



Avant Foundation and Avant Grants 2023 Information pack



Professor Jennifer Philip
Lead researcher from Royal
Melbourne Hospital, recipient of
an Avant Foundation Grant

Supporting
you in making
a difference.

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About the program

Established in 2017, the Avant Foundation Grants and Avant Grants programs vision is for safer practice of medicine for both doctors and patients. We seek to provide leadership on safety, quality and professionalism within the medical profession.

Avant and the Avant Foundation provide funding to support research, education and leadership programs designed to make a real difference to how medicine is practised – in particular, the systems and processes. We believe this is key to creating sustainable change, enhancing patient care and reducing clinical and medico-legal risks.

In this way, The Avant Foundation, Avant and its members can have a meaningful impact on the future of medical practice.

The Avant Foundation and Avant Grant Goals

- Supporting academic research that will ultimately influence quality, safety and professionalism in the practice of medicine.
- Seeding an interest in quality, safety and professionalism improvements at the level of the doctor's own practice.
- Engaging the profession in the broader objectives of quality, safety and professionalism.
- Supporting doctors to develop capabilities in quality improvement, safety and professionalism.
- Supporting doctors to develop as leaders who can champion and effect change in the healthcare system, with a focus on quality improvement.

What type of projects are we seeking?

Focus areas include:

- Initiatives that develop and support leadership capability, especially those focused on quality improvement in medicine.
- Academic research in the domains of quality in medicine and professionalism, that drive towards a reduction in medico-legal and clinical risk.
- Quality improvement initiatives in the clinical setting.
- Education initiatives focusing on quality, safety and professionalism.

Priority research topics for 2023

Priority research topics include:

- Doctors' health and wellbeing
- Telehealth and virtual care
- Fragmentation of care
- Medical leadership/quality improvement leadership
- Understanding patient complaints
- Prescribing, including drugs of dependence and e-prescribing



Project Funding

How much can I apply for?

In general, we seek to support projects between \$10,000 and \$100,000. In assessing the project budget, we will consider the actual value and whether the project represents value for money in terms of a likely outcome.

The number, type and value of projects funded will be determined based on the quantity and quality of applications received and entirely at our discretion.

Can projects be co-funded?

We will consider funding projects that have already received or had commitments for funding from other sources. Any existing funding sources or funding that you intend to apply for outside of an Avant Foundation Grant or Avant Grant (as applicable) should be disclosed in your application.

What type of projects will we not fund?

- Projects predominantly related to capital purchases (e.g. clinical or other equipment).
- Establishment or support for a registry.
- Projects where the key deliverable is solely communication or promotional materials.
- General sponsorships of events.
- Seed funding for the development of products intended to be commercialised.
- Projects outside of Australia.
- Travel costs where alternate methods of communication can be utilised (e.g. video conferencing).
- Projects in areas that should reasonably and already be part of clinical practice for the specialty of the applicant.
- Higher degrees.

For full details, see the terms and conditions at avantdifference.org.au



Applying for funding

Who can apply?

Avant Foundation Grant applications are open to entities¹ that are charities within the meaning of the *Charities Act 2013* (Cth) and hold an endorsed Deductible Gift Recipients (DGR) (Charity Criteria).

Avant Foundation Grants are awarded to the entity.

Avant Grant applications are open to:

- a. Medical practices that hold (at the time of application and throughout the project period) a practice medical indemnity policy with Avant Insurance Limited (ACN 003 707 471).
- b. Medical practices that hold a current subscription to PracticeHub
- c. Medical practitioners
 - who hold (at the time of application and throughout the project period) a professional indemnity insurance policy with Avant Insurance Limited (excluding Intern/RMO and Doctor in Training policies) in a practitioner category of practice,
 - who are an Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or permanent resident of Australia and based in Australia, and
 - who are a practising medical practitioner registered with the Medical Board of Australia.

Medical practitioners applying for an Avant Grant must be project leaders responsible for the design, execution and management of the project. If a project involves other people, you must confirm their consent to you being the project leader. Grants are awarded on an individual basis, and other parties are not eligible to receive any part of the grant. You must have the support of your employer if you are applying on their behalf.

Other exclusions apply. Please read the terms and conditions at avantdifference.org.au

Application process

The Avant Foundation Grants and Avant Grants use a two-stage application process.

