## STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant Application Form 2025

All STaRR Emerging Researchers from the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 cohorts who have *not previously received* a Western Alliance Seed or Translation Grant, or STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant or a STaRR Translation Grant (STaRRship) as principal investigator (PI) are eligible to apply.

To be considered, you must complete and submit your application via email to [starrsupport@deakin.edu.au](mailto:starrsupport@deakin.edu.au) by **Friday 27th June at 5pm.**

All STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant applications will be reviewed by a panel comprising researchers, health service, and consumer representative(s), and will be assessed against the following selection criteria:

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| **Problem identification (25%)** | * Addresses an important knowledge or evidence-based practice gap (e.g., service delivery, workforce, etc.) * Demonstrated review and understanding of the literature, and/or local data to justify the problem/gap |
| **Scientific merit (25%)** | * Clearly articulated aim * Appropriate study design that addresses the aim * Clearly defined data collection and analysis methods * Clearly defined outcome measures |
| **Feasibility (25%)** | * The proposed timeline appears realistic and achievable * The budget is justified and appropriate |
| **Impact (25%)** | * Translational impact (potential to influence policy or practice) * Collaboration between disciplines/professions (as appropriate) * Consumer engagement or consumer collaboration (as appropriate) |

### Before you proceed

Please read the [**STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant Guidelines**](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/wp-content/uploads/pdf/STaRR-Seed-Grants-Guidelines-2025.pdf) carefully and ensure that you are applying for the appropriate funding opportunity.

You are strongly encouraged to view the [**STaRR Grant Funding Resource**](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/starr/starr-resources/grants-funding) to help you complete your grant application. The online resource provides guidance on each of the grant proposal sections, and tips from Western Alliance’s Chief Operating Officer, Drew Aras.

STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grants are available for those who are embarking on a research project to generate evidence which can then be translated into practice. To be eligible you **must not** **have received a Western Alliance Seed or Translation Grant, or STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant or STaRRship as a PI** previously.

## Application form

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| **Project title** | Enter text |

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| **Expected start date of project** | Select date |

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| **Expected completion date of project** | Select date |

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| **Lead organisation (must be a Western Alliance member health service or PHN)** | Enter text |

### STaRR Emerging Researcher / Principal Investigator

The PI must be currently working at one of the Western Alliance member health services or Western Victoria Primary Health Network, and must have participated in the STaRR Program in either 2021, 2022, 2023, or 2024.

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| **Title and Name of PI** | Enter text |

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| **Appointment / s** | Enter text |

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| **Department** | Enter text |

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| **Organisation** | Enter text |

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| **Phone** | Enter text |

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| **Email** | Enter text |

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| **Qualifications** | Enter text |

### Health Service or Primary Health Network Executive Sponsor

This person must be in a position to facilitate and endorse the research activity (e.g., Executive Director Community Health, Manager of Speech Pathology, Director Allied Health, etc.) and should be involved throughout the stages of the research.

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| **Title and Name** | Enter text |

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| **Appointment / s** | Enter text |

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| **Employing organisation** | Enter text |

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| **Department** | Enter text |

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| **Phone** | Enter text |

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| **Email** | Enter text |

### Research Mentor

This could be your STaRR Mentor if they would like to continue to be involved in your research. Or your mentor may be another experienced researcher who can provide guidance and support while you lead the research project.

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| **Title and Name** | Enter text |

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| **Appointment / s** | Enter text |

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| **Employing organisation** | Click here to enter text. |

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| **Qualifications, experience (including research/translation)** | Enter text |

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| **Department / faculty** | Enter text |

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| **Phone** | Enter text |

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| **Email** | Enter text |

### Associate Investigators

This includes all members of your research team and will ideally include your manager and at least one consumer.

| **Title and Name of Associate investigators** | **Organisation, position, qualifications, experience (including research/translation or lived experience)** |
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| Enter text | Enter text |
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## Research Proposal

### Brief lay summary of the proposed project

*Maximum 250 words*

Ensure that it is easily read and understood by the general public.

**Hint:** complete this section last as it should summarise the whole project in plain language.

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| Enter text |

### Aim and objectives

*Maximum 100 words*

The research aim or research question and objectives (optional) must be clear and concise.

Click on this link for a refresher on [developing a researchable question](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/starr/starr-resources/developing-researchable-questions)**.**

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| Enter text |

### Background and rationale

*Maximum 400 words*

This section must include:

* a **brief literature review**:Click on this link for a refresher on [searching and reviewing the literature](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/starr/starr-resources/literature-review-searching) and this link for a refresher on [critically appraising the literature](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/starr/starr-resources/critical-appraisal-skills)
* **local data** to justify the problem/gap in your setting (e.g., waitlists, length of stay, frequency of risks/incidents, etc.)
* any **benchmarking data** (if available).

