



inspiring
women

statement of support guide

inspiring women grants - bridging the funding gap

A Statement of Support must be submitted to the applicant to enable them to submit a full application ahead of the closing date **12:00pm Monday, 14 November 2022**

This program
is generously
funded by



bridging the funding gap

statement of support

Introduction

The *new veski inspiring women grants - bridging the funding gap*, is a pilot program designed to support women in STEM who face systemic barriers to success at a critical point in their career to enable them to continue their research in Victoria.

High calibre researchers continue to face challenges in obtaining funding to support research. In addition to this, a diverse workplace brings different experiences and perspectives which boost creativity and innovation. This grant aims to support equality across the research ecosystem by fostering the representation of women in STEM with intersectional identities.

Applications are sought from:

- mid-career leaders or emerging leaders in STEM who identify as a woman, and have intersectional identities;
- who narrowly missed out on funding to commence in 2023 through either a NHMRC Investigator Grant EL2 or L1 (minimum category score of 6), or an ARC Future Fellowship FT1, FT2, FT3 (top 10% unsuccessful); and who
- have between 8 - 15 years of Full Time Equivalent [FTE] professional post-doctoral scientific research experience in their field.

Keeping these women in STEM research fields will contribute to the future diversity of the STEM workforce.

The grants will provide up to 12 months funding of up to \$75,000 to support research outputs. Grant awardees should be able to maximise the use of the grant to maintain their competitiveness for future funding rounds from major funding bodies.

Important notes

The **veski** inspiring women grants - bridging the funding gap Statement of Support is a required supporting document to ensure application eligibility and must confirm specific information relating to the applicant and their application regarding:

- Confirmation of the applicant's current employment status, FTE, and their employment contract type i.e. continuing research contingent funded / fixed term / casual employment contract;
- Commitment to provide matched cash funding of up to \$75,000AUD in the event that the applicant is successful, including the source(s) of the matched funding i.e. Faculty, Department etc.;
- Whether any funds (\$ Amount & Duration) for either salary or research have been provided (or plan to be provided) to the applicant by their employer as a result of them receiving a notification that they had narrowly missed out on funding to commence in 2023 for either a NHMRC Investigator Grant EL2, or L1 (minimum category 6); or an ARC Future Fellowship FT1, FT2, or FT3 (top 10% unsuccessful) and whether this funding, or a component of this, will be put towards the matched funding;
- A commitment to provide in-kind support to enable the proposed outcomes of the grant; and
- A commitment to provide support through professional development and opportunities to increase academic standing during the grant term.
- An expectation that applicants are supported by their institution for the duration of the grant term through teaching load reduction, as per successful NHMRC/ARC recipients.

Submissions

Applicants are advised to speak to their Research Office team in the first instance for guidance on the process of seeking matched funding through their organisation.

The Statement of Support must be signed by a person who can authorise the organisation's financial obligations in the event that the application is successful, for example, the Head of Institution, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), Director, Dean, or Head of Department.

Full details of the grants are provided in the application guidelines, available from the **veski** website: veski.org.au/bridging-the-funding-gap

The Statement of Support forms an important part of the moderation process.

Applicants are responsible for the submission of the Statement of Support via the **veski** Awards Force platform.

- Please note the Statement of Support must be a maximum of one A4 page and provided on institution letterhead
- Please provide the Statement of Support directly to the applicant **in advance** of the closing date for applications 12.00pm [AEDT] on **Monday, 14 November 2022** to enable them to submit a full application.

The selection panel will, with absolute discretion, select the proposed **veski** inspiring women grants - bridging the gap recipients, on the basis of the key criteria. The panel's recommendations will be submitted to the **veski** board of directors for endorsement.

If you have any queries concerning the veski inspiring women grants - bridging the funding gap, please contact:
E: veski@veski.org.au T: +61 (0)3 9635 5700