**AuSPEN Research Grant Proposal 2024**

\*Please save this form, complete and upload as a PDF to the Grants portal\*

The Australasian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (AuSPEN) offers grants to society members for assistance in undertaking projects of significance to AuSPEN. The AuSPEN Research Committee has awarded successful grants since 2006 to conduct projects of significance to the field of clinical nutrition. Clinical significance is determined by the potential of a project idea to further our understanding of clinical nutrition, impact service delivery, or improve nutrition support practices with a primary focus on artificial nutrition support.

AuSPEN offers grants for novice researchers (a clinician who does not have an established research track record or a higher degree in research) to assist them to conduct clinical projects of significance to the field of clinical nutrition. In 2024, one Novice Researcher Project Grant will be offered up to a maximum of $15,000 (ex- GST).

Please see the full application guidelines below, detailing your project, budgetary requirements, investigating team and supervision/ mentoring arrangements for the duration of the project.

We look forward to receiving your research grant applications.

AuSPEN Scientific Committee, 2024

**APPLICATION RULES**

1. Full grant applications must be submitted by 5pm AEST on Friday 26th July 2024. This form must be uploaded onto the website as per the instructions provided.
2. Applications will only be considered if the project: is assessed as high quality and feasible; supports multi-disciplinary care; is in line with the objectives of AuSPEN; and is in the field of clinical nutrition.
3. Please note that the Principal Investigator must be a financial member of AuSPEN at the time of submission. In addition, **at least 50% of all Associate Investigators** (this is 50% of investigators *in addition to* the Principal Investigator) listed on the application must be current financial members of AuSPEN. Projects where these criteria are not met at the time of grant submission will be automatically rejected.
4. Principal Investigators who were listed as a Principal or Associate Investigator on a successful AuSPEN grant application from 2023 will not be eligible to apply.
5. The Principal Investigator can only apply for one grant per year.
6. A Novice Investigator will be defined as a clinician who does not have an established research track record (not previously listed as a principal investigator on a substantive grant i.e. >$50,000) or a higher degree in research (Master of Research or Doctorate of Philosophy). They may be enrolled in one of these programs at the time of application. Justification of the Novice Investigator status of the applicant must be included.
7. The main institution coordinating the project must be located in Australia or New Zealand.
8. Any applicants who have been successful in a previous AuSPEN grant round (since 2021) should submit a project update for consideration as part of their track record.
9. Funds can be utilised for: (a) supporting personnel (funds to support personnel will be based on NHMRC Personnel Support Packages), (b) equipment that is unique to the project and is essential for the project to proceed (computers will only be considered essential if these are an integral component of a piece of equipment), (c) direct research costs for the purchase of research materials required to conduct the proposed research, and (d) other costs that are a direct requirement of the project.

A peer-reviewed judging process will be used to rank applications. At least 3 Scientific Committee members will assess each application. Expert external reviewers will be engaged as appropriate. Adjudication will be made in the categories of:

(a) quality of the project’s methodology

(b) significance to AuSPEN (noting that AuSPEN is a multi-disciplinary society)

(c) track record of the investigators in relation to the type of project being conducted.

(d) feasibility of project completion (including budget).

* Successful applications will be announced at the Annual AuSPEN Scientific Meeting. Recipients of funding must provide an annual progress report (until study completion) to the Chair of the Scientific Committee in February of each year. This report should summarise the key findings of the project. If the project has not yet been completed, it should include its current status, progress to date, and plans/timelines for completion.
* Investigators may be invited to present results of their projects in the main AuSPEN Conference program (this may include research in progress). Please advise the AuSPEN Scientific Committee Chair in your annual progress report submitted in February if you wish to present your findings at the AuSPEN conference that year.
* Any presentations or publications related to this research project must include an acknowledgement of the funding provided by AuSPEN, and AuSPEN Scientific Committee must be advised of all presentations and publications arising from this grant funding.
* Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstance.

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM**

- The application must be completed on this form using Arial 11 font, single spacing.

- All sections must be completed within the template provided.

- The Principal Investigator is responsible for ensuring that all Associate investigators are aware of and willing to conduct the project as applied for.

- The detailed budget should be broken down into salaries for supporting personnel, equipment, direct research costs, and other costs. Details should be sufficient to justify the requirement for all items. It must be made clear if additional funding for the proposal has been sought or received. For example, if estimated costs of the project are $20,000 and you are successful in being awarded an AuSPEN grant for $15,000 but have no other sources of funding, detail how will you complete the project (e.g. undertake less measures etc).

- All other forms of research support requested or required for the project should be listed, including funding and staff made available by institutions or departments.

- Under ethical implications, there should be an account of these aspects of the project which are of ethical significance in terms of the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research, and a justification in ethical terms.

**Grant application template**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title of project:** |  |

##  Project team

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Principal Investigator (PI)** |  |
| Name and qualifications |  |
| Primary professional role and institution |  |
| Relevant secondary roles and affiliations |  |
| Email: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Is the PI an AuSPEN member?*\*Must be a member to be eligible for submission* | YES / NO  |
| Please provide justification of Novice Researcher status: (<250 words)  |  |
| Please state who will provide supervision of the Novice Researcher and details on how appropriate supervision will be ensured: (<250 words) |  |

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| **Associate Investigators (please copy and paste below, and complete for all additional investigators)***\*Note at least 50% of the Associate Investigators must be AuSPEN members at time of submission* |
| Name and qualifications |  |
| Primary professional role and institution |  |
| Relevant secondary roles and affiliations) |  |
| Is this AI an AuSPEN member? | YES / NO  |
| Describe the role this Investigator will have on the project (>100 words) |  |

**\*\*Please ensure 2 page CVs are included at the time of grant submission for all listed Principal and Associate Investigators on the template provided**

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| **Layperson description of the project and clinical implications (max 250 words)** |

**Summary of funding request:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget Item**  | **Details**  | **Amount**  |
| Salaries  |   |   |
| Consumables  |   |   |
| Other  |   |   |
| TOTAL (not to exceed $15,000)  |   |   |

|  |
| --- |
| **Justification of budget: (1/2 page)**  |

 **Other research support for this project:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Source** | **Year of termination** | **Funds granted or sought** |
| Currently held:      |      |      |
| Request for forthcoming year:        |      |      |

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|  **Project Proposal (maximum 5 pages excluding references, Arial 11 font)** Please provide information under the following subheadings (this text may be removed prior to submission, provided subheadings are followed):* Background: (include a summary of the current literature and importance of the project)
* Significance to AuSPEN: Indicate how the project is significant to AuSPEN, its members and their patients
* Study design:
	+ Aim(s),
	+ Hypothesis,
	+ Objective(s),
	+ Method(s): Briefly describe the project design and methods to be used to carry out the project. Relevant items may include: target population, sample size, inclusion and exclusion criteria, data collection tools/techniques.
	+ Data analysis procedures
	+ Outcome measures/anticipated outcomes from the project
	+ Feasibility and considerations
* Key indicators and expected timeline
* Ethical implications

Ensure that sufficient detail is provided on the Methodology for assessors to understand and comment upon the proposal. |
|  **Project Proposal (maximum 5 pages excluding references) continued…**  |
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|  **Project Proposal (maximum 5 pages excluding references) continued…**  |
| **References:** (no more than 1 page)  |
| **Project report for previous AUSPEN grants awarded to any listed investigators (since 2021 onwards)**Any applicants who have been successful in any previous AuSPEN grant from 2021 onwards should submit a project update for consideration as part of their track record. If the project has not yet been completed, it should include its current status, progress to date, and plans/timelines for completion. This page can be copied for each project (max 1 page per project).  |