



2010 AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dementia Application Form

CLOSING DATE – 12 APRIL 2010

Information for Applicants

Alzheimer's Australia Research Limited (AAR) is a non-profit company formed to promote, disseminate and fund research into all aspects of dementia. Every year there is an application process for grants and scholarships.

The *AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship* is offered to a PhD graduate who has either attained, or will shortly satisfy the requirements for a PhD degree. The fellowship is awarded for two years, with a value of \$45,000 per annum on condition that the fellowship is cost-shared by the applicant's institution. Grants are awarded in both biological/non-clinical and clinical/psychosocial research areas. Three fellowships will be awarded in 2010 for research commencing in 2011.

To be eligible for the *AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dementia* the applicant must:

- Be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia. Principal investigators who have been resident in Australia for at least two years and have evidence of eligibility and application for permanent residency may also be eligible for the AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dementia.
- Have been awarded (or notified of success of their application for) a PhD or equivalent degree (e.g. MD by research) in the last three years
- Have the support of an Australian Tertiary Institution or Australian Medical Research Institute to carry out the proposed research
- The research proposal must be judged to relate to research in dementia

Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- The quality of the academic record and potential of the applicant (50%)
- The significance, feasibility and merit of the research proposal (30%)
- The relevance of the project to research in dementia (10%)
- The suitability of intended supervisors and institution (10%)

The final decision on successful applicants will be made by the Scientific and Medical Panel and the Board of Alzheimer's Australia Research.

Successful applicants must agree to:

- Acknowledge the name of the Fellowship and the support of Alzheimer's Australia Research (AAR) in all publications, presentations, summary findings or media relating to the research.

- Provide progress reports on the research.
- Be prepared to assist AAR, if required, by speaking at Alzheimer's Australia functions, attending specified conferences, hosting laboratory visits or being featured in media articles/releases for AAR.

Fellowship Conditions

The award is subject to the recipient agreeing to be bound by the following conditions, subject to any additional conditions specified at the time the scholarship is awarded.

The award must be used solely for the purpose for which it was awarded unless otherwise agreed in writing. The AAR must be advised of any delay in the progress of the project or major change to the project.

Reporting

The recipient must submit an annual report on the progress of the research for each year of the award, detailing their work during the year, using the format set out by AAR, together with a list of publications and presentations. The report must also indicate plans for the next stage of research and be endorsed by the recipient's supervisor. A final report will be required on completion of the fellowship. Lay summaries must accompany reports.

Fellowship arrangements

The recipient must comply with rules and regulations at their host institution or organisation regarding disciplinary provisions, leave entitlements and arrangements, part-time work arrangements and suspension. It is not the responsibility of AAR to provide or ensure adequate supervision, materials, equipment, facilities or any other resource necessary for the research to occur.

The award is \$45,000 per annum to be matched by the host institution. Payments will be made annually to the host institution, which will make payments to the fellowship holder according to its internal arrangements. As part of the application applicants should indicate what other funding they expect to receive to undertake their research.

The maximum duration of the award is two years, and continued funding is dependent on the completion of annual progress reports.

The award will terminate when the award expires, or, if after due enquiry, AAR determines that the recipient has failed to maintain satisfactory academic progress, has committed serious academic misconduct or if the recipient fails to comply with any of these conditions.

Acknowledgment of sponsorship

The recipient must acknowledge the support of AAR in all publications, presentations, summary findings and media announcements relating to the research and should be prepared to assist AAR, if required, with reasonable requests for promotional activities, for example, by speaking at an Alzheimer's Australia function, attending specified conferences, hosting laboratory visits, or being featured in media articles/releases for AAR. Additionally, the recipient's name, institution/organisation, details of the research project, and the final report may be used to promote AAR and the dementia grants program, including in Annual Reports, on websites, and with the media.

Ethical clearances

The recipient shall not proceed with the project without appropriate ethical clearances having been obtained from the relevant committees and authorities. Research must be conducted in accordance with the rules of the auspicing institution or organisation. Responsibility for ensuring that ethical clearances have been obtained remains with the recipient.

