



Rural Mental Health Partnership Grant



THE
PEREGRINE
CENTRE

Small Research Grants

2024 Application package

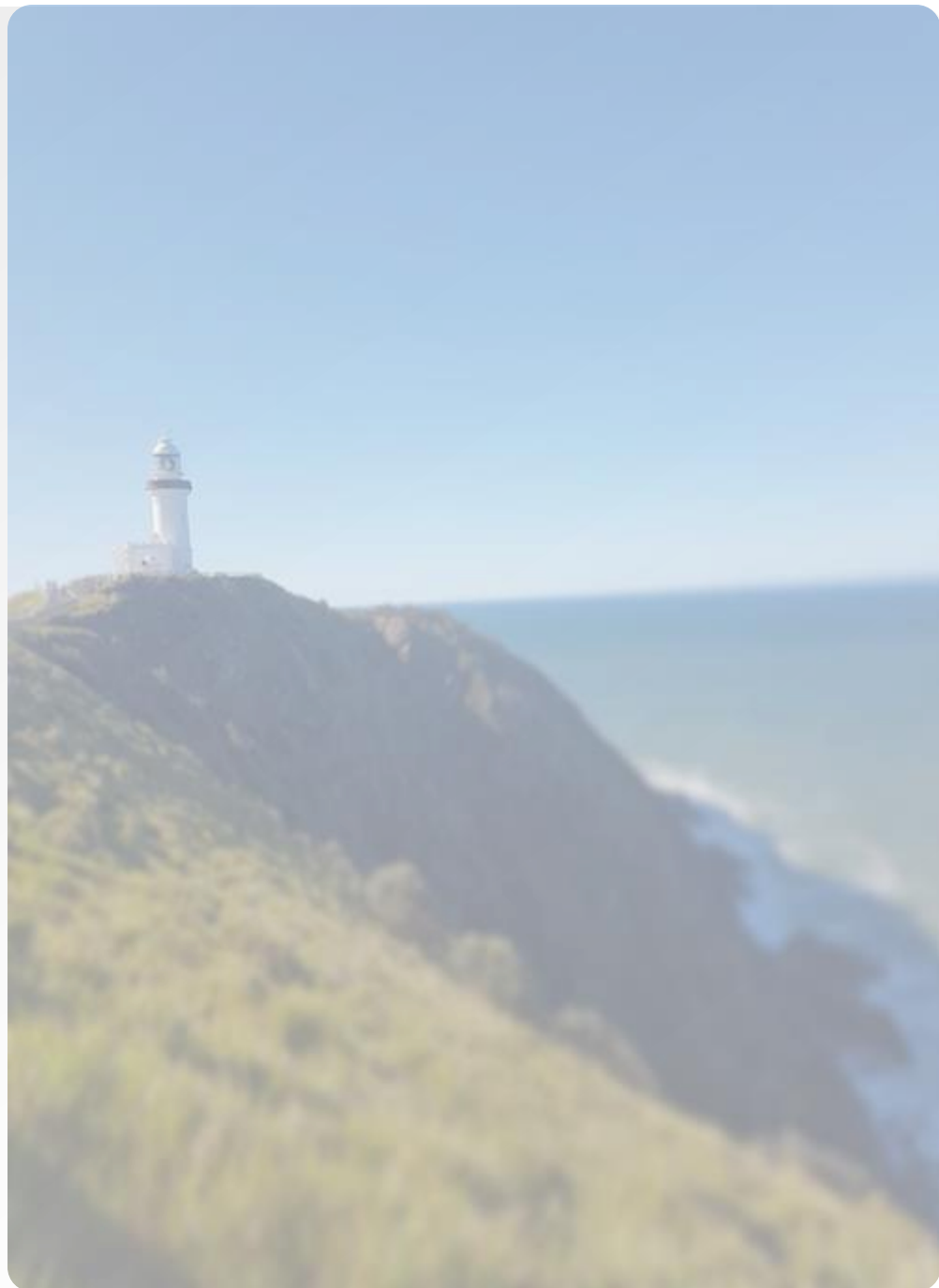
Context

The Peregrine Centre is a For-Purpose Social Impact Studio based in Wollongong. We work with stakeholders to improve social services by bringing together service user experience with clinical and research knowledge. We're focused on innovation and local tailoring to make sure solutions fit the communities they are designed for and can make real, lasting change.

In October 2021, NSW Health awarded the **Rural Mental Health Partnership** grant to The Peregrine Centre.

The 5-year partnership is focused on enhancing mental health practice in rural, regional and remote areas across NSW through research and training.

Interested in finding out more about what we do?
Visit our [website](#) to find out more or contact your [Local Project Officer](#).



The Opportunity

Each year we offer **small research grants** for projects based in rural NSW. The funding pool in 2024 totals \$400,000 to support a number of research projects.

We are particularly interested in **translational research looking to enhance rural mental health service delivery.**

IS THIS GRANT RIGHT FOR ME?

This grant is for you if you:

- Work in a rural area of NSW, including the LHD areas of Far West, Western NSW, Murrumbidgee, Southern NSW, Northern NSW, Mid North Coast, Hunter New England, Nepean Blue Mountains and Illawarra Shoalhaven.
- Have a research project that you believe is innovative and has potential to improve mental health service delivery in NSW. You must outline how your project aligns with the research priorities.

