



## **PERIOPERATIVE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND Inc.**

### **PNAQ PERIOPERATIVE NURSING COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SCHEME - GUIDELINES**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The PNAQ Perioperative Nursing Collaborative Research Scheme funds members to undertake nurse-initiated innovative research projects. Funding will be available for one year projects. Successful applicants will be expected to disseminate their findings to the wider perioperative community

#### **2. AIMS**

##### **2.1 General**

PNAQ is committed to providing funding in a number of categories to assist financial members to undertake innovative research activities that will contribute to the advancement of perioperative nursing.

Specifically the scheme aims to:

1. Encourage perioperative nurses who meet the selection criteria to enhance their research expertise and track record by undertaking an innovative research project in their discipline area
2. Provide funding for a research project that enables skills development, the provision of research assistance and access to a research mentor. It is anticipated that there would be tangible output from the research in terms of conference presentations, publications, larger grant applications, etc
3. Support, on a competitive basis, high quality innovative research projects
4. Encourage collaboration between PNAQ and industry facilities
5. To promote research activity and research-based practice in perioperative nursing and perioperative patient care
6. To support nurse-initiated research that contributes to the advancement of the specialty of perioperative nursing and the improvement of perioperative patient outcomes

##### **2.1 Types of research that will be supported**

Research aimed at improving the quality of patient care provided in the perioperative period and improving the quality of the perioperative work environment will be considered for support. Multidisciplinary, historical, multi-site and international research is encouraged. Research undertaken with PNAQ funding can range from small hospital-based projects to extensive state-wide research projects, with all research activities having the potential to contribute significantly to perioperative nursing practice in Queensland and to improving health outcomes for patients.

#### **3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

##### **3.1 Research Proposal**

The research proposal must adequately describe a well defined research project pertinent to the advancement of perioperative nursing or improvement in perioperative patient care.

### **3.2 Chief Investigator**

All Chief Investigators must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be a Registered Nurse with current license to practice in Queensland and reside in the state of Queensland
2. Must be an active member of PNAQ in good standing and must have at least two (2) years of continuous membership in PNAQ
3. Must demonstrate evidence of formal preparation in research and/or confirm the assistance of a research mentor with formal preparation in research and research supervision
4. Must demonstrate evidence of adequate competencies/skills (within team), practical and technical support (from facility), and resources (from facility) to conduct the proposed research
5. Must demonstrate evidence of commitment of matching funds and/or in