

Eisdell Moore Centre – Call for Research Grant Applications 2019



The Eisdell Moore Centre has funding (up to \$350,000 annually) from the Hearing Research Foundation that is available for research and travel grants. The Centre is now calling for Research Grant applications.

This is a significant amount of funding and it is important to ensure the influence of the funding on the Centre is maximised. To achieve this the Directorate, supported by the Oversight Board, believes the funding should be directed towards meeting the Centre's strategic research activities and objectives, building research capability (such as among clinicians) and collaboration, and maximising the opportunities for leverage and access to further funds (e.g. from HRC). We want to encourage research that involves community groups, but at this stage any funding application should be managed through a partnership with a researcher within the Centre.

The Directorate has established a set of funding categories as follows:

- 1. Innovation/Explorer Project (seeding) Grants (max \$70k for up to 2 years):** These should demonstrate new and innovative ideas or approaches to answering questions of importance to the Centre's objectives. These grants may be to, for example, test the feasibility of a research plan, establish methods or develop pilot data for a larger, future, application. Applicants should ensure their application is directed towards meeting the Centre's strategic objectives, that the project involves collaborations within the Centre and preferably across universities and should describe how the research collaboration may influence subsequent grant applications.
- 2. Project/Capability Grants (max \$70k for up to 2 years).** These are grants for extending current research or maintaining capability within a research group while seeking longer-term funding. Applicants should ensure their applications are directed towards meeting the Centre's strategic objectives, that they involve collaborations within the Centre and preferably across universities and should describe how the project may influence subsequent grant applications.
- 3. PhD student and Clinician Grants (max \$5,000 for up to 2 years).** These grants are designed to support additional working expenses for doctoral (eg PhD, MD) students and to assist practising clinicians to become engaged in research. This grant is not available for student stipends but some of the funding could be used to buy out clinician time to undertake research.

The Distribution Policy for these grants is as follows:

- The funding call has been made to EMC members with a closing date of 2 September 2019.
- Grants should be submitted to the EMC directly (emcentre@auckland.ac.nz). University of Auckland applicants do not need to upload their applications to the Research Funding Module – this will be managed post-award. Applicants from other institutions should follow the submission processes for their institution.

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- An assessing committee established to look at project grants will be independently chaired by Dr Dianne McCarthy. This committee will make recommendations to the Directorate.
- Grants will be assessed against criteria of:
 - Scientific merit
 - Significance and impact
 - Strategic importance to the Centre
 - Innovation
 - Cross-centre collaboration and track record
- Please ensure you follow the instructions in the application notes.
- The Centre is keen to encourage new applicants and emerging researchers and may prioritise them over PIs who already hold an EMC grant that will active in 2020.
- The EMC views applications that request direct top up funding of larger awarded grants from other funding agencies as a low priority, but will consider jointly funding research proposals. We currently have an agreement with AMRF that they will jointly fund projects with us and are happy to engage with other funding agencies as necessary. Please contact Dr Meagan Barclay (m.barclay@auckland.ac.nz) if you plan to submit your application to other agencies in addition to the EMC.
- The Centre will not fund salaries (i.e. buy out) of academic staff or professional staff currently employed in host universities, student stipends and course fees or equipment and computers. If you require clarification on this point, please contact Dr Meagan Barclay to discuss further.
- The Centre will not fund conference travel on these research grant applications. This must be applied for separately in the travel grant rounds in May and November.
- Applicants must be employed by, or enrolled at a New Zealand Institution. Institution does not only refer to tertiary institutions and can be a clinic, company, DHB etc.
- The Directorate makes the final decision and has the right to add or modify criteria or conditions of the grants to ensure awards align with the Hearing Research Foundation funding expectations and conditions of its donation.
- The Oversight Board of the EMC provides final approvals for distribution of funding.