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| Enter text |

### Methodology

*Maximum 400 words*

In this section, you must include details of the:

* overall proposed approach to the research (e.g., pre-post design, cross-sectional study, qualitative study, mixed methods, etc.)
* any theories or frameworks that will guide the research (if appropriate)
* data collection methods (e.g., survey, focus groups, interviews, clinical data audit, clinical outcome measures, etc.)
* plan for analysing the data
* ensure the research question can be addressed with the chosen methodology and methods

Click on this link for a refresher on [research design](https://www.westernalliance.org.au/starr/starr-resources/research-design).

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### Bibliography

*Not included in word count*

Include references for the *Background and Rationale* and *Methodology* sections here.

There is no specific referencing style required; however, consistency of style is required.

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| Enter text |

### Intended future impact of the project

*Maximum 300 words*

Explain the outcomes or impacts you expect as a result of *your study* (e.g., how it will impact local practice or policy, collaboration between disciplines or services, consumer collaboration, etc.). Be mindful not to overstate the potential impact of your study.

**Hint:** focus on the *short-term outcomes* of your study;it is not expected that your project will lead to large scale changes or improvements in practice and outcomes.

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| Enter text |

### Consumer engagement and involvement

*Maximum 100 words*

Describe how consumers have and/or will be involved in the research. If there is no consumer involvement, please explain why.

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| Enter text |

### Timeline and milestones

| **Milestones**  (Example only, change as required) | **Expected date** |
| --- | --- |
| **Ethics approval date** | Enter a date |
| **Governance approval date** | Enter a date |
| **HREC reference number / Local reference number (if you already have ethical and / or governance approval)** | Enter text |
| **Commence project** | Enter a date |
| **Commence data collection** | Enter a date |
| **Commence data analysis** | Enter a date |
| **Project completion** | Enter a date |
| **Presentations / Conferences / Publications** | Enter a date |
| **Other milestone/s as appropriate** | Enter a date |

### Detailed Budget

**Note:** The maximum amount awarded to an applicant will not exceed $5000.

Please be as specific as possible when writing your budget, and include costs related to:

* researcher backfill or funding of staff, with reference to the appropriate Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (e.g., PI salary for 40 hours, at $52/hour plus 20% on-costs\* = $2496)
* participant/consumer reimbursements (if appropriate), which include amount per participant and approximate number of participants (e.g., $30 gift voucher for approx. 14 participants = $420)
* research equipment (include quote where possible)
* consumables
* travel costs (must include reason for travel)
* other direct research costs

\*On-costs vary across each organisation and should be clarified with the health organisation human resources department.

**Note:** Western Alliance provides limited funds for access to biostatistics and health economics support, please speak to your local Research Translation Coordinator if these have been identified for your proposed project. Where applicable, these can then be included as in-kind costs (see below).

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| **Item to be funded by the STaRR Emerging Researcher Seed Grant** | **Cost $** |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| **Total funds requested** | **Total $** Enter text |

Please also provide information about in-kind support from your organisation or external sources. In-kind supports are any costs that will not be covered by the grant funding. Some examples include administration support, additional research team member time, librarian support, or your mentor’s time.

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| **In-kind support**  (Include estimation of staff time, administration costs etc.) | **Cost $** |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| Enter text | Enter text |
| **Total in-kind support** | **Total $** Enter text |

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| **Has funding for this project been sought elsewhere?** | Select an option |

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| **If funding has been sought elsewhere, please provide information about source, amount and status of application** | Enter text |

### Certification by Investigators

In submitting this application, I / we accept and agree to comply with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023). Ethical and local governance approval will be obtained prior to the commencement of this project.

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| **Name and Signature of Principal Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Mentor** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

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| **Name and Signature of Associate Investigator** |  | **Date** | Select date |

### Certification by Head of Department

*Note: if the department head is an investigator on this project, please seek sign off from the person above the department head (e.g., Executive Director of Community Health, Director of Allied Health)*

I certify that:

* The project is appropriate to the work conducted in my department and I am prepared to have the project carried out in my department
* The investigators will seek ethics approval and will conform to the general principles set out in the National Statement

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| **Name, organisation & position** | Enter text |

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| **Signature of Department Head** |  | **Date** | Select date |

**All complete and signed applications must be submitted via email to** [**starrsupport@deakin.edu.au**](mailto:starrsupport@deakin.edu.au) **by Friday 27th June at 5pm.**