

AUSTRALASIAN KIDNEY TRIALS NETWORK MEDICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Guidelines for Applicants

The Australasian Kidney Trials Network (AKTN) provides scholarships for individuals wishing to study for a PhD or MPhil by undertaking research in conjunction with the AKTN.

The equivalent of three full-time scholarships is available per year. Two FTE scholarships are available through funding provided by the University of Queensland (UQ), and the candidates will be required to be enrolled, or intending to enrol in a PhD through UQ. A third scholarship will be available to a successful candidate in Australia or New Zealand and can be enrolled at the University of his/her choice.

Outline of scholarships including eligibility and location

1. *The UQ School of Population Health scholarship* will be offered to a candidate/s planning to enrol in a PhD through UQ and who is a statistician or epidemiologist. This candidate would best be located at the AKTN Operations Secretariat in Brisbane and have a Principal Supervisor at UQ.

2. *The UQ Faculty of Health Sciences Scholarship* will be utilised to fund an advanced trainee in nephrology/ a nephrologist/ or another health professional, to work with the network towards a PhD. This scholarship is available to a candidate planning to enrol in a PhD through UQ. This candidate would best be located at the AKTN Operations Secretariat in Brisbane and have a Principal Supervisor at UQ.

3. The third scholarship is available to a health professional, or advanced trainee enrolled in, or intending to enrol in a PhD or Masters degree directly related to the network's clinical research activities and trials. The candidate can be located *at any site in Australia or New Zealand* and be enrolled at any University in Australia or New Zealand. The principal supervisor does not need to be a member of the Network's Operations Secretariat or Scientific Committee, as long as the PhD relates to a trial or activity of the network.

Note:

- Students planning on studying either part time or full time may apply, although funding levels will be adjusted as appropriate.
- Students may study in conjunction with clinical or other roles.
- Health professionals other than medical graduates are invited to apply (e.g. nurses, scientists, allied health professional)

Nature of Funding

The amount of the scholarship stipend will range from \$25,000 to \$30,000 (FTE), depending on the qualifications the applicant holds and the duration of study. The scholarships will be available for a period of up to 2 years for a Masters by Research, 3 years for a PhD degree. The funding is awarded annually for the duration of the Award (2 years or 3 years) but funding in the 2nd and 3rd year is contingent on satisfactory progress and evidence that an applicant has also applied to other granting bodies (e.g. NHMRC) for support of those years. The scholarships do not include university fees if these are payable. While scholarships of this nature are usually tax exempt, the final determination of their tax status rests with the Australian Tax Office.

Covering Letter: The application should be accompanied by a covering letter signed by the student's Supervisor indicating that he or she has been accepted into a PhD or Masters program, outlining the project title, and any specific factors which may favour the award of a scholarship to the applicant.

Closing date: Four printed copies each of your application and accompanying letter, should reach the Executive Officer, Operations Secretariat by 31 August 2008.

Application: There is no formal application form. The scholarship application should be set out on plain A4 paper in 12 point font, with 2cm margins, and should not exceed four pages in length.

Scholarships will be awarded following a competitive application process. A subcommittee of the AKTN will be formed to review applications.

The following format should be used in the application:

(COVER PAGE)

- 1 Applicant:** *Name, qualifications, appointments and brief curriculum vitae*
- 2 Contact details:** *Applicant's department, university, mailing address, phone, fax and email*
- 3 Brief specific title and full description of project:** *Intelligible to a person with no specific medical or scientific training (200 words)*

(SUBSEQUENT THREE PAGES)

- 4 Aims**
- 5 Scientific background**
- 6 Methods**
- 7 Scientific references supporting the project**
- 8 Publication track record:** *The applicant's best five publications.*
- 9 Career plan:** *A brief description of the applicant's career to this point and future career plans*

Applications should be forwarded to:

*Melissa Gardiner
Australasian Kidney Trials Network,
Princess Alexandra Hospital,
Ipswich Rd, Woolloongabba,
Brisbane, QLD, 4102*

**For further information please contact Melissa Gardiner on 07 3240 6133
(m.gardiner@uq.edu.au)**