

Philip Wrightson Fellowships - advice to applicants

Purpose

The Philip Wrightson Fellowship is named after neurosurgeon Mr Philip Wrightson, a founding member of the Neurological Foundation. These fellowships are intended to provide personal support for outstanding post-doctoral research fellows.

Scope

- Post-doctoral research fellows undertaking neurological research at institutions in New Zealand or internationally. Fellowships based in New Zealand must include a significant international collaboration

Who can apply?

- New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Post-doctoral fellows who have submitted or been awarded a PhD within 2-5 years prior to the application closing date *(see Time Outside of Research)

What is funded?

- Two years equivalent of salary support. The research FTE can be spread across more than two years, as long as it is at least 80% for each year and the total fellowship does not exceed 200% FTE
- Recipients are eligible to apply for travel grants of up to \$4,500 towards travelling to conferences and training courses directly related to the fellowship. These are applied for separately as travel grants after the fellowship has been awarded

What will not be funded?

- Relocation costs
- Fellows whose salary for the proposed project is already funded
- Research working expenses

Closing dates

If the closing date falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be extended to the next working day

- 1 May

Process

- Create an application on our online portal at <https://grants.neurological.org.nz/>. You will need to create a new account if you are a first-time user
- Your application will go to your configured research office for review, before being sent on (at the institution's decision) to the Neurological Foundation
- The budget requested should be in NZD. The Neurological Foundation will not award more than is requested in the budget and does not fund institutional overheads
- Supporting documentation:
 - NZ Standard CV for the applicant and the mentor(s), using the template available on the application form
 - A letter of support from the proposed primary mentor which includes information on the resources available and how the research expenses will be funded
- Selected applicants will be invited to attend an interview with the Foundation's Personal Awards Committee, where you will describe your project and future plans
- Applicants will be advised of the outcome in early July
- Successful applicants will be informed of the conditions of the grant and asked for their formal acceptance of the fellowship contract

General Advice

Purpose

The Neurological Foundation's purpose is to "be a catalyst to improve the future quality of life for New Zealanders impacted by neurological conditions".

This includes diseases and disorders of the central and peripheral nervous systems. The Foundation will accept applications for research that contributes to our understanding of, prevention, diagnosis, prognosis, treatment, or management of neurological conditions. The research proposal should have a clear outcome, which will add to knowledge about neurological disorders. The Foundation will accept applications designed to enhance knowledge about the pathogenesis of neuropsychiatric and neuropsychological disorders, but applications that deal only with the management of mental health disorders will not be considered.

Time Outside of Research

Exceptions will be considered for significant periods of time outside of research for reasons of illness, bereavement, caregiver or parental leave. Reduced FTEs are not considered as time outside of research. Other exceptions may be considered, please contact the Foundation prior to submission. You may be asked to provide evidence. *For example, a research fellow who has taken one year's parental leave will need to have submitted or been awarded their PhD within 6 years prior to the application closing date.*

Resubmission

The Foundation's Personal Awards Committee provides constructive feedback to applicants after each grant round. If unsuccessful, applicants can resubmit their application in a subsequent grant round. However, the Personal Awards Committee believes that a third submission of an unsuccessful application is not appropriate. Therefore, only one resubmission of a Philip Wrightson Fellowship application will be accepted. Successful applicants are only able to receive the fellowship once and are not eligible to reapply for the Philip Wrightson Fellowship.

Research contracts

Successful applicants will be offered contracts that outline the conditions of the fellowship, including the following:

- The Philip Wrightson Fellowship cannot be held simultaneously with any other fellowship award
- The host institution will administer the fellowship
- The fellowship will have a specific start date and end date
- The institution's research programme may be rapidly evolving and the details of the research project may change after the application is made. The Fellow may be involved in several research projects that develop during the course of the fellowship. If the contractual details of the fellowship change a variation request will need to be submitted to the Foundation through the application in the grants portal
- Annual progress reports are required on the anniversary of the start date. A final report will be required within 3 months of the fellowship end date. Reports should be submitted to the Foundation through the application in the grants portal
- Any presentations or publications resulting from the fellowship will acknowledge the Foundation's support

Questions?

If you have any queries please contact the Foundation at research@neurological.org.nz