



2021 BPA Early Career Researcher Network Professional Development Grant

Conditions of Award

This award was previously named the BPA-ECRN Travel Grant. The award aimed to provide early career researchers with the opportunity to present their research at a host institution symposium seminar series, exposing them to a wide professional audience. Given the trepidation many of us feel with booking travel at the moment, the Travel Grant is being re-framed as the Professional Development Grant for 2021. Rather than exclusively funding travel to a host institution, the Professional Development Grant can be used to engage in a range of activities that will foster growth in biological psychiatry research.

By signing these Conditions of Award, the awardee accepts all conditions. This includes acknowledging that funding will be issued by way of reimbursement. The awardee also acknowledges that funds must be used exclusively for expenses directly related to professional development, as explicitly agreed with the Biological Psychiatry Australia - Early Career Researcher Network (BPA-ECRN).

Eligibility for BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant

1. Applicants shall:
 - Be graduate students currently enrolled in a masters or PhD degree
OR
 - Postdoctoral Researchers within 5 years of receiving their doctorate
OR
 - Clinicians undertaking research in the field of biological psychiatry within 5 years of receiving their general medical degree (MBBS/MD)
OR
 - Research assistants currently employed at a research institution
2. Applicants must be a paid member of Biological Psychiatry Australia
3. Applicants must meet all conditions as detailed below

BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant Conditions

To be awarded a BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant it is necessary to:

1. Submit a BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant application form (including proof of current BPA membership)
2. Submit a signed agreement to these Conditions of Award
3. If travel is proposed, provide proof of correspondence and conditional acceptance from a senior researcher at the chosen host institution. *It is also suggested that, where possible, contact has been made with the host representative from the host university, to help facilitate a smooth visit, if application is successful.*
 - a. If an alternative to travel is proposed, applicants must advise the expected date that the award will be used.

If awarded a BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant it is necessary to:

1. Awardees must redeem the award within 12 months from the date it was awarded, and comply with the reimbursement protocol as detailed in the BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant – Financial Conditions.
2. Awardees must submit reports as per the reporting guidelines detailed in the BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant – Reporting Guidelines.

BPA-ECRN Travel Grant – Financial Conditions

The BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant may only be utilised to support costs associated with professional development, such as travel or training, supported by BPA-ECRN. An argument will need to be presented for the proposed use. Funding of up to \$1000.00 AU dollars will be **reimbursed** to applicants. The awardee is responsible for the expenditure of the award, and maintaining supporting records of receipts and expenditures. Upon completion of the award's use, the BPA-ECRN Treasurer will be in contact via email to provide the relevant reimbursement forms. It is expected that awardees will return the completed reimbursement form and provide proof of purchases/quotes/expenses to the BPA-ECRN Treasurer within 4 weeks after the travel date. If deemed necessary by BPA-ECRN, the applicant will be required to submit an itemised budget within 4 weeks after the award use date. The BPA-ECRN exercises its power to terminate an award or refrain from reimbursing applicants, if the award is not used exclusively as outlined in the application form and Conditions of Award set above.

BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant – Reporting Guidelines

1. Scientific publications – Papers and Conference Abstracts
Awardees preparing manuscripts or conference abstracts describing BPA and BPA-ECRN funded research of which they are either primary or co-author must list 'BPA' and 'BPA-ECRN' as affiliations. Collaborating institutions must be listed.
2. Conference Presentations
All posters or conference presentations describing BPA and BPA-ECRN funded research of which the awardee is the primary author, must list 'BPA' and 'BPA-ECRN' as affiliations and must include a BPA logo.
3. Written Review
Within 4 weeks after the award use date, it is expected that awardees send a written review of your experience (approx. 200 words) to biolpsychaustralia.ecrn@gmail.com.

The awardee consents that this review may be used as promotional material for the BPA-ECRN Professional Development Grant and or the BPA-ECRN more broadly. If engaging in an in-person activity, like a laboratory visit, photographs of the ECR, for example, presenting and/or with the host laboratory group, are also requested, but not compulsory.

BPA-ECRN Travel Grant – Review of Award Applications

Applications will be evaluated against the following criteria:

1. Scientific and communication excellence of the researcher, as demonstrated through research output
2. Benefit of the funding to the applicant, i.e. the potential to enhance the applicant's career prospects and research CV.
3. Potential for applicant to establish new or continue existing collaborations and create tangible research outcomes.

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Agreement Statement

I _____ confirm that:

- I have read the Conditions of Award for the BPA-ECRN Travel Grant.
- I understand and agree to abide by these conditions.
- I will provide the reporting items/commitments requested

Applicant Signature

Date