# ALIVE National Centre Next Generation Researcher Network Capacity-Building Funding Scheme 2025 Application Form

#### *~Applications close September 29th 2025~*

**SECTION 1. APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

Of the four checklists below please complete the one most relevant to your application:

* 1. **NGRN Member Led Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I am either an Early Career Researcher (up to 5 years post PhD graduation) or a Mid-Career Researcher (5-15 years post PhD graduation) |
|  | I have been a member of the Next Generation Researcher Network (NGRN) for at least 12 months at the time of application  I joined in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year) |
|  | I have a confirmed ALIVE National Centre mentor who is either a named Investigator or research staff in the Centre |
|  | I am a member of an ALIVE Participating Organisation or Partner Organisation engaged in research activities |
|  | I am applying for this seed funding to assist with applying for a larger grant or fellowship based on the topic for this application |
|  | I have completed every section of the application form |
|  | I have attached my track record using the supplied template |
|  | I give permission for the plain language summary I have provided to be included in Centre updates or shared publicly. |

**1.2 Lived-Experience Researcher Led Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I identify as a Lived-Experience researcher |
|  | I am either an Early Career Researcher (up to 5 years post PhD graduation) or a Mid-Career Researcher (5-15 years post PhD graduation) |
|  | I have been a member of the Lived-Experience Research Collective for at least 12 months at the time of application, and I have attended three or more Lived-Experience Research Collective Gatherings  I joined in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Month/Year) |
|  | I have a confirmed ALIVE National Centre mentor who is either a named Investigator or research staff in the Centre |
|  | I am applying for this seed funding to assist with applying for a larger grant or fellowship related to the topic of this application |
|  | I have completed every section of the application form |
|  | I have attached my track record using the supplied template |
|  | I give permission for the plain language summary I have provided to be included in Centre updates or shared publicly. |

**1.3 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Led Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I am an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher |
|  | I am either an Early Career Researcher (up to 5 years post PhD graduation) or a Mid-Career Researcher (5-15 years post PhD graduation) |
|  | I am either a member of an ALIVE National Network or attached to an ALIVE National affiliated organisation that is engaged in current research and network activities |
|  | I have a confirmed mentor who has a research affiliation with the ALIVE National Centre |
|  | I am applying for this seed funding grant to assist with a larger grant, fellowship, or PhD on the topic of this application |
|  | I have completed every section of the application form |
|  | I have attached my track record using the supplied template |
|  | I give permission for the plain language summary I have provided to be included in Centre updates or shared publicly. |

**1.4 Community-Based Researcher Led Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I have been engaged in research for three or more years without being enrolled in a PhD, or having completed a PhD |
|  | I am either a member of an ALIVE National Network or attached to an ALIVE National affiliated organisation that is engaged in current research and network activities |
|  | I have a confirmed mentor who has a research affiliation with the ALIVE National Centre |
|  | I am applying for this seed funding grant to advance community-based research |
|  | I have completed every section of the application form |
|  | I have attached my track record using the supplied template |
|  | I give permission for the plain language summary I have provided to be included in Centre updates or shared publicly. |

**SECTION 2. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2.1 Project Title** |  |

**2.2 Plain Language Summary of the Project**

(200 word limit)

**SECTION 3. PROJECT LEAD DETAILS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Institution |  |
| Department/School |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |
| Total Amount Requested |  |

**3.1 Please indicate which category/ies you are applying for (select one only)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | This is a Next Generation Researcher Network researcher led application1 |
|  | This is a Lived-Experience researcher led application2 |
|  | This is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researcher led application3 |
|  | This is a Community-Based Researcher led application (engaged in research for three or more years without being enrolled in a PhD, or having completed a PhD) 4 |

1: Must be a member of the ALIVE National Centre Next Generation Researcher Network

2: Must be a member of the ALIVE National Centre Lived-Experience Research Collective

3: Where not a member of networks, there must be a connection with an affiliated organisation of the ALIVE National Centre

4: Must be a member of either the Lived-Experience Research Collective, Next Generation Researcher Network or Codesign Living Labs unless it is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researcher application in which case where not a member of networks there must be a connection with an affiliated organisation of the ALIVE National Centre

**3.2 Please tick the relevant box that applies (select all that apply)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I am a member of the Next Generation Researcher Network (NGRN) |
|  | I am a member of the Lived-Experience Research Collective |
|  | I am a member of the Codesign Living Labs Network |
|  | I am an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander researcher who is either a member of an ALIVE National Network or involved with an ALIVE National affiliated organisation engaged in research or network activities |