The recipient agrees to abide by the NH&MRC codes on human and animal experimentation, the Australian Government's Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee, and rulings of the relevant institution or organisation safety and ethics committees, including the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans, Australian code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, and the joint AVCC/NHMRC statement and guidelines on research practice.

Application Procedure

To apply for the *AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dementia*, please submit one complete hard copy of the application and one electronic copy, as indicated below.

One single-sided hard copy of the application with all attachments and signatures posted to:

Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd
PO Box 4019
Hawker ACT 2614

One electronic copy without signatures (File Name: Applicant Surname.doc), emailed to:

Email: aar@alzheimers.org.au

Application Package

Applicants must specify which category they are applying for. The complete application package includes the application form with sections 1 and 2 completed together with the following attachments:

1. Complete curriculum vitae of the applicant

2. Official record of doctorate degree or a copy certified by a Justice of the Peace.

Please provide either a copy of the doctorate degree, proof of submission, or a letter from the current supervisor stating they anticipate submission by December 2010.

3. Certificate of Citizenship/Permanent residency

Please attach proof of Australian citizenship or permanent residency (or application of permanent residency). This should include a current copy of one of the following documents: passport, birth certificate, citizenship certificate, proof of Australian permanent residency, or application for permanent residency.

4. Institutional ethics committee approval letter (if available)

5. One-page CV or biography of the primary supervisor

6. Recommendation letter from proposed supervisor

The proposed supervisor should submit the recommendation letter with the application in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the applicant's name and proposal title, as well as by email to: aar@alzheimers.org.au. The letter should include the applicant's relevant background, research experience, level of involvement with the project, future career potential and details of the department's facilities to support the applicant's research proposal (maximum 2 pages).

7. Proof that the institution will match AAR funding

Please attach a letter from the auspicing institution, confirming that they are able to match AAR payments of \$45,000 per annum for two years.

Applications must be received by 5 pm on Monday **12 April 2010**.

For further inquiries please contact Dinusha Fernando at Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd on (02) 6254 4233 or by email on aar@alzheimers.org.au

Important Notes

1. Currently Enrolled Students

Students currently completing a doctorate degree must provide proof of submission to AAR as soon as they are available, preferably by December 7th. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that confirmation of thesis approval is provided to AAR before payment of the grant. Failure to provide evidence of thesis approval means that payment cannot be made.

2. Other funding sources

All applicants must notify AAR immediately in writing if they accept another fellowship.

Application Checklist

Checklist	Yes/No
Completed all sections of application	
Obtained signatures on hard copy	
Attached a curriculum vitae of the applicant	
Attached official record of doctorate degree (or one certified by a Justice of the Peace)	
Attached proof of citizenship/residency status	
Attached institutional ethics committee approval letter (if available)	
Attached a curriculum vitae or biography of the primary supervisor	
Attached a recommendation letter from proposed supervisor	
Attached proof that institution is able to match AAR funding	
Posted 1 hard copy of the application & emailed 1 electronic copy	

How did you find out about the AAR Postdoctoral Fellowship in Dementia?

- Through university resources (i.e. grants newsletter or email)
- Through a colleague
- Through the Alzheimer's Australia Website
- Through a research database
- Other (Please detail)

Office use only:
Number: / 10

Section 1 • Applicant Information

A. Applicant Details

Title	First name	Surname
Contact mailing address		
Telephone		
Facsimile		
Email		

(i) Residency Status

Residency Status	Yes/No
Australian Citizen	
Australian Permanent Resident	
Resided in Australia at least 2 years and have applied for permanent residency	
Have you attached evidence of your residency status?	

(ii) Academic and Other Qualifications

Degree	Year Awarded	Conferring Institution

(iii) Enrolment Status

Enrolment Status		
Current Enrolment	Are you currently enrolled in a program of study? (Yes/No)	
	If yes, please specify degree program (ie. PhD or other)	
	Institution	
	Initial date of enrolment	
	Expected date of completion	
	Will you be submitting additional results to AAR?	