Stage one is for expressions of interest and is designed to allow us to assess how your project fits with the objectives and priorities of the program. It will also be used to identify important information such as the project leader, a high-level outline of what the project is intended to achieve, its timeframes and funding requirements.

Stage two is for applicants that have been shortlisted by the evaluation panel to progress from stage one. These applicants will be invited to submit a more detailed application which will include further information about the project design, its budget and plans for sustainability and scalability of outcomes.

¹ including but not limited to: medical research institutes, medical/healthcare foundations, universities, medical colleges and societies, hospitals or hospital groups (public or private), local hospital networks or local health districts, and primary health networks, provided the entity meets the charity criteria.



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Evaluation process and criteria

Projects are evaluated using a closed, weighted evaluation system. The criteria for stage one is available on our website.

Stage one criteria include:

- relevance of the project to the objectives and purpose of the Avant Foundation Grants and Avant Grants
- the project type (e.g. research, education)
- the project topic area (e.g. domains of quality improvement, professionalism)
- the leadership experience of the project team
- the design of the project.

Stage two criteria include:

- detailed project design
- project rationale and relevance
- project scalability and sustainability
- project timeframes
- project budget
- how important funding from the Avant Foundation Grants or Avant Grants (as applicable) are to the delivery of the project.

Detailed evaluation criteria for stage two will only be released to applicants invited to submit a detailed application in stage two.

Timeframes and key dates

Stage one – Expressions of interest open	14 November 2022
Expressions of interest close	27 February 2023
Review of expressions of interest	6 March to 14 April 2023
Stage two – Detailed applications open	28 April 2023
Detailed applications close	2 June 2023
Grant recipients notified	End of July 2023

No time extensions will be granted. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications by email. Beyond notification of outcome, neither Avant nor the Avant Foundation will provide feedback on individual applications.



I'm delighted to be associated with the Avant Foundation Grants, both as a director of the Avant Foundation and application reviewer. It is a rare privilege to be able to support charitable entities as they set out on their research and quality improvement journeys."

Associate Professor Grant Phelps

BMBS MBA FRACP FRACMA FAICD, Avant Foundation Board member



Expectations of grant recipients

a. Funding agreement

All grant recipients will be required to execute a funding agreement which outlines their acceptance of the **terms and conditions**.

b. Meeting milestones and payment of grants

Payment of grant instalments is linked to meeting milestones outlined in the funding agreement. Milestones need to be accompanied by the submission of progress reports.

Payment of Avant Foundation Grants and Avant Grants will be in three instalments:

- first instalment of 50% paid on commencement of the project
- second instalment of 25% paid midway through the project
- third instalment of 25% paid on completion of the project. For full details, see the terms and conditions.

c. Promotion and media

Grant recipients will, if required, work with an editorial team chosen by Avant or the Avant Foundation to enable them to publish the results or progress of their project in relevant publications.

All reports, articles, publications, relevant correspondence and materials relating to the project or findings pertaining to the subject of the project must state that the work has been supported by the Avant Foundation or Avant (as applicable).

We also expect you to participate, where reasonable, in any promotional activity (such as publicity or photography).

d. Intellectual property

You will retain the ownership of any intellectual property that you develop as a result of our funding but give Avant or the Avant Foundation (as applicable) a license to utilise the material or results arising from the project for promotional activities. You will also acknowledge Avant or the Avant Foundation (as applicable) in activities arising from the use of material or results arising from the project.

e. Grant's and Scholarship's presentation dinner

Successful recipients will be advised via phone in July 2023, followed by written confirmation. All grant recipients must be willing and available to attend an Avant Foundation or Avant even and agree to be photographed and be included in articles for marketing and promotional purposes.

f. Sharing data with third party

Recipients must agree to their funding agreement being shared with a third party for auditing purposes.

All grant recipients are expected to provide the required information (such as milestone reporting) via the grant management portal.

Expressions of interest close
11.59pm (AEDT) Monday, 27 February 2023

Apply today at avantdifference.org.au

Avant Foundation and Avant Grants 2023

Supporting you in making a difference

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Expressions of interest close 11.59pm (AEDT)
Monday, 27 February 2023



avantdifference.org.au
avantgrants@avant.org.au
1800 128 268

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