



NSW REGIONAL CANCER
RESEARCH NETWORK

Professional Research Support Grant

GUIDELINES

Overview

The NSW Regional Cancer Research Network (the Network) is funded by the Cancer Institute NSW through a Translational Cancer Research Capacity Building Grant and has been established through NSW Regional Health Partners (NSWRHP). The Network aims to build capacity in translational cancer research across the geographical footprint of Central Coast, Hunter New England, Mid-North Coast, and Northern NSW Local Health Districts (LHDs).

The Network provides clinicians, healthcare professionals, and researchers located within the Network's geographical footprint in regional NSW with specialist research support and expertise to enhance their ability to lead and contribute to impactful cancer research.

Objectives of the Network

The Network aims to:

- Strengthen existing research capacity and promote engagement in regional and rural NSW.
- Foster collaboration and knowledge exchange between researchers, health professionals, and cancer-affected communities.
- Generate scientific and clinical evidence informed by regional and rural perspectives.
- Translate locally informed research into improved cancer care and clinical practice.
- Provide regional leadership in state and national cancer research and health policy discussions.

Professional Research Support Grant Scheme

The Professional Research Support Grant Scheme offers short-term, outcome-focused research support by funding the expertise of PhD-qualified Senior Research Partners (SRPs). These experienced professionals work directly with researchers to build research capacity and assist with:

- Research design and methodology
- Ethics applications
- Data analysis
- Grant writing
- Manuscript preparation

This grant covers the cost of engaging an SRP for a set number of hours, providing tailored expert guidance. **The awarded grant amount can be included in the recipient's track record as grant income, helping to demonstrate research funding success.**

By leveraging this support, researchers can:

- Accelerate research progress
- Strengthen their academic track record
- Improve their ability to secure future funding

Support Available

Successful applicants will receive dedicated SRP expertise and research capacity-building support under the following packages:

Grant Package	Research Support Hours
\$2,000 Package	20 hours of research support
\$5,000 Package	50 hours of research support

Time is tracked in 15-minute increments.

Example 1: Research Ethics Application Assistance (\$2,000 Package – 20 Hours)

A researcher preparing a Human Research Ethics Application (HREA) for a regional cancer study receives 20 hours of support from an NSWRCRN Senior Research Partner. This includes:

- ✓ Guidance on the ethics process
- ✓ Review of application documents
- ✓ Assistance with Participant Information Sheets and Consent Forms
- ✓ Data management advice
- ✓ Submission support via REGIS

Example 2: Grant Application Assistance (\$5,000 Package – 50 Hours)

A researcher preparing a competitive cancer research grant application receives 50 hours of support from an NSWRCRN Senior Research Partner. This includes:

- ✓ Strategic guidance on funding requirements
- ✓ Drafting and refining the proposal
- ✓ Budget development
- ✓ Research impact statement support
- ✓ Ensuring alignment with grant criteria
- ✓ Reviewing submission documents

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Professional Research Support Grant, applicants must:

- Be a NSW Regional Cancer Research Network member at the time of application. This includes clinician researchers, academic researchers, and consumer researchers at all career stages, including students. Click [here](#) to join.
- Be conducting cancer research aligned with the Network's objectives.

- Require professional research support for specific activities that enhance translational research capacity, such as:
 - ✓ Study design
 - ✓ Ethics applications
 - ✓ Data analysis
 - ✓ External grant development and writing
 - ✓ Manuscript preparation and review

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network's online platform. Email submissions will not be accepted.

This is a rolling scheme and will remain open until the total scheme allocation has been reached.

Successful applicants will be notified, and an individual account will be established to track the use of allocated research support hours.

Acknowledgement of Support

Grant recipients must acknowledge the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network and Cancer Institute NSW in any:

- Presentations
- Publications
- Research outputs benefiting from this support

Reporting Requirements

Grant recipients will be required to complete a brief survey upon completion of research support.

Key Dates

- Applications will remain open on an ongoing basis until all available grant packages have been allocated.
- Allocated research support hours must be used before 30 April 2026. Unused hours will expire after this date.

Enquiries

For further information or assistance, please contact the NSW Regional Cancer Research Network team at: nswrcrn@newcastle.edu.au.