IS THIS GRANT RIGHT FOR MY PROJECT?

This grant is for your project if you:

- Would like support in
 - implementing a pilot study,
 - evaluating an existing intervention,
 - or scaling up a successful intervention.
- Or would like to partner with other LHDs to conduct state-wide or multi-area evaluations of existing initiatives or initiatives already scheduled for implementation.

Not sure if this is grant is right for you?

We have developed a research workbook to step you through the process of consideration and application development, available on The Peregrine Portal [here](#) (free account required).

Alternatively, contact your [LPO](#) to have a chat about your idea.



Funding

FUNDING

The total funding pool for 2024 will be \$400,000 to support a number of projects. The minimum grant amount will be \$5,000. There is no maximum amount within the funding pool, however, it is anticipated that the best value for money will be to fund multiple projects from the total pool.

Funds will be for projects running July 2024 - June 2025. Funding for multi-year projects running July 2024 - June 2026 will be considered. Funding will be granted under specific conditions, as negotiated between The Peregrine Centre and the grant recipients.

ADDITIONAL NON-FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

We are passionate about supporting research projects that will make a real impact in local communities. All Small Grant recipients will receive additional supports, and these are flexible to what the project needs.

Supports may include access to a wide range of experts and academics, support from the research team, and on-the-ground support from your Local Project Officer.

HOW CAN THE FUNDS BE USED?

The Small Grants program is designed to be flexible to the needs of the project. Some of the ways the funds could be used include:

- Hire casual or fixed-term contract employees, or fund additional hours for an existing employee to support direct evaluation activities such as data collection, data entry or data analysis.
- Offer a stipend for a student researcher to undertake their Honours, Masters or Doctoral research project in the evaluation.
- Equipment, administration or logistics costs required for the evaluation.
- Support for participant recruitment and reimbursement.
- Support for dissemination activities for your evaluation results (although publication costs are generally not supported for University staff).

Not sure about research budgets?

Our [research workbook](#) has more information that can help guide you.

Research Priorities and Evaluation

Research Priorities are set by the Research Governance Committee, including senior representatives from the Ministry of Health and rural and regional Local Health Districts.

2024 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

- Child and Family Mental Health in rural and remote areas, particularly under 12yrs and 17-18yrs.
- The impact of funding models on services in rural and remote mental health.
- Recruitment and retention of skilled staff in rural and remote mental health.
- Digital technology, virtual health and the virtual workforce in rural and remote mental health.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander treatment or mental health concerns or substance abuse.
- The approach of General Practice in rural and remote mental health treatment.
- Mental health of rural and remote men and boys.
- Responses to adverse events (such as COVID and natural disasters) including
 - Review of multi-agency responses during 2019-2021.
 - Impact on wellbeing and mental health in rural and remote communities.

All grant applications are assessed by a panel using the below criteria:

1. Alignment with Research Priorities - 30%
2. Quality of project plan and potential for implementation of the project - 30%
3. Potential for significant contribution to Rural Mental Health practice - 20%
4. Quality of user engagement and user-centric design in project plan - 10%
5. Value for money - 10%

WHO HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN PAST FUNDING ROUNDS?

Innovative projects with a focus on translational research that contribute to rural communities and the research base have been most successful in past rounds. You can find out more about successful projects [here](#).

Application Process

Stage	Date
Applications Open	1st November, 2023
Applications Close	5pm AEST, 1 st March 2024
Results Notified	1 st April 2024
First Funding Received	1 st June 2024
Mid Project Report Due	29 th November 2024 (includes financial reports)
Final Reports Due	30 th April 2025 (includes financial reports)
2025 Funding Round Opens	1st November, 2024

Application Instructions

TALK TO YOUR LPO

First, contact your [LPO](#) to have a chat about your idea

WORK THROUGH THE RESEARCH WORKBOOK

We are passionate about developing practitioner's research capacity, and so have created a workbook that sits alongside this grant to support applications which you can access [here](#).

CONSULT WITH A RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Applicants must book a 30min consultation with a Research Associate to discuss your idea prior to submission and help understand if your project meets the grant requirements. Consultations can be booked [here](#). Consultations with Research Associates close *one week prior* to the grant application closing date.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications including the documents below must be emailed to Kate.Newnham@theperegrinecentre.com.au by 5pm AEST, 1st March, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted. Submissions by any other method will not be accepted.

Applications must include:

1. RMHP Small Grants Template submitted in Microsoft Word format
2. RMHP Small Grants Budget Template submitted in Microsoft Excel format
3. Letter of support from your LHD Mental Health Director (proforma available)
4. One file of no more than five A4 pages with any additional information, including a detailed project timeline that conforms with the timeline outlined in this information document. This may be in a Microsoft Word, Excel or pdf format.

After the submission date, The Peregrine Centre reserves the right to contact respondents to clarify the content of the application or request further information. This may include contact via email to the contact person nominated on the application or invitation to an interview within the requirements set out by The Peregrine Centre. If the applicant does not respond within the timeframe nominated in the contact, the response may not be considered in the evaluation process.

Enquiries can be directed to Kate.Newnham@theperegrinecentre.com.au





THE PEREGRINE CENTRE

www.thepergrinecentre.com.au
info@thepergrinecentre.com.au