are required to acknowledge the Hope Research Fund, Lung Foundation Australia and Better Breathing Foundation as sources of funding, as per the Research Grants & Awards Policy. The award can be cited as the *Lung Foundation Australia (Hope Research Fund) – Better Breathing Foundation PhD Scholarship in Chronic Lung Disease 2022.*
11. In the event of there being no suitable applicants, the Scholarship may not be awarded.

### **Application Assessment**

Applications will be assessed by the Research Sub-Committee of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). Recommendations made by the Research Sub-Committee will be ratified by one member of the Better Breathing Foundation Board and one member of the Lung Foundation Australia Board.

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| --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Weight** |
| Outline of PhD plan including the significance of the overall work | 25% |
| Scientific rigor of the research studies within the program of research  | 35% |
| Student track record | 20% |
| Research supervisor track record | 10% |
| Matched funding provided by University | 10% |
| Budget for direct research costs per year (total $35K) | Justified / not justified |
| **Total** | **100%** |

### Application Form

Before completing the below sections of the application form please read the [Lung Foundation Australia Research Grants and Awards Policy](https://lungfoundation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Research-Grants-and-Awards-Policy_050221_ext.pdf).

Please complete **all** sections of the application form using size 10 Century Gothic font and ensure your application has all supporting documents requested. Applications which do not comply with these requirements will not be assessed.

Applicants are required to submit their applications electronically using the [LFA Awards Submission Portal on the TSANZ website](http://www.thoracic.org.au/researchawards/lfa-awards-submission-portal.).  This will require your application to be saved as a single PDF file before it is uploaded.

Electronic submission to be dated no later than **17 December, 2021**. Applications submitted after the submission date will **not** be accepted. For all submission enquires please contact the TSANZ Awards Coordinator TSANZawards@thoracic.org.au.

### Applicant Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title  | Dr Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other: |
| Title |  |
| First Name |  |
| Last Name |  |
| Postal Address |  |
| Suburb |  | **State**  | **Postcode**  |
| Contact | **T:**  | **M:**  |
| **Email:**  |
| Signature |  | **Date**:  |

**Project Details and Proposed Research Plan**

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|  |
| Project Title |  |
| Institution |  |
| Proposed primary Supervisor |  |
| Proposed additional Supervisor/s |  |
| Primary Supervisor Signature |  | **Date** |  |

1. **Layman’s description of the research studies to be included in the PhD** *One-half page maximum.*
2. **Outline the overall PhD plan including the significance of the program of research** *One page maximum).*
3. **Background, research plans and relevant literature to the research studies in the PhD** *Three* *pages maximum, 1 additional page for references.*

P*rovide a detailed introduction to the research studies in your proposed PhD with sufficient detail to enable assessment of scientific merit and feasibility (include hypothesis, aims, methodology, sample size and statistical analysis for the studies involved)*

1. **Budget of direct research costs as a table** *One page maximum.*

Use template below for $10,000 per year (add rows as required):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget Item***e.g. equipment, resources* | **Funding requested (excl. GST)** | **Description/Justification***(<100 words per item)* |
| **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 3.5** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |  |  | **GRAND TOTAL:** |

1. **Applicant track record** *Two page maximum.*

*Please include any that apply: research experience, publications or presentations, academic performance, professional/scientific standing, relevant work experience. If relevant, include a relative to opportunity statement describing any research career disruptions as per NHMRC Guidelines* [*here*](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/attachments/Investigator-Grants-Eligibility-Fact-Sheet-2020.pdf).

1. **Supervisor track record in chronic lung disease and/or related research field** *Two page maximum.*

*Please include any that apply: supervision experience, research experience, research funding, publications (top 5 relevant), presentations (top 5 relevant), academic performance, professional/scientific standing. A statement* ***mus****t be included from the primary supervisor that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements of the University for admission to a PhD.*

1. **Summary of anticipated impact of research outcomes on health and wellbeing of people impacted by chronic lung disease** *One half-page maximum.*
2. **Letter of support indicating agreement to co-funding arrangement from an Authorised Officer of the University / Institution.**

### Application Checklist

**Before submission, please review your application documents using the following checklist:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Details | ü |
| 1. | You have read the Lung Foundation Australia Research Grants and Awards Policy and agree to comply with the Terms and Conditions stated in this document.  |  |
| 2. | You meet the eligibility criteria for the Grant and your application falls within the relevant domains of research enquiry for this award (see background section above) |  |
| 3.  | Project details and Proposed Research Plan sections are completed, including budget. |  |
| 4. | Supervisor track record is included (two pages maximum, 10-point, Century Gothic font) with:1. supervisor’s statement indicating that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria for PhD
2. supervisor’s signature to indicate involvement in the study
 |  |
| 5. | Letter of Support on institution letterhead co-signed by your Primary Supervisor and Authorised Officer from your university / institution. This should include agreement to contribute to the minimum or greater amount of the student stipend ($13,000/year for 3.5 years) |  |
| 6. | Evidence of Lung Foundation Australia membership (Health Professional Category) is included. |  |
| 7. | Evidence of existing Thoracic Society of Australia & New Zealand professional membership is included **or** you agree to provide if successful. |  |

### **Timeline**

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| --- |
| Date / time |
| 6 September 2021  | Open to application |
| 17 December 2021 5pm (AEDST) | Applications closed |
| 7 – 11 March 2022 | Notification periodAll applicants will be advised of the outcome by emailPlease note that notification may be delayed if the review process being undertaken exceeds estimated time frame |
| April 2022 | Public awarding at TSANZ ASM 2022 or the Hope Research Fund lunch (TBA).  |

### Enquiries

**For all application enquiries:**

A/Prof Zoe McKeough – Managing Director, Better Breathing Foundation.
e:: zoe@betterbreathing.org.au

**For all submission / post-submission enquiries:**

TSANZ Awards Coordinator
e: TSANZawards@thoracic.org.au