

GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS FOR THE ALEX YOUNG LIONS SCHOLARSHIP

Alex Young Lions Scholarship

The Alex Young Lions scholarship (the Scholarship) is awarded to current or prospective PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) students at Australian universities and institutions. The award is open to doctoral students who are engaged in any discipline of research relevant to evaluation of practice and outcomes of transfusion in Australia.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must be an Australian citizen or have Australian Permanent Resident status.
- The PhD research project must be in accordance with the objectives of Research and Development (R&D) within the Australian Red Cross Blood Service (Blood Service).
- Applicants must be enrolled or finalising enrolment, in a full-time PhD research degree at an accredited Australian university.
- Applicants must be successful in obtaining a primary post graduate scholarship.

Application deadline

There is no closing date. Applications may be submitted at any time to the Chair of the Alexander Steele Young Memorial Lions Foundation Trustees (Trustees).

The selection process

The Trustees will review applications and shortlist candidates as assessed by merit against criteria including:

- academic and research track-record;
- significance of the research proposal to the future management of transfusion;
- referee reports.

One Alex Young Lions Scholarship will be awarded each year with a maximum of 3 Scholarships awarded and active at any one time.

Particular consideration will be given to research projects that are compatible with the mission and goals of R&D within the Blood Service.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within six to eight weeks after it has been lodged. The applicant must advise the Trustees within five working days whether he/she wishes to accept the offer of award. Scholarship winners will also be announced on the Blood Service website.

The Trustees reserve the right not to award Scholarships for any reason.

Tenure of Alex Young Lions Scholarships

- Scholarships are awarded for a maximum duration of three years from initial enrolment in the PhD.
- Scholars must advise the Blood Service of the expected commencement date of the Scholarship.
- Scholars are expected to commence studies within three months of the award, unless the Trustees agree otherwise.
- Subject to satisfactory progress, the Scholarship will be renewed each year.
- The Scholarship will cease upon submission of the thesis for a Doctorate or when the award expires, whichever is the earlier.

Conditions of award

The Scholarship recipient (the Scholar) must comply with the conditions of award stipulated in their primary scholarship. The Scholar is also expected to follow the policy and protocols of the administering institution.

As a condition of the award, the Scholar will:

- submit an annual progress report in writing, within one year of commencement and then each twelve months, to the Trustees and must be endorsed by the primary supervisor;
- acknowledge the support of the Alex Young Lions Scholarship in publications and presentations related to the project, and provide copies of publications and proceedings (electronic or paper) to the Trustees;
- deliver a presentation to a Blood Service meeting on the outcomes of their research;
- contact the Blood Service regarding media coverage of their research;
- supply a bound copy and an electronic copy of the final approved version of their thesis to the Trustees and the Blood Service.

Extension and deferment

If an extension or deferment is approved by the granting body for the primary scholarship, the Scholar must notify the Trustees and the Blood Service in writing within 10 working days of the date of approval by their administering University of such a deferral.

The Trustees may, at their discretion, grant an extension or deferment to the Scholarship. Consideration may be given to the deferment of a Scholarship for a maximum period or periods totalling twelve months. Any Scholar not granted an extension must relinquish the award. Consideration may be given to a period of extension for a maximum of six months.

Administering Institution

Prior to the award of a Scholarship, certification that the administering institution endorses the application and is willing to administer the Scholarship must be received by the Trustees. The administering institution shall provide the facilities and services necessary for the efficient conduct of research during the term of the Scholarship.

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service does not provide funds for administrative charges to administering institutions. If a researcher relocates during the term of the scholarship, he/she must notify the Trustees in writing as soon as possible.

Financial administration

- The total stipend attached to the Scholarship will be \$8000 per annum. Payments will be made to the Scholar as a regular stipend rather than a lump sum.
- The Alex Young Lions Scholarship offers of funding are made on the understanding that the applicant will accept primary scholarship funding for the duration of the Alex Young Lions Scholarship from another funding body.
- The student is responsible for obtaining any tax exemption or advice for their study.

Termination of a Scholarship

The Scholarship will be terminated or suspended at the discretion of the Trustees if:

- the primary scholarship is terminated for any reason; or
- the university or the Trustees, after investigation, determine that the research for which the Scholarship is approved is not being carried out:
 - with competence, diligence, and scientific honesty and with appropriate ethics clearances; or
 - in accordance with the conditions of award; or
 - on the grounds of permanent incapacity or illness, and no alternative arrangements can be made for continuation of the PhD.
- the Scholar ceases to be a full time student; or
- the Scholar does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of deferment, or does not make arrangements to extend a current period of deferment.

If the Scholar wishes to terminate the Scholarship, they must notify the Trustees within 10 working days in writing of such an intention.

When a Scholarship terminates under any circumstances, any unexpended balance / funds shall be returned to the Alexander Steele Young Memorial Lions Foundation Trustees.

Privacy and confidentiality

All information contained in applications will be regarded as confidential. Applicants consent to the information supplied as part of their application being disclosed for the purposes of the assessment of their application and for purposes connected with the making and administration of the Alex Young Lions Scholarship.

Enquiries about the Alex Young Lions Scholarship can be directed to the Director, Research and Development, Australian Red Cross Blood Service via email:dirving@redcrossblood.org.au or telephone on +61 417 23 6984.