

Faculty of Education Disability and Inclusive Seed Funding

Background and Eligibility

We are excited to announce the launch of the FoE Disability and Inclusive Seed Funding Projects for 2025.

This initiative is a joint funding scheme between the Melbourne Disability Institute and the Faculty of Education.

Eligibility

To qualify, FoE Disability and Inclusive Seed Funding projects must:

- Driven by the priorities of people with disability
- Have practical outcomes
- Are interdisciplinary; ** project team must consist of researchers from at least two different faculties, but funds will only be awarded to FoE staff.*
- Involve strong partnerships with people with disability and/or disability advocacy organisations; and
- Have a pathway to further research and funding

Teams must be led by a Principal Investigator who must have a salaried academic position of at least 0.5 FTE at FoE. External partners, graduate students, honorary or casual researchers can also be involved.

Project funds will be transferred at the beginning of 2025 and must be spent in the 2025 calendar year

May apply for up to \$10,000 funding for projects that meet the criteria.

Selection Criteria

1. Clear evidence that the project is driven by the priorities of people with disability and addresses an evidence, policy or practice gap. Research projects that consider intersectionality are encouraged.
2. Genuine involvement of people with disability in the project. This may include researchers with lived experience. We are looking for projects that are either led by people with disability and/or conducted by and with people with disability. This will include shared decision-making, appropriate support to facilitate full participation, and appropriate payment.
3. Policy or practice outcomes. We want to know how the knowledge generated by the project will have a positive impact on policy or practice. We want to know how the findings of the project will be shared and used.
4. Robust methods. We are looking for projects that use methods appropriate to the question, are feasible with the resources available, and can be completed within a reasonable timeframe. We are also looking for evidence of a plan for how the next stage of the work will be funded and completed.
5. Collaborative and interdisciplinary. We are looking for projects that involve genuine partnerships and reach across traditional disciplines.

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Budget Items

Items that directly support the research program, which may be funded, are:

1. Research Assistant (Appendix B has information regarding RA costing). Research assistants can, for example,

- conduct systemic searches of the literature and file the papers;
- write an annotated bibliography of literature;
- write a literature review; analyse a set of existing data;
- conduct a policy/media/curriculum analysis (i.e., research not requiring ethics approval);
- assist in data collection for projects with ethics approval (e.g., conducting interviews);
- assist in developing tools for future research, e.g., developing a survey;
- assist in producing outputs from data, e.g., write a paper (academic or public-facing) from analysed data;
- assist in planning and organising a research event, e.g., workshop, roundtable, mini-conference.

Anticipated 2025 RA payment rates for budgeting - including oncost

Payment type

Hourly rate to staff member

Hourly rate including oncost -no Super

Hourly rate including oncost - with Super

RA 1

\$49.53

\$52.66

\$58.20

RA 2

\$51.13

\$54.37

\$60.08

RA 3

\$54.23

\$57.68

\$63.74

Other casual academic activity **Lvl. A6** (RA with a PhD)

\$68.56

\$72.91

\$80.57

*If a staff member earns over \$450 in a month, then superannuation is also payable.

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2. Marking relief (within guidelines for Teaching and Learning).

Anticipated 2025 RA Marking buy out rates

Payment type

Hourly rate to staff member

Hourly rate including oncost with Super

Standard Marking

\$57.31

\$67.36

Standard Marking (PhD)

\$68.56

\$80.57

3. Consumables.

The review committee reserves the right to make reasonable adjustments to the budget of an awarded project.

Budget items not supported:

- Chief Investigators salaries and/or on-costs.
- Teaching buyout.
- Conference/travel (Please refer to the 2024 FoE Conference Funding Scheme).

Once awarded, any changes to the budget must be sent to the ADR for approval.

Assessment and Evaluation

A committee chaired by the Associate Dean (Diversity and Inclusion) will assess applications on a competitive basis in accordance with the objectives of the Scheme and the selection criteria outlined in these guidelines.

Application

* indicates a required field

Project Details

Researcher Development Funding Proposal title: Provide a short descriptive title. Avoid the use of acronyms, quotation marks and upper-case characters. *

no more than 150 characters and no more than 20 words

FoE Disability and Inclusive Seed Funding Projects 2025

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Do you consent to your application being available in our grants library as an example for future applicants? *

- Yes
 No

Project Team

* indicates a required field

Team Details

Lead Chief Investigator: This investigator must be eligible and competitive as the first-named chief investigator for an Australian Competitive Research Grant Application. *

Title	First Name	Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

FoE Academic Group/Research Centre *

Organisation Name

Email *

Must be an email address.

Date of PhD award *

Level of Appointment *

eg Level A6

What relevant expertise will the lead CI bring to this project? *

What relevant expertise will the team members bring to this project? (Include roles of each member of your team: Co-Investigator, Research Assistant, Graduate Researchers) *

Please add each team member by title, first & last name, followed by their role (CI/Co-CI/RA/PM/GR)

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Does the above include any Graduate Research Team Members? *

- Yes
 No

Graduate Research

Graduate Researcher's Name *

or N/A

Enrolled Graduate Research Thesis Title *

Enrolled Graduate Research Thesis Description *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Graduate Research team member estimated percentage of time required for Researcher Development Funding project, if successful. *

Describe as .FTE fraction

Brief description of project including how it addresses the priorities of people with disability ? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

What is the policy, research or practice gap being addressed by this project? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

How will people with disability be involved in this project? *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

What is the methodology for this project? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

How will the knowledge gained from this project be used? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

How will this project bring together researchers from different disciplines and/or external partners? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Provide a timeline for your project *

Project Budget

* indicates a required field

Budget Justification

PURPOSE OF DISABILITY AND INCLUSIVE FUNDS: Please detail what Funds will be used for (e.g. to enable a meeting of national CI/PIs to be held in Melbourne, research interview transcription etc.) *

Word count:

Must be no more than 250 words.

FoE Disability and Inclusive Seed Funding Projects 2025

Form Preview

Budget

Expenditure	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

Budget Totals

Total Expenditure Amount

\$

This number/amount is calculated.

Certification

* indicates a required field

Section D: Certification

In submitting this application, the Lead Chief Investigator affirms: (i) at least one investigator holds a salaried academic appointment at the University of Melbourne of at least 0.5 FTE and running until at least December 2025 (ii) All proposal team members agree to participate in the peer review process, meet internal deadlines to the best of their ability and meet scheme guidelines relating to fund expenditure and reporting (iii) All proposal team members have consulted appropriately with their Supervisors/Cognate Lead or Centre Director and all have the time and basic infrastructure resources to pursue the project concerned, within the context of existing research, teaching and higher degree supervision responsibilities. *

I affirm as per the above