

Full Statement as endorsed by Committee of Associate Deans (Research) (CADRES) at Meeting 4/98

In general all Monash staff, whether full-time or fractional, and whether paid or honorary staff (formally appointed under the procedures as set out in the Monash University Staff Handbook), are eligible to apply for **external funds**:

this would include staff employed on fixed term contracts under the research category of employment of the new Higher Education Contract Employment Award

this would exclude full time Research Associates (with a PhD qualification) employed on any grant which is continuing into the year for which grant funding is sought, as they are expected to be fully employed on the existing grant.

Monash should be the administering institution for a grant application where the majority of the research is to be carried out at Monash facilities. However the first-named researcher may be a Monash researcher or a researcher from another institution. Where the first-named researcher is not a Monash staff member, the Monash Department to be responsible for the funds and reporting requirements if the grant is successful needs to be identified.

For **internal schemes** such as Small Grants, Monash Research Fund, the over-riding criterion is to maximise the research outcomes in the light of the objectives of each scheme. The final decision on whether honorary, fractional or contract staff are eligible to apply should be in the hands of Faculties, as they are responsible for the selection and ranking processes for these schemes. In addition Faculties differ in their use of honorary, non-continuing and fractional staff.

Thus the Faculties should determine:

whether the applicant and the project fit the scheme objectives

whether the proposed research is consistent with the Faculty research management plan, and

Consistent with the theme of maximising research outcomes, **students undertaking a research higher degree** should also be able to apply for internal and external funding, provided that: whether the proposed research is likely to produce valued research outcomes.

An application must present a convincing case for the project and its expected outcomes, and make specific reference to the applicant's availability to undertake the project and his/her track record relative to opportunities.

As Logan Research Fellows receive a research support grant for the first three years of the Fellowship they would normally not be expected to apply for internal funds in this period. However from time to time a convincing case might be presented that Small Grant or MRF funding would provide a critical boost to existing funding.

Where **honorary staff** are deemed by the Faculty to be eligible to apply, it is desirable that this application be in conjunction with another researcher, possibly an early career researcher, with the honorary staff member as second-named Investigator. Where an honorary staff member is applying as the first-named Investigator he/she must have a close association with the Department from which he/she is applying and a demonstrated track record in that Department.

ARC and NHMRC Fellows, under current Conditions of Award, are not precluded from undertaking research projects additional to those proposed under the Fellowship, and thus may apply for both internal and external grants.

Consistent with the theme of maximising research outcomes, **students undertaking a research higher degree** should also be able to apply for internal and external funding, provided that:

they meet the grants scheme criteria (and in many cases they will not)

the application has the support of the supervisor and the Head of Department.

Note that ARC guidelines do not permit provision of funding for research undertaken as part of undergraduate or postgraduate studies or the provision of a stipend related to that research. For student applications it is desirable that the application be jointly with the supervisor.

Research Grants and Ethics Branch
June 1998

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