**3.3 Please briefly describe how you have engaged in ALIVE National network activities, or other events and training in the past 12 months and indicate how you plan to do so in the future.**

**3.4 Applications need to be associated with a future grant, PhD scheme or a fellowship application.** **Please tick the box which applies to you. (not applicable to community-based researchers).**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I will be applying for a future grant scheme |
|  | I will be considering a PhD application in relevant schemes |
|  | I will be applying for a fellowship scheme |

**3.5 Please list the name of the grant, PhD or fellowship scheme you will be applying for, if known (not applicable to community-based researchers).**

**3.6 Please list the ALIVE Investigator(s) or research staff (or ALIVE affiliated senior researcher for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants) that you have identified as a mentor(s) on this project. (list all that apply)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Institution | Confirmed\* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

\**By ticking this box you confirm that you have contacted the mentor and they have agreed to undertake mentorship over the funding scheme period*

**SECTION 4. RESEARCH TEAM (THIS ONLY APPLIES FOR SMALL GRANT/PILOT STUDY APPLICATIONS)**

**4.1 Please list the team members\* for the proposed project, their institutional affiliations, skills, and experience (list all that apply). CVs are *not* required for these team members*.***

| Name/role | Institutional Affiliation | Skills and Experience they bring to this project |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*\*Please note application investigators cannot draw funds from the seed funding award for salary support. Funds can be used for example, for research assistance, co-design delivery and participation, material design resulting from co-design.*

**SECTION 5. PROPOSED PROJECT**

**5.1 Project background**

(250 word limit)

**5.2 Research aims and justification of need**

(250 word limit)

**5.3 Proposed research methodology**

(300 word limit)

**5.4 Please describe how your project is related to the five foundations for change in the ALIVE National Centre Casting the Net for What Matters and for Whom? Actions to the Call (**[**https://go.unimelb.edu.au/aaw8**](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/aaw8)**)**

(200 word limit)

**5.5 Please describe how this proposal and its activities will advance an implementation actions or actions of the ALIVE National Centre Consensus Statements (**[**https://go.unimelb.edu.au/vy8p**](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/vy8p)**) with explicit discussion of these implementation actions in the proposal including links made to ALIVE Networks.**

(300 word limit)

**5.6 Anticipated impact of the project (e.g., advances in knowledge, practice, or processes and models of care, opportunities for future translational work).**

(250 word limit)

**5.7 Describe engagement with people with lived-experience and/or carer/family/kinship group members for the grant (either in design to date or planned). If this is a project focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, please describe the steps taken for community engagement and for appropriate establishment of cultural protocols in preparation of this application. Please detail the steps that will be taken to ensure appropriate community leadership within the study.**

(250 word limit)

**SECTION 6: BUDGET**

**6.1 Please present an indicative budget with costs and justification.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Activity and/or Item | Cost | Justification |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**SECTION 7. TIMELINE AND DISSEMINATION**

**7.1 Please include a month-by-month timeline of activities for the project across the 12-month period and include the date when you plan to submit a grant, PhD application or fellowship application linked to this seed funding scheme.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MONTH** | **PLAN** |
| **NOV** |  |
| **DEC** |  |
| **JAN** |  |
| **FEB** |  |
| **MAR** |  |
| **APR** |  |
| **MAY** |  |
| **JUN** |  |
| **JUL** |  |
| **AUG** |  |
| **SEP** |  |
| **OCT** |  |

**7.2 Please describe the proposed dissemination of your project outcomes e.g. peer-reviewed publications, conference talks, workshops and any other media (art-work and creative) formats.**

(200 word limit)

**SECTION 8: CAPABILITY AND CAREER PROGRESSION**

**8.1 Describe how you will use your experience, knowledge, and available resources to complete this project.**

(200 word limit)

**8.2 Briefly describe your current career stage and how these funds will assist your advancement or capacity for career development and growth.**

(200 word limit)

**8.3 Relative to Opportunity: Please flag any career interruptions or ’relative to opportunity‘ considerations below.**

(200 word limit)

**SECTION 9: TRACK RECORD**

Please include in your application a **five-page track record document** (applicant name in header on each page) which includes the following:

