Orpheus Island Research Station

Morris Family Trust Student Research Grant Application

Guidelines for Applicants

The OIRS Morris Family Trust SRG Scheme provides funding for research related to Orpheus Island and the surrounding Palm Islands. It supports projects conducted at the Orpheus Island Research Station and aims to foster excellence in research by PhD, MPhil, and Honours students and the production of high-quality publications.

This grant helps early-career researchers expand our understanding of Orpheus and Palm Islands by covering OIRS-related costs, such as accommodation, transfers, vessel hire, and staff fees, with a maximum value of $3,000.

Eligibility is limited to students currently enrolled in a PhD, MPhil, or Honours program at any Australian university. Successful applicants can reapply in subsequent years, provided they have successfully submitted previous awarding years' grant reports and remain enrolled in their studies.

Funds will be allocated competitively, based on:

a) Quality of the proposal
b) Evidence that the project will lead to high quality publication output (the number of potential publications and journal status will form part of that assessment) that enhances the reputation of OIRS.
c) Track record of the applicant relative to opportunity. This includes Undergraduate track record (eg. GPA and/or grades in relevant subjects), publication output (number of publications relative to opportunity), authorship (senior or sole authored papers are weighted more), journal quality (journal status relative to the field, conference proceedings rate less than journals, etc.). Publications which are published or in press are ranked highest; papers in revision, review, and submitted will be taken into consideration, especially in the first year of study. Papers in prep will not be counted as outputs from that applicant.
d) If project quality, potential for publication output and track record of two applicants are similar, then preference will be given to students enrolled at James Cook University, or to projects involving a supervisor employed at James Cook University.

Applications should be made on the form provided at the OIRS website (OIRS Morris Family Trust SRG application form.pdf)

Notes on the Application Form

The signed application form must be submitted via email to orpheus@jcu.edu.au by **16th of January 2027**.

The numbered items below refer to the corresponding parts of the form.

- Part 1 is intended to provide a database for ease of comparisons among applicants.
- Part 2 is intended to provide the information necessary for assessing the quality of the proposed research.
- Part 3 is intended to provide evidence of the track record of the applicant and an indication of the potential of the applicant to deliver the proposed research outcomes.

Part 1: Background information

1. Applicant's Name:

2. Applicant's Details:

Degree enrolled in	
University	
Email address	

3. Project Title & Summary

Title: Use a maximum of 40 characters

Summary: Use a maximum of 100 words

4. Current Funding

Tabulate the amount and year(s) of all current funding and requested funding, excluding this application, for your studies received from your school and from external sources including grants to your supervisor. Indicate briefly how this money has been spent.
An example table is provided below.

Source of funding	Year(s)	Total Amount	Use
School Internal	2018-2019	$1000	Photocopying, interlibrary loans
Grant to supervisor	2018-2020	$5000	Lab consumables

Source of funding	**Year(s)**	**Total Amount**	**Use**

5. Summary of OIRS resources requested

6. Supervisor/Head of School Authorisation.

Your application must be approved by your supervisor and your Head of School must confirm your status as an enrolled research student. Please ensure that the proposal has been discussed with your supervisor before submitting the form. Unsigned applications will not be considered.

Supervisor:
Head of School:

Part 2: The proposed research

7. Applicant's Name

8. Project Title

9. Proposed OIRS Morris Family Trust SRG Project

Indicate the aims and research approach of the specific component of your research activities to be addressed by the proposed grant. (20 lines maximum)

Indicate how the achievement of the OIRS Morris Family Trust SRG-funded research goals will support research excellence and high quality outcomes. (10 lines maximum)

10. Budget

Include the specific resources requested- days of bench fees and accommodation required, up to the value of $3000

Resource requested	**Number of days**	**Number of people**	**Unit cost**	**Total cost**
Return Transfers				
Accommodation				
Boat Hire				
Other				
Total				

11. Budget Justification

Justify the OIRS resources requested. For instance, you should explain why you need the number of days or hours of time requested, how these will be used etc.

Part 3: Supporting information

12. Applicant's Name

13. Publication List

Provide full references and append copies of abstracts of all published, accepted, and submitted publications that have been refereed. (Papers in preparation should not be listed). Provide a list only of non-refereed contributions such as consultancy reports, technical memoranda, popular articles, un-refereed conference proceedings, etc. Substantiation of this list may be requested.

14. Other Relevant Professional Experience

Use this space to supply any other information that you believe demonstrates your ability to carry out the proposed OIRS Morris Family Trust SRG project and to achieve excellence in research. (15 lines maximum)

Please note:

- Successful applicants must provide a 2-3 minute video/ presentation (preferred) or a 1-page report by 31st of March in the year following the grant. The presentation/ report should comprise: the name, project title, photos or media relating to the project, how funds were used, and how the grant added value to the thesis project, and acknowledgment of any resultant and scheduled conference presentations or publications.

- Funds must be expended within 12 months of being awarded the grant.

- Funds granted may not be spent for purposes other than those detailed in the original application unless the written permission of the Dean, Research has been obtained.

- All grant funding is subject to occasional audit by the University's Internal Auditor.

- Under no circumstances will retrospective requests for support be considered, as to do so would contravene the University's audit requirements. For the purposes of this Scheme, a retrospective request is defined as a request made for funds that have been spent or committed before the candidate has been advised that the funding has been awarded.

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.

For further information, please contact OIRS at orpheus@jcu.edu.au including "OIRS/Morris SRG" in the Subject line.