

CLINICAL (NEIL HAMILTON FAIRLEY) FELLOWSHIPS

The National Health and Medical Research Council annually awards grants for the advancement of medical research from funds made available by the Commonwealth Government. Applications are invited annually for the Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellowships.

The Fellowships are named after the late Sir Neil Hamilton Fairley, an Australian scientist, whose research in areas of preventive and tropical medicine received international acclaim.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Fellowships is to provide full-time, overseas and Australian training in the area of clinical research including the social and behavioural sciences, to enable Fellows to work on research projects under nominated advisors. These Fellowships are offered to a limited number of persons of outstanding ability who wish to make clinical research a significant component of their career.

Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellowships are available to graduates in all health related fields.

Applicants may apply simultaneously for both a Neil Hamilton Fairley and an Australian Clinical Research Postdoctoral Fellowship. Separate applications are required.

Applicants for this Fellowship may also apply concurrently, or if successful, at any time during the Fellowship, for an NHMRC Project Grant as a Chief Investigator. Such applicants should also consider, however, any Project Grant eligibility requirements.

The objectives of these Fellowships differ from those of the C J Martin Fellowships which are designed to provide training in the area of biomedical research, and the Sidney Sax Fellowships which are designed to provide training in the area of Public Health.

At the discretion of the Training Awards Committee, the application may be transferred to a C J Martin Fellowship or the Sidney Sax Fellowship.

Applicants may elect to be considered for the single NHMRC/ R.G. Menzies Fellowship which has identical conditions of award. A separate application is not be required. The Menzies Foundation, which is providing financial support for the NHMRC/R.G. Menzies Fellowship, seeks applicants with such qualities as leadership ability, both proven and potential, ability to contribute to the life of a University, and interests in the service of others.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply, candidates must at the time of application:

- (i) hold a doctorate in a health related field of research or have submitted a thesis for such by 31 December of the year of application. The Fellowship can commence on 1 January.
- (ii) have demonstrated their interest in, and ability to pursue a career in research, and be actively engaged in research in Australia or overseas.
- (iii) normally have no more than two years (2) postdoctoral research experience, at 30 June 2006, from the date that the doctoral thesis was passed.
- (iv) be Australian citizens or be graduates from overseas with permanent Australian resident status, not under bond to any foreign government. Applicants whose most recent degree was attained overseas should have these accredited by their institution.
- (v) provide a specific study plan within a clearly defined

area.

- (vi) organise affiliation with an overseas investigator/ institution to carry out the study.

TENURE

The full time Fellowships are usually awarded for a period of four years, the first two of which are spent overseas and the remaining two in Australia

A Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellow must take up the Fellowship within 12 months of the Offer of Award.

The Fellowships are tenable only in institutions approved by the NHMRC, such as teaching hospitals, universities and research institutes.

APPLICATION

All applications should be submitted on the special forms that, together with details of the salary package and conditions associated with NHMRC grants and fellowship awards, are available from the NHMRC's web site or research administrative officers of universities, hospitals and other research institutions.

General information is available on the Internet on NHMRC's home page:

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au>

The Deed of Agreement and Schedule are to be read by the applicants. Applications should be submitted through, and have the endorsement of, both the research institution with which the Fellowship will be associated and the overseas institution and supervisor.

Applications must be lodged with NHMRC electronically (see Instruction Booklet). In addition, the original single-sided A4 application and a double-sided copy must be submitted to NHMRC by the due date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all referees reports are provided by the due date. Of particular importance is the statement from the proposed supervisor agreeing to host the Fellow, without which the application will be deemed ineligible.

Forms are provided for completion by:

- (i) Two referees, one of whom should be well acquainted with the applicant's work, to comment on the project and the applicant's ability to undertake the work proposed. The second is to be an independent referee. This referee is to have had no substantive professional or private contact with the applicant or to have had any previous or current collaboration with the applicant's recent or planned supervisors, but should be knowledgeable in the field of study. This referee should not be at the applicant's current institution.
- (ii) the initial Supervisor at the proposed Overseas institution. The proposed supervisor is to attach to their report a 2 page CV incorporating the following:
 - Personal details: name, title, current position

Education: degrees/qualifications, year, institution
Experience: postgraduate professional and research positions held in last 5 years.
Support: details of current and past (last 6 years) grants held.
Publications: list in chronological order the titles, all authors and complete citation of publications (of the supervisor) pertinent to the application.