* + **Pages 1-3: CV presented in the format supplied below (three pages only)**
  + **Page 4: Your top five publications in the last five years (one page only).**
  + **Page 5: Impact Statement (one page only)**

**Pages 1-3. CV presented in the format supplied below:**

* Career summary - including qualifications, employment, and appointment history
* Research support - including grants, awards, and fellowships where relevant
* Community engagement and participation – particularly if you are applying with research equivalent experience
* Professional involvement – including committees, conference organisation, conference participation
* International standing - including invitations to speak, international committee roles
* Supervision and mentoring of research higher degree students, peers, and practitioners
* Peer review involvement (including NHMRC, other granting organisations, manuscripts, editorial responsibilities)
* Industry relevant expertise and outputs
* Other information you think is vital to your application.

#### Page 4. Top 5 Publications in the last 5 years

Non-community-based research applicants are asked to list their top five career best publications over the last five years. For each publication we recommend reporting the Field Weighted Citation Impact and providing a brief written description of why each paper has been selected; the impact of the paper; and how it fits with this application and your broader career goals. Please note that the Field Weighted Citation Impact is for paper-specific publication only. If you need more details on what Field Weighted Citation Impact is [click here](https://service.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/14894/supporthub/scopus/~/what-is-field-weighted-citation-impact-%28fwci%29%3F/). Field Weighted Citation Impact can be accessed on SciVal and Scopus.

Please do not report Journal Impact Factors and ‘Excellence in Research Australia’ metrics and do not use H index numbers. Creative works and other media are counted within the publications outputs.

Community based researchers can include non-academic outputs such as creative works, other media formats and artistic outputs where applicable in their top publications instead.

#### Page 5. Impact Statement

In this section we ask you to reflect on the work you have conducted to date and provide examples of how your research has impacted on the field (the impact of research as defined by the [National Health and Medical Research Council](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/research-policy/research-translation-and-impact/research-impact) is “the verifiable outcomes that research makes to knowledge, health, the economy and/or society, and not the prospective or anticipated effects of the research”) in terms of inclusion in policies or programs, and any translation of implementation of your research findings. Please provide examples of this, which could include:

* Contribution to field of research – this may include the impact of previous research including translation and commercialisation of research into health outcomes
* Patents – this information should include the type of patent, and if so, when it was granted, to whom, and if it is current.
* Policy development and implementation
* Implementation of new service models or practices and approaches.

For community-based researchers’ impact may be linked with community change, generating resources within a setting or another example.

*\*Some parts of the track record examples are drawn from National Health and Medical Research Council guides (and other schemes such as the Australian Research Council) to assist you to develop your capabilities for grant submissions and fellowship applications.*

**SECTION 10. APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

|  |
| --- |
| Submission Instructions  1. Save this file as 2025-ALIVE-NGRN *[APPLICANTS SURNAME]* and submit it **as a single PDF document** (including your track record).  2. Email your application [alive-hub@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:alive-hub@unimelb.edu.au) with the subject title: 2025-ALIVE-NGRN Application-*[APPLICANTS SURNAME].*  Applications close at **5:00pm AEST on Monday 29th September 2025**. No late applications will be accepted. |

Outcomes will be announced by 3rd November 2025. If your application is successful, you will be asked to sign an acceptance form indicating adherence to the terms of the funding. Upon receipt of this signed form, the ALIVE Hub team will make arrangements for transfer of funds awarded to your home institution. This will necessitate a letter of agreement between the University of Melbourne and your home institution, which will be provided directly to your institution or organisation’s research office (or equivalent) by the University of Melbourne. The Centre Manager will coordinate this process with successful applicants.

Projects are expected to be completed within 12 months of the date project funds are received by your home institution (projects can be shorter than the 12-month period and in some cases are expected to be, given grant rounds and deadlines). Successful applicants are asked to include the following acknowledgement of the funding source in all presentations, or papers related to the project: *This research was supported by an unrestricted Next Generation Researcher Network Capacity Building Funding Award as part of the ALIVE National Centre for Mental Health Research Translation (NHMRC GNT2002047).*

To join the Next Generation Researcher Network and/or the Lived -Experience Research Collective please apply here: <https://nextgen.alivenetwork.com.au> <https://livedexperience.alivenetwork.com.au>

To discuss your application, please contact the ALIVE HUB via [alive-hub@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:alive-hub@unimelb.edu.au)

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