

2023 Inspirational Research Grant Policy

TOGA mission

To prevent, treat and cure thoracic cancers through research, clinical trials, education, and advocacy.

Purpose of the grant

TOGA's Inspirational Research Grant's main objective is to provide a springboard for new projects designed in consultation with consumers. Our vision is to support projects that have the potential to prevent, treat or improve thoracic cancers. Applications that build the career trajectory of TOGA's early-career researchers will be viewed favourably.

Grant amount and eligible activities

Grants of up to \$50,000 (GST-free) for up to 2 years are available

Grants can be used to purchase research consumables or services, for PhD stipends, or to fund travel where that travel is directly related to the successful outcome of the research.

Grant funding cannot be used to support on costs or activities pertaining to the administration of the grant.

Eligibility

- Applicants and at least one supervisor must be TOGA members
- Applicants must be Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or have permanent residency in Australia at the time of submitting the application. Applications must be made under the auspices of an Australian or New Zealand hospital, health service, research organisation or university (Administering Organisation)
- Consumer input into study design/execution is highly desirable, and the quality of input will be assessed as part of the research application. TOGA can provide assistance in recommending consumers if required.
- Research team has not previously or currently holds any funding that will duplicate the proposed direct research costs requested in this application
- Funding will not be awarded to applications submitted to this grant opportunity previously, unless additional research pertaining to the project has been undertaken since the previous submission
- Applicants may only submit one application per funding round

A single organisation should be designated as the Administering Organisation, which must:

- have in place policies and procedures for the management of public funds
 - have in place policies for the proper conduct of research in relation to ethics and good scientific conduct
 - have in place policies for the appropriate management and exploitation of Intellectual Property
- The Research Organisation is expected to ensure that there is effective supervision and mentoring of the researcher and/or research group and have a process for evaluating the effectiveness and suitability of any supervisory and/or mentoring arrangements

Applications that do not meet these eligibility requirements will be excluded from further consideration. Where an eligibility ruling is being considered, TOGA may request further information to assess whether the eligibility requirements have been met. Applicants will be notified of ineligible grant applications.

Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

What are we looking for?

TOGA is seeking projects that are in early stages of development and will aid the career development of the applicant. Consumer input into the project design is highly desirable and the project should have the potential to produce meaningful outcomes within 2 years of award. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot studies (including generating data to support a larger TOGA research project).
- Translational research that can be used to inform part of an existing TOGA project.
- Innovative sub-studies of existing TOGA trials.
- A clinical audit study

2023 Inspirational Research Grant Policy

If you are not sure whether your project will qualify, please contact info@thoraciconcology.org.au at least 10 days prior to the grant closing date.

Applicants may wish to utilise TOGA's research development and peer- and consumer-review process to assist with the design of their research proposal (<https://thoraciconcology.org.au/researchdevelopment/>)

TOGA reserves the right to not award the funding if no suitable applications are received.

What is expected of successful grant recipients?

- Acknowledge TOGA as a contributor to any output arising from the funded research including, amongst others, publications and presentations.
- Provide a lay summary report for use in TOGA publications including social media communication.
- Participate in a community event to increase lung cancer awareness. Examples include a lung cancer awareness day at a hospital or university health centre, social media campaign through TOGA, consumer event or fundraising event, amongst others.
- Accept the award at a significant TOGA event, to be decided by TOGA
- Present research findings at the TOGA Annual Scientific Meeting
- Work with the TOGA to set project-specific deliverables and milestones that will be reviewed in accordance with the reporting schedule
- Meet project deliverables according to timeline

If project does not progress according to milestones, and cannot be remedied in a suitable timeframe, TOGA reserves the right to request monies are repaid.

Review process and Assessment

Grant review

A grant review panel will be appointed by TOGA to assess the applications. Consumer representatives will assess the quality of consumer involvement and alignment of the proposal with consumer priorities. Within the framework of the above requirements, the following specific criteria will be used as part of the review and selection process:

- Scientific merit (30%)
- Feasibility (20%)
- Potential to prevent, treat and/or improve thoracic cancer care (20%)
- How the research will contribute to the career development of the applicant (10%)
- Involvement of consumers and alignment with consumer priorities (20%)

All members of the grant review panel will abide by TOGA's Declaration of Interests Policy.

Equal Opportunity

TOGA is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and equality of access to research grant opportunities.

Privacy and confidentiality

All information contained in applications will be regarded as confidential. Documents containing personal information will be handled and protected in accordance with the [TOGA Privacy Policy](#)

Further information

If you require further information or have questions regarding eligibility criteria or assessment procedures, please email info@thoraciconcology.org.au