**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](mailto: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](mailto: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 involvement  0 | Evidence from team or  early career researcher involvement  2 | Evidence from team and  early career researcher involvement  6 |

* 1. Evidence of a track record of research translation

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence of investment in research translation activities  0 | Some evidence of investment in research translation activities  2 | Clear commitment to investment in research translation activities  4 |

* 1. Evidence of capacity to deliver within funding period

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence of capacity to deliver  0 | Some limitations / concern regarding capacity to deliver  2 | Clear evidence of capacity  4 |

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No evidence past or potential future collaboration  0 | No evidence of past collaboration but evidence of successful collaborations with other organisations  2 | No evidence of past collaboration but evidence of successful collaborations with other orgs AND clear evidence of commitment to future collaboration  3 | Clear evidence of past successful collaboration  4 |

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| No  0 | 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 not  0 | 25:75  (probably will not)  5 | 50:50  (maybe, maybe not)  10 | 75:25  (probably will)  15 | Almost certainly will  20 |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Not feasible  0 | Some aspects may fall short  10 | Very feasible  20 |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Inadequate assessment / high residual risk  0 | Moderate residual risk  5 | 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 motivated  5 | This will likely lead to ongoing research, including research collaborations  10 |

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 all  0 | A little  5 | To a moderate extent  10 | To a large extent  15 | A great deal  20 |

**Overall Potential score 100**