B. Funding Details

(i) Other Fellowships

Have you ever previously held or do you currently hold a postdoctoral research fellowship? (Yes/No)	
If yes, please list the name of the fellowship	
Institution	
Duration	

(ii) Other Funding Sources

Please list any current research support (include funding agency and amount)	
Is this application under review by any other funding body? (Yes/No)	
Please list any other fellowships for which you have applied (include funding agency and approx decision date)	

C. Publications

Please list any publications (published, in press, or submitted) and conference presentations made by the applicant.

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D. Research Career and Track Record

Please provide details (One page maximum) of significantly scientific achievements, excluding information provided in other sections about publications. Track record will be judged relative to

opportunity. Information may include details of invited presentations, awards and prizes, representation on major scientific bodies, published books or reports, professional activities or other significant recognition of scientific achievement etc. Also include any details of patents, licenses, spin-off companies etc resulting from research you have conducted. List any grants held on which you were a named investigator and indicate your role in the project. Information on any changes in career direction or significant interruptions to career progress etc may be given, if considered relevant.

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E. Supervisor Details

Title	First name	Surname
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Current position		
Department		
Institution		
Contact mailing address		
Telephone		
Facsimile		
Email		

Please list details of any additional or co-supervisors below.

F. Institution Details

Please list the name, full address and ABN of the institution where funds will be administered.

Please list the name and full address of the department and institution where you will be conducting the research, if different from above.

G. Ethical Considerations

All projects involving experiments on humans or animals must include Human Research Ethics Committee and/or Animal Ethics Committee approval if successful and funding for a project will

not be released until Ethics Approval has been received and a copy of the approval letter submitted to Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd.

Does this project involve experiments on animals or human subjects?

(please mark the appropriate box with an X)

Yes

No

If YES, please indicate the status of the Human or Animal Research Ethics Committee approval for this project

	Yes/No
Approval Attached	
Approval Pending	
Not yet submitted	
Comments	

H. Certifications

Signatures are only required on the hard copy of the application

Applicant

I certify that all the information given in this application is correct, and I will accept the decision of Alzheimer's Australia Research Ltd. as final.

Name of applicant (printed)			
Signature		Date	

Proposed Supervisor

I certify that I am prepared to supervise this project and that appropriate facilities and resources are available for the research project if the applicant is successful.

Name of supervisor (printed)			
Signature		Date	

Head of Department

I certify that appropriate general facilities will be available for the research project if the applicant is successful and that I am prepared to have the project carried out in the department.

Name (printed)			
Position			
Department		Institution	
Signature		Date	

Head of Administering Institution/Nominee

I certify that this request satisfies the requirements of this institution, and that this institution has established administrative procedures for assuring sound scientific practice in accordance with the *Joint NHMRC/AVCC Statement and Guidelines on Research Practice*.

Name (printed)			
Position			
Department		Institution	
Signature		Date	

Section 2 • Research Proposal

A. Classification of research

Please indicate the category of your proposed research: either Biological/Non-clinical or Psychosocial/Clinical.

B. Project Title

Please state a short descriptive title of project, informative to workers outside your field.

C. Project Summary

Provide a brief synopsis (200 words maximum)

D. Lay Information

(i) Lay Summary

Provide a lay summary of your proposal that could be understood by the general public. Include overall aims and expected outcomes. (Maximum 100 words)

(ii) Implications

Explain the potential implications of your research. (Maximum 100 words)

E. Research Plan

The Research Plan section should include the following sections: aims, background, research strategy and references. The entire research plan section should not exceed **5 pages** with a minimum font size of 12. Any additional pages will not be forwarded for assessment. Explanatory appendices are not permissible.

(i) Aims of the project

List specific aims and potential significance of the project. Clearly state the research question and hypothesis to be tested, as well as rationale and objectives.

(ii) Background

Summarise both previous work from your host department in this field, and work reported by others, which provides the basis for the proposed research project.

(iii) Research Strategy

Include a clear description of methods and design, including research strategy.

(iv) References

Please list all references quoted in this application. Maximum of 20 references.