



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

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McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowships Program

2019 FAQs

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| 1 | Are international applicants eligible to apply? | Yes, international applications are welcomed. Permanent residency or citizenship is not a requirement. However, a relevant visa will need to be obtained if the applicant is successful. Note that this scheme does not provide visa or relocation expenses. |
| 2 | When will the Fellowships be awarded? | For the 2019 Program, successful applicants will be notified by late November 2018. Fellowships must commence between 1 January 2019 and 30 June 2019. |
| 3 | I do not yet have my PhD, can I apply? | <p>If by 7 September 2018 you have completed all the required steps to be eligible to graduate with a PhD from a university other than the University of Melbourne (and can provide evidence of this), then you are eligible to apply.</p> <p>For the purposes of this scheme, submission of a thesis for examination is not sufficient for eligibility.</p> <p>As detailed in Clause 4.7 of the Funding Guidelines, RIC cannot support Eligibility Exemption Requests for applicants who will not be able to provide PhD evidence by the application closing date.</p> |
| 4 | How many Fellowships will be awarded? | It is anticipated that up to 10 Fellowships will be awarded for 2019 commencement. |
| 5 | What is the success rate for McKenzie Fellowships? | The McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowships Program is highly competitive, with only 10 Fellowships awarded each year. The success rate varies depending on the number of applications submitted in a given year. |
| 6 | How do I submit my referee written testimonials? | Your two academic referees must submit written testimonials to mckenzie-application@unimelb.edu.au by the 7 September 2018. There is no template for the written testimonial; this is at the discretion of the referee. |
| 7 | Are there word and page limits to the application? | Yes, there are word and/or page limits for different parts of the application. Where applicable, specific page and/or word limits are stated at the beginning of each part. Please bear in mind that two (2) selection panels will read the applications and they will respond better to brief and concise applications |
| 8 | Can I take up the Fellowship at a UoM affiliated Medical Research Institute or Department¹? | External applicants and those directly employed by a UoM affiliated medical research institute are eligible to apply for a McKenzie Fellowship. In order to take up the Fellowship, McKenzie Fellows must be employed 1.0 FTE by a Department (or School) of the University of Melbourne (upon commencement of the Fellowship). The Fellow may be employed by a UoM Department or School and |

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| | | still perform a portion of their research in an affiliated Medical Research Institute or Department; if intended, this should be captured in the applicant's research proposal. It is expected that all research awards applied for by the Fellow during the tenure of the Fellowship are submitted, accepted and administered through the employing University of Melbourne Department. |
| 9 | Can I hold my Fellowship at another affiliated institute of the University of Melbourne (not an affiliated medical institute)? | Yes, you are eligible to apply provided that you meet all other eligibility criteria listed in the Funding Guidelines. In order to take up the fellowship, you would need to be employed by a UoM budget unit Department or School. The fellow cannot be directly employed by the affiliated research institute. If you belong to an affiliated medical institute, refer to FAQ 8 and footnote 1. |
| 10 | I am currently employed in an affiliated institute of the University of Melbourne. Am I eligible to apply? | Yes, you are eligible to apply provided that you meet all other eligibility criteria listed in the Funding Guidelines. If you belong to an affiliated medical institute, refer to FAQ 8 and footnote 1. |
| 11 | Can I transfer my Fellowship funds to another University? | No. It is an internal grant. If you accept a position outside the University of Melbourne, your McKenzie Fellowship will be terminated. |
| 12 | Can I use any funds left over from my Fellowship once the 3 years are completed? | No. Research, Innovation and Commercialisation will reclaim any unspent funds. |
| 13 | In section G2, is the limit of 800 words for the entire project proposal or for each heading? | The entire proposal section, including text under all 5 headings, should be no more than 800 words (excluding references). |
| 14 | In section G2, are the headings themselves included in the word count? | No, the headings are not included in the word count. |
| 15 | Is there a template for the referee testimonials? | No. At a minimum, referees should comment on their relationship to the applicant, the applicant's academic performance/outputs as known to them, and their reasons for supporting the applicant in applying to the McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowships Program (i.e. a general assessment of the applicant's capacity to successfully undertake the Fellowship). |

¹ These include the affiliated institutes of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, including the Florey Department of Neuroscience and Mental Health, Medical Bionics Department, The Sir Peter MacCallum Department of Oncology and the Department of Medical Biology (WEHI).

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| 16 | What is the role of the Academic Contact? | Academic Contacts nominated in the application are expected to be a regular point of contact at The University of Melbourne, and to either provide informal mentoring to the successful Fellow throughout the period of their Fellowship, or nominate an appropriate mentor. |
| 17 | Who needs to sign in Part K, “Head of Department / School Support”? | This declaration needs to be signed by the Head of the Department or School in which your proposed project will be hosted. Please contact your Faculty or Graduate School administrative contact (list available at the table on our website) should you require assistance contacting the relevant Head. |
| 18 | My Eligibility Exemption Request was deemed ineligible last year. Can I submit an EER again? | Where an Eligibility Exemption Request has not been granted in a previous round, applicants cannot re-submit the same request. |
| 19 | Can I access copies of previous successful applications? | Due to privacy issues we are unable to provide copies of previous successful applications at this time. |
| 20 | I have an appointment at The University of Melbourne that is longer than 12 months. Am I eligible to apply? | According to the Funding Guidelines, applicants with an appointment of 12 months or longer (or a sequence of back-to-back appointments totalling 12 months or longer) at UoM are ineligible to apply. However, you may submit an Eligibility Exemption Request. |