

LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION

Fellowship and Scholarship Program 2012

Information and eligibility criteria



The Leukaemia Foundation is the only national not-for-profit foundation dedicated to the care and cure of patients and families living with leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma, and related blood disorders. Through its National Research Program, the Foundation seeks to foster innovative research into the causes, diagnosis and treatment of these cancers, and the care of patients and families. The program includes grants for research projects, in addition to scholarships and fellowships to foster the careers of talented young scientists and doctors.

The Leukaemia Foundation calls for applications for:

- Postdoctoral fellowships (Maximum \$100,000 pa = approximately 75% salary + 25% consumables)
- PhD scholarships (\$40,000 pa = \$30,000 stipend + \$10,000 consumables)
- PhD scholarships (Clinical) (\$55,000 pa = \$45,000 stipend + \$10,000 consumables)

The Foundation's fellowships and scholarships program aims to encourage talented young students, medical graduates and researchers to pursue a career in basic, applied or translational research to find cures and better ways to care for patients and families living with haematological malignancies.

The Leukaemia Foundation calls for applications from final year undergraduates, postgraduates, PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and medical graduates with relevant advanced medical training to apply for Honours year scholarships, PhD scholarships, and Post Doctoral Fellowships, respectively. These awards are to commence in early 2012 in a field relevant to leukaemias, lymphomas, myeloma or related disorders. The fellowships and scholarships will be offered to people eligible to enrol to undertake full time research or study in an Australian University, affiliated Medical Research Institute, Public Hospital, or Public Benevolent Institution.

The PhD scholarship (Clinical) has replaced the previously offered Clinical Fellowship.

All applications for fellowships and scholarships by the Leukaemia Foundation in every state and territory are now assessed through one central national process. This includes applications for fellowships and scholarships which are state specific.

Please read eligibility criteria carefully as there have been changes made to criteria of past years.

General Eligibility Criteria

All applicants must be Australian citizens, permanent residents or New Zealand citizens holding a special category visa. Applicants who have applied for, but not yet been granted permanent residency or a special category visa, may apply for the award. Evidence of the appropriate status must be provided before the start of the award. Research funded by the Fellowship and Scholarship Program must be conducted in an Australian institution.

Postdoctoral Fellowships: Candidates must have been awarded their PhD **no more than three years prior** to the closing date for applications or else their PhD **must be awarded by December** of the year of application.

Exceptions may be made where an applicant can show that they have had an unavoidable career disruption such as family leave, serious illness, war etc.

Postdoctoral fellowships will initially be awarded for one year. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to apply for up to two annual extensions subject to satisfactory progress and consideration by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee.

PhD Scholarships: Candidates will be eligible for enrolment in the PhD program in the institution in which the proposed study will be done. Scholarships are open to students commencing their PhD or who have completed **no more** than one year of full-time study toward their PhD. Successful applicants who have already commenced their PhD program will only be awarded a Leukaemia Foundation Scholarship for the balance of their study eg. a student who has completed one year of prior study will be awarded a Leukaemia Foundation scholarship for two years only.

PhD scholarships will initially be awarded for a maximum of three years. Recipients **may** be eligible for one six month extension subject to application and consideration by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee.

PhD Scholarships (Clinical): Candidates will be expected to have completed, or almost completed, their advanced medical training in haematology. The scholarship is intended to assist in the conduct of research in the field of malignant haematology. Those who have completed, or are entering the final year, of their advanced medical training and wish to undertake a PhD in clinical or laboratory science research in haematology are encouraged to apply for a clinical scholarship.

Candidates will be eligible for enrolment in the PhD program in the institution in which the proposed study will be done. Scholarships are open to students commencing their PhD or who have completed **no more** than one year of full-time study toward their PhD. Successful applicants who have already commenced their PhD program will only be awarded a Leukaemia Foundation Scholarship for the balance of their study eg. a student who has completed one year of prior study will be awarded a Leukaemia Foundation scholarship for two years only.

PhD scholarships will initially be awarded for a maximum of three years. Recipients **may** be eligible for one six month extension subject to application and consideration by the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee.

This is a new category and will not be awarded retrospectively.

General Information for Applicants:

The scholarships and fellowships program aims to encourage and support young researchers and to foster cutting-edge research to improve our understanding of leukaemia and related malignancies and to benefit patients and families in the short or longer term. The applications for these fellowships and scholarships will be assessed through a rigorous review process by a team of experts in the field based on the merit of the proposed research, the achievements of the applicant and the relevance and significance of the proposed work in enhancing our knowledge or treatment of haematological malignancies and improving the way we care for these patients and their families.

The conditions of award are:

- (1) The field of study must be in accordance with the objectives of the Foundation, namely research into the causes, prevention, treatments or cure of leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and related blood and bone marrow cancers.
- (2) **The study or research must be full-time** (with the exception of the New Investigators Grant) and must be undertaken in an appropriate institution in Australia with an accredited program ('institution' means a University, affiliated Medical Research Institute, Public Hospital or Public Benevolent Institution);
- (3) The applicant must have the approval of the appropriate authorities in the institution in which the work will be carried out to enrol for the appropriate program, degree or study;
- (4) The stipend is payable only while the candidate remains an enrolled student or fellow of good standing, and provided that the supervisor reports annually on the satisfactory progress of the scholar's work;
- (5) Funds detailed for consumables with each fellowship or scholarship will be provided to the Department in which the scholar/researcher is enrolled/engaged to provide exclusively for costs associated directly with the scholar's or fellow's studies on the following conditions:
 - (a) that expenditure of this amount is fully accountable to the LF Board;
 - (b) that the sum listed for each scholarship or fellowship **includes** an allowance for travel expenses to allow the scholar or fellow to attend one scientific meeting in Australia or overseas, provided that the scholar/fellow is presenting the results of his or her work. The expenditure of this travel allowance will require the authorisation and support of the scholar's or fellow's supervisor.
 - (c) that other expenditure from this allowance is used exclusively to further the research of the scholar or fellow, and not be used for general expenditures of the department in which he or she is working;
- (6) **Outcomes**
 - (a) Any publication or publicity arising from the research undertaken under the auspices of these Fellowships or Scholarships must acknowledge the assistance of the Leukaemia Foundation.
 - (b) A copy of each publication arising from work undertaken with this Fellowship or Scholarship must be sent to staff at the National Research Program (for the information of the LF Board).
 - (c) The scholar or fellow agrees to participate in any publicity associated with Leukaemia Foundation activities.