Referees should email the report to
NHMRC.Referee.CARSS@health.gov.au

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellowships are awarded in open competition on the basis of merit following detailed assessment. The Council may exercise discretion as to the number and type of Fellowships to be offered in any one year, and may not recommend any, if such a course is warranted.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

A decision on awards will be made by November each year. Applicants will be advised as soon as possible thereafter.

ADMINISTRATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellowships shall normally be administered by the Australian Institution through which the applicant has applied and to which the NHMRC shall forward stipend payments, travelling expenses, family allowances etc. Certification is required that the institute is willing to administer the grant.

STIPEND, TRAVELLING EXPENSES AND ALLOWANCES

Fellowship salary packages at the Training Support Package level 1 (currently at \$62,250) and if appropriate, clinical loadings will be paid. It is the successful applicants' responsibility to negotiate a salary in accordance with the institution's Workplace Agreement or salary guidelines.

Salary packages and allowances are payable to the Australian Institution nominated by the Fellow and approved by the Council. Such payments shall be made quarterly in the case of salary packages and at such periods as may be appropriate and as determined by the Council in respect of other payments. Advances against anticipated and authorised expenses may be paid. Fellows shall make their own arrangements to obtain necessary health insurance, foreign currency, passports and visas, but letters to facilitate such applications shall be provided to approved fellows on request.

The Council may, at its discretion, for what is considered grave cause, suspend the tenure of the Fellowship for such time as is thought fit, or deprive a Fellow of his/her Fellowship and from that date the stipend or other payments shall cease.

The NHMRC will provide for the Australian Institution's employer's contribution to superannuation. This will include the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution (SGC) and contributory superannuation components. These amounts, along with other institutional on-costs are included in the TSP 1 salary package

The cost of any travel requirements in excess of those authorised by the Council under these rules shall be met by the Fellow. No allowance shall be payable in respect of the conveyance of luggage,

goods or chattels not covered by the free allowance provided under normal passenger agreements.

The commencement date of a Fellowship for payment purposes is the date on which work is commenced at the nominated centre.

Minimum cost airfares for the fellow and dependants will be provided for direct travel to, and return from, the overseas centre.

OVERSEAS ALLOWANCES

An Accommodation Allowance will be paid to all overseas fellows for the 2 year overseas portion. The calculation of this allowance is unique to the host city. Current range is from \$10,000 to \$55,000. The allowance is enhanced for accompanying family members.

A Cost of Living Allowance will be paid to all overseas fellows for the 2 year overseas portion. Current range is from \$300 to \$12,000. The allowance is modestly enhanced for accompanying family members.

There are no other overseas allowances payable.

AUSTRALIAN ALLOWANCES

An allowance of \$5,000 p.a. is payable for research support, including conference travel, for the 2 year Australian portion of the Fellowship.

Under certain circumstances Fellows may earn additional income. See the Deed of Agreement and Schedule for details.

OTHER FEES

It is expected that compulsory fees, and additional research related expenses incurred during the tenure of the Fellowship shall be the responsibility of the host institution.

REPORTS ON FELLOWSHIP

A **mid-term report** on the research work undertaken during the first two years and details of the intended program for the following two years is required by the Secretary of Council on the anniversary date of commencement of the fellowship.

A **full report** is to be submitted within three months of completion of the Fellowship. This report should cover not only the work undertaken abroad, incorporating details of any new knowledge gained in the field of study over this period, but also that undertaken on return to Australia.

A **brief final** report 12 months after completion of the Fellowship, detailing current employment status and publications arising from the Fellowship, is required.

Appropriate recognition for the assistance of Council should be included in publications resulting from work undertaken during the tenure of a Fellowship, by stating that the author (or co-author) holds a National Health and Medical Research Council (Aust) Neil Hamilton Fairley Fellowship, and quoting the Fellowship App ID number.

It is the responsibility of the Fellow to obtain ethics clearances at the overseas institution, and on return to Australia to ensure that appropriate clearances are obtained from the Australian institution and forwarded to the NHMRC. No payments will be made until the appropriate clearances are received by the Secretary.

Please refer to full Deed of Agreement and Schedule for Overseas Fellowships for details of any areas not specifically detailed herein

PLEASE NOTE: the applications must be sent to the NHMRC through the research administrative officer of the Australian institution concerned. To meet the deadline of 07 July, applications must be submitted to that officer by.....

IMPORTANT: CLOSING DATE 07 JULY 2006. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED