

AusCP-CTN PhD Top-Up Scholarships 2018

Application Guideline

ABOUT AusCP-CTN

The Australasian Cerebral Palsy Clinical Trials Network (AusCP-CTN) is a five-year Centre for Research Excellence (CRE) funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council. The AusCP-CTN CRE has a work plan to uplift earlier detection of cerebral palsy, fast track children to multi-site randomised clinical trials of new neuroprotectants and to develop and test new rehabilitation. Knowledge translation studies will ensure effective transfer to enhanced clinical practice. Combining expertise from leading research centres from throughout Australia and New Zealand, the AusCP-CTN will conduct world standard, multisite, clinical trials to improve early detection and determine the best interventions and treatments for children with cerebral palsy.

SCHEME OVERVIEW

Through mentorship and direct training opportunities, the AusCP-CTN aims to grow the next generation of highly skilled clinical research workforce. AusCP-CTN will be awarding a number of top-up scholarships of \$5,000 p.a. to support PhD students who are currently pursuing research relevant to cerebral palsy.

Successful candidates will join the AusCP-CTN network of clinicians, researchers, students and families, and receive other benefits such as:

- Support and mentoring from national and internationally recognised leading clinicians, researchers, and allied health professionals in cerebral palsy.
- Collaboration opportunities for future research projects; involved in knowledge translation and education activities.
- Access to systematic review course and biostatistics training.
- Opportunities to present research findings at a suite of symposia, conferences and training workshops.
- Opportunity to be involved with cerebral palsy families and relevant community groups.
- Networking opportunities with multi-disciplinary researchers and professionals.

FUNDING

Each top-up scholarship comprises of an AUD\$5,000 p.a. payment awarded to the successful applicant, to supplement the applicant's main funding, for up to three years at maximum. The top-up scholarship is awarded based on the awardee's PhD candidature, with extension and renewal assessed based on annual progress report. The funds involved in the top-up scholarship are to be administered by the university at which the applicant is enrolled, so that funds can be dispersed in line with the applicant's main scholarship.



AusCP-CTN CRE Partners:

W: www.cre-auscpcn.centre.uq.edu.au E: auscpnetwork@uq.edu.au



ELIGIBILITY

PhD students are encouraged to apply for an AusCP-CTN Top-Up Scholarship, provided they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Currently enrolled in a PhD program with at least one year remaining of their candidature.
- Preferably, hold a main scholarship which was awarded through a competitive peer-review process
- NOT currently hold any other top up scholarship.
- Must have an official PhD supervisor who is affiliated with an Australian institution and/or research organisation.
- Research topics must be focusing on cerebral palsy diagnosis, treatment or intervention, and must directly relevant to AusCP-CTN research themes, including:
 - Pre-clinical & Neuroprotection
 - Early Detection and Neuroimaging
 - Clinical Trials
 - Knowledge Translation & Implementation
 - Engagement & Health Policy

OBLIGATIONS

As part of the scholarship award and funding agreement, successful applicants will be required to:

- Submit an annual progress report, and the report will require Principal Supervisor endorsement. The AusCP-CTN Steering Committee will review and approve the extension and renewal of the scholarship.
- Acknowledge the AusCP-CTN NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on all publications, technical papers, conference presentations, and media. The applicant should provide notification to AusCP-CTN management team.
- Contribute to AusCP-CTN events as requested by the Supervisor.
- AusCP-CTN must be notified immediately of any changes to the scholarship award. Changes include, but not exclusively:
 - Suspension of the applicant's PhD candidature.
 - Conversion of degrees.
 - Institution transfer.
 - Delays with the commencement of the award and proposed research project.

SELECTION PROCESS

The AusCP-CTN Steering Committee will conduct a competitive review process, based on:

- Applicant academic record.
- Applicant experience and track record in working with health professionals and family/communities, focusing on cerebral palsy.
- Project alignment with AusCP-CTN themes and overall vision.
- Research project; feasibility, novelty, significance.



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APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Submission Instructions

Applications Open: 9th April 2018

Applications Close: 21st May 2018

- When preparing for an application, both the Application Guideline (this document) and the Application Form should be reviewed.
- All sections outlined in the Application Form should be completed.
- Applications should be concise and within the page/word limits indicated.
- Current curriculum vitae of the applicant should be included.
- Certified academic record should be included.
- To assist with evidencing organisational commitment, sign off by the Applicant and the Principal Supervisor is required prior to submission.
- Please email the completed application as a single PDF document to auscpnetwork@uq.edu.au.

Should you wish to discuss any part of this top-up scholarship application, please contact the AusCP-CTN Program Manager on (07) 3069 7833, or email auscpnetwork@uq.edu.au.

Funding Outcomes & Notification Process

- Notifications to successful applicants will include an acceptance of offer attachment, which must be completed and returned to AusCP-CTN within the timeframe given in the acceptance of offer.
- AusCP-CTN will advise each applicant in writing (via email and formal letter) of the outcome of their application. No information will be released verbally.

Withdrawal of Applications

Applicants may withdraw at any time by notifying AusCP-CTN in writing at auscpnetwork@uq.edu.au.

Incomplete Applications

Incomplete applications will be deemed not eligible for application and will not be assessed.



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Document Control

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Document Title:	AusCP-CTN PhD Scholarship Top-Up Application Guidelines		
Document Owner:	Dr Annie Chen CRE Manager, AusCP-CTN		
Document Approver:	AusCP-CTN		
Document Version:	V1.0 (9 March 2018)		
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Confidentiality

Privacy and confidentiality of all information received from applicants will be maintained at all times by both AusCP-CTN, and the Application Assessment Panel.



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