**Volunteering WA**

**Research Grant Program 2022-23**

*Volunteering WA (VWA) wishes to acknowledge the Board for their commitment and support and thank members of the Research Committee for their assistance in establishing this pilot program.*

**Objectives**

* Facilitate connections between researchers, VWA and their members and stakeholders
* Enable VWA to gain evidence and find answers to pertinent research questions
* Facilitate students / Early Career Researchers to engage with VWA and VIOs
* Grow Western Australia’s capacity for volunteering research

**Funding availability**

* Up to $20,000, ex-GST
* Funding may be allocated to one or more projects within the same round
* Funding may contribute in whole or in part to a project
* All Western Australian based researchers are eligible to apply

**Submissions**

Research proposals are sought in one of the following two areas:

* **How current volunteer screening processes in WA (Working with Children, NDIS, National Volunteer Police Checks) could be improved to facilitate volunteer recruitment and retention; or**
* **Any other matter that contributes to our understanding of volunteering and how to advance the sector, in Western Australia**.

Submissions should address the essential criteria outlined in Attachment 1 and be sent to meredith@volunteeringwa.org.au by 5pm on Friday 4 November 2022.

**Timetable**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 27 Sep 2022  | Volunteering WA opens Grant Program 2022-23  |
| 4 Nov 2022 | Submissions close |
| Nov 2022 | Submissions assessed, possibility of meeting with shortlisted proposal(s) |
| Dec 2022 | Successful projects announced, subject to contracts |
| From Jan 2023 | Projects commence |
| By Mar 2024 | Projects to be completed and final reports presented |

**Assessment**

Projects will be assessed on the criteria in Attachment 2. The assessment panel will recommend shortlisted project(s) and may hold a follow up meeting prior to recommending the final project(s) for funding.

The assessment panel will include:

* One representative from VWA Research Committee
* One representative from Volunteering WA
* One volunteering sector representative.

The final decision will be made by the CEO of Volunteering WA and subject to contractual agreement.

**Questions**

Thank you for your interest in the Volunteering WA Research Grant Program 2022-23.

Please contact Meredith Blais, Senior Policy Advisor at Volunteering WA if you have any queries at meredith@volunteeringwa.org.au or on 0400 564 054.

**Attachment 1**

**Volunteering WA Research Grant Program**

**– Essential criteria to be addressed in application**

*Word and page ranges are provided as suggestions, however applications that include sections that have exceeded the upper bounds of the ranges will not be considered.*

*Please use at least 11-point font, single spacing, and minimum margins of 2.5cm. Graphical information is welcome but not a requirement.*

**Title of project**

**Key research question to be addressed**

**Approach (300 words total**)

* Proposed approach
* Timelines
* Risk management
* Pathway to future research or research collaborations

**Research methodology (250 words total)**

**Investigators (1 page for each team member – if a student investigator will be involved but the student is not yet identified, there is no need to submit details for that investigator)**

* Name
* Email
* Current title
* Institution
* Qualifications
* Key research outputs (up to three citations)
* Evidence of experience in the translation of research into practice (250 words maximum)
* Evidence of capacity to complete the project within the timeframe (~25 words)
* If supervising a student researcher, experience with supervision (~25 words)

**Budget (0.5 page)**

* Small table showing items and costs
* Include contributions from other parties
* Highlight any additional funding not yet secured

**Summary of project and benefit to VWA (250 words)**

* Why is this research of value to VWA and its members?
* Volunteering WA will make research available through its website. Please briefly outline any other plans for dissemination.

**Attachment 2**

**Assessment criteria**

1. **Investigators Potential score 20**
	1. Evidence of successful peer-reviewed research dissemination, and involvement of early career researchers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence from team and no early career researcher involvement0 | Evidence from team orearly career researcher involvement2 | Evidence from team and early career researcher involvement6 |

* 1. Evidence of a track record of research translation

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence of investment in research translation activities0 | Some evidence of investment in research translation activities2 | Clear commitment to investment in research translation activities4 |

* 1. Evidence of capacity to deliver within funding period

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence of capacity to deliver0 | Some limitations / concern regarding capacity to deliver2 | Clear evidence of capacity4 |

* 1. Evidence of past successful collaborations with industry (e.g. VWA) or commitment to a future collaboration

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence past or potential future collaboration0 | No evidence of past collaboration but evidence of successful collaborations with other organisations2 | No evidence of past collaboration but evidence of successful collaborations with other orgs AND clear evidence of commitment to future collaboration3 | Clear evidence of past successful collaboration 4 |

* 1. Does this project involve research students (e.g., Honours, Masters, internship, higher degree by research)?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| No0 | Yes 2 |

1. **Project Quality & Feasibility Potential score 60**
	1. How likely does it seem that the project is going to answer the proposed question? Consider the methodology and proposed approach to answering the research question.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Almost certainly will not0 | 25:75(probably will not)5 | 50:50(maybe, maybe not)10 | 75:25 (probably will)15 | Almost certainly will20 |

* 1. How feasible is the project, given the timeframe and proposed budget?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Not feasible0 | Some aspects may fall short10 | Very feasible20 |

* 1. To what extent have project risks been identified, with appropriate mitigations put in place?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Inadequate assessment / high residual risk0 | Moderate residual risk5 | Low residual risk 10 |

* 1. To what extent will this research project facilitate ongoing research?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| This will almost certainly be a ‘one-off’0 | This could lead to further research, including collaborations if parties are motivated5 | This will likely lead to ongoing research, including research collaborations10 |

1. **Budget Potential score 20**
	1. Assuming the project goes to plan, to what extent does it represent value for money to VWA?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not at all0 | A little5 | To a moderate extent10 | To a large extent15 | A great deal 20 |

**Overall Potential score 100**