

ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program

Grant Guidelines

About the Grants Program

The Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to advancing research, education, and awareness in gynaecological cancers. Founded in 2012, Cherish supports initiatives that improve outcomes for women through funding innovative research, fostering collaboration, and promoting consumer involvement in healthcare solutions. Cherish's goal is to find causes, prevention and gentler treatment options for future generations of women.

As a contribution to the ALIVE WELL Centre of Research Excellence, Cherish has provided **\$200,000** to support the ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program.

The ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program aims to provide opportunities for ALIVE WELL trainees (including MPhil and PhD candidates, clinician research fellows, and early- and mid-career researchers) and consumer research partners actively involved in ALIVE WELL Program Streams, projects, activities or partnerships, to support the objectives and priority areas of ALIVE WELL and the mission of the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation.

The Grants Program aims to:

- Empower emerging researchers with hands-on experience in grantsmanship, budget management, research delivery and knowledge translation.
 - Encourage collaboration with consumers to ensure research is aligned with patient-identified priorities.
 - Facilitate national and international exposure through conference presentations.
 - Build strong networks across clinical, industry, and consumer sectors to accelerate innovation and impact in gynaecological cancer research.
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Available funding

The ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program offers funding through two grant streams, with grants of up to **\$10,000** available.

*Note: Funding of up to **\$20,000** will be provided in exceptional circumstances only, subject to approval through the appropriate ALIVE WELL governance processes.*

Applicants may request funds to support activities or projects conducted over an extended period, but requests for further funding must not be submitted until the previous grant has been exhausted and related activities concluded.

Activities Support Grants

Activities Support Grants are designed to support activities that align with the objectives of ALIVE WELL and the mission of the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation and contribute to professional development, collaboration, consumer involvement, knowledge sharing, and capacity building.

Applications must be supported by a supervisor or other appropriate supporting representative.

Applications may be submitted at any time up to **31 December 2029**, subject to the availability of funds.

Funding may be requested for:

- Training and development in grantsmanship, budget management, and research delivery.
- Presentation at national or international conferences (including travel and registration).
- Networking and collaboration with clinical, industry, or consumer partners.

Seed Funding Grants

Seed Funding Grants are designed to support projects and initiatives that align with the objectives of ALIVE WELL and the mission of the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation and contribute to innovation, research development, and improved outcomes for women with gynaecological cancer.

For applications submitted by a consumer research partner, an ALIVE WELL Chief Investigator or trainee should be included in the project team to support the development and delivery of the proposed research project.

The proposed research project must be supported by a host institution that agrees to facilitate the conduct of the project and administer any awarded funds.

Where the applicant is not a consumer, it is expected that a consumer is involved in the development and conduct of the research where possible.

Applications may be submitted at any time up to **30 June 2029**, subject to the availability of funds. Applications received after this date will not be considered, to ensure sufficient time for funded projects to be completed before the conclusion of ALIVE WELL.

Funding may be requested for:

- Research project development (including pilot studies or feasibility work).

Eligibility criteria

To be considered for a grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must be an ALIVE WELL trainee (including an MPhil or PhD candidate, clinician research fellow, or early- or mid-career researcher) or consumer research partner who is actively engaged in an ALIVE WELL Program Stream, project, activity, or consumer partnership.
 - Proposed research projects and activities must align with the objectives and priority areas of ALIVE WELL and the mission of the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation, particularly in areas that address consumer-identified needs.
 - Where the host institution provides funding for research activities (i.e. PhD travel scholarships) or the event provides financial support, these opportunities must have been exhausted before applying for this grant.
 - Not currently hold an active ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grant.
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How the funds can be used

Funds may be used for eligible expenses directly related to the proposed activity or project.

Funding is provided on the assumption that the basic facilities required for the proposed activity will be available from the relevant host institution.

Eligible expenses include:

- Staff and/or consumer time.
- Small equipment and laboratory consumables.
- Costs associated with accessing biospecimen and data collections.
- Charges associated with access to data, data processing or data analytics services.
- Hardware or software that form an integral component of the research project.
- Expenses associated with workshop and seminar attendance, including economy travel and accommodation.
- Professional development activities.
- Publication and open access costs.
- Any specialist sub-contract work.
- Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) application fees, regulatory or licensing fees that are specifically incurred in relation to the approval of the funded research project.
- Costs incurred for participant involvement in research activities.

Items not supported under the Grants Program:

- Health or travel insurance, travel agency fees, Frequent Flyer or club memberships.
- Insurance policy premiums.
- Chief Investigator salary.

- Institutional overheads and indirect costs (as the Grants Program is administered through the ALIVE WELL NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence).
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Additional Requirements

All research projects funded through the ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program must comply with relevant human research ethics and biosafety requirements. This includes activities such as interviews, surveys, clinical data collection, secondary use of identifiable data, or laboratory work involving human samples.

Where ethics approval is required, the applicant must obtain approval from a registered Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) before commencing any research activities. A copy of the final ethics approval (or a formal exemption letter, where applicable) must be provided to the ALIVE WELL Program Manager before funding can be released.

Application process

1. Submission of Application

Applicants must complete the relevant application form and submit all required supporting documentation to the ALIVE WELL Program Manager (alivewell.centre@uq.edu.au).

Activities Support Grant applications may be submitted at any time during the funding period up until **31 December 2029**, subject to the availability of funds. Applications should be submitted sufficiently in advance of the proposed activity to allow adequate time for review and approval.

Seed Funding Grant applications may be submitted at any time during the funding period up to **30 June 2029**, subject to the availability of funds. Applications received after this date will not be considered, to ensure sufficient time for funded projects to be completed before the conclusion of ALIVE WELL on 31 March 2030.

2. Eligibility and Completeness Check

Applications will be reviewed to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements and contain all information required for assessment. Applicants may be contacted if clarification or additional information is required.

3. Assessment

Eligible applications will be assessed against the objectives of the ALIVE WELL Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation Grants Program, the eligibility criteria, and available funds.

Where the number or value of eligible applications exceeds the funding available, applications may be prioritised based on alignment with the objectives and priority areas of ALIVE WELL and the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation, and the anticipated benefit and impact of the proposed activity or project.

4. Outcome notification

Applicants will be advised in writing of the outcome of their application.

Post-Award Processes

Activities Support Grants

Successful applicants will be notified of the outcome by the ALIVE WELL Program Manager.

Approved costs will either be paid directly by the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation or reimbursed upon submission of relevant invoices and supporting documentation. Applicants will be advised of the reimbursement process at the time of award.

Seed Funding Grants

Successful applicants will be notified of the outcome by the ALIVE WELL Program Manager.

An agreement will be established between the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation and the recipient's host institution. Once the agreement has been signed and any required documentation has been received, including any relevant ethics approvals, funding will be transferred to the host institution.

Expenditure of funds

Funds must be expended within the project or activity period stated in the application. Requests to carry funds forward beyond the approved funding period will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Reporting and Other Funding Conditions

Recipients are required to submit a final report within three months of completing the funded project or activity. The report should provide an overview of the research and/or activities undertaken and describe how these have contributed to the objectives of ALIVE WELL and the mission of the Cherish Women's Cancer Foundation.

Where applicable, recipients will be required to present their findings and outcomes at an ALIVE WELL hosted event (i.e. seminar series, annual symposium, patient/community event). Recipients may also be invited to engage in peer exchange, mentorship and promotional activities related to ALIVE WELL (e.g. feature in social media posts about awardees).

Contact details

ALIVE WELL Program Manager

Email: ALIVEWELL.centre@uq.edu.au

Phone: (07) 3346 5031