



1. Award overview

Award name	The Trisno Family PhD Scholarship
Purpose	To support and promote PhD research in psychiatry by RANZCP members at tertiary institutions in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.
Funding source	Established in 2022, the scholarship is funded by the Trisno family.
Research focus	PhD research in psychiatry.
Eligibility	Open to RANZCP Fellows, Affiliates and Trainees in good standing who meet the eligibility requirements set out in Section 2.
Value and form of award	The scholarship provides up to A\$60,000 over a period of up to two years. The recipient will receive a formal letter of offer, an invitation to accept the scholarship at the College Ceremony during Congress, and a framed certificate.
Permitted use of funds	Funding may be used for stipend support, research costs, or a combination of both.
Number offered	One scholarship will be offered in 2026.
Application period	Application dates will be published for each round. For 2026, applications open on 1 July and close on 31 August.

2. Eligibility

Applications are open to RANZCP Fellows, Affiliates or Trainees who are in good standing with the RANZCP.

Applicants must:

- be enrolled, or provide evidence of future enrolment, as a PhD candidate in psychiatric research at a tertiary institution in Australia or Aotearoa New Zealand
- have ethics approval, or evidence of a pending ethics application, from an approved ethics committee.

The scholarship is open to applicants at any stage of their PhD, whether studying full-time or part-time, and is not limited to a particular psychiatric research sub-specialty or focus.

3. Applications

Applications must be submitted through the online portal by the closing date and include:

- a project summary, including background literature and rationale, project aims, methodology, research environment, cultural safety, lived and living experience, expected outcomes and significance

- track record summary, including academic qualifications, research experience, and awards
- detailed budget and rationale
- curriculum vitae
- evidence of ethics approval, or a pending ethics application, from an approved ethics committee. If this is not yet available, a letter from the applicant's supervisor confirming ethics approval is in progress must be provided
- at least two letters of support, each provided by a different referee, supervisor or research group leader.

4. Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed based on:

- originality
- scientific merit
- feasibility
- clinical relevance
- cultural safety and meaningful inclusion of lived and living experience
- other relevant considerations consistent with the purpose of the scholarship

5. Selection and approval process

Applications will first undergo an eligibility and completeness check in accordance with these guidelines. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements, or that are incomplete at the closing date, may be excluded from further consideration.

Eligible applications will be assessed by a selection panel of no fewer than five members.

The panel will comprise:

- Chair (or nominee), RANZCP Foundation Committee
- Chair (or nominee), RANZCP Committee for Research
- Two other committee members from the RANZCP Foundation Committee or the RANZCP Committee for Research
- A community member from the Committee for Research or nominee from the Community Collaboration Committee.

Any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest must be declared before assessment begins and managed in accordance with applicable RANZCP requirements.

Once any conflicts of interest have been addressed, applications will be reviewed in blinded and unblinded stages. Panel members will assess each application independently before panel discussion.

Following assessment, the selection panel will make recommendations to the RANZCP Foundation Committee for final approval.

In determining the final outcome, the Foundation Committee may have regard to the merits of each application, the funding reasonably required to complete the proposed research, and the total funding available. The Committee may award fewer than the advertised number of

scholarships, vary the value of a scholarship, allocate funding differently, or decline to make an award if no suitable application is received.

6. Award conditions

As part of the application process, applicants must accept the RANZCP Scholarship Funding Rules.

To maximise the reach and impact of Foundation funding, individuals may receive only one Foundation grant or scholarship in a calendar year. If an applicant is successful in more than one funding stream, they must nominate one award to accept. Only one form of funding will proceed, and awards cannot be deferred or transferred.

Before receiving funding, scholarship recipients must enter into a tripartite agreement with the RANZCP and their administering institution. The agreement will set out the terms and conditions of the funding, together with the recipient's obligations.

Recipients must submit an abstract based on the funded research for presentation at an RANZCP scientific conference or for publication in an RANZCP journal.

Document history

Date	Version	Approver	Description
June 2026	2.1	RANZCP Foundation Committee	Updated the selection criteria, assessment criteria, selection process and award conditions. Included governance section.
July 2024	2	RANZCP Foundation Committee	Moved content to the new Scholarship Funding Rules, updated selection criteria, and added cultural safety.
Aug 2022	1.0	B2022/OOS 38	New document approved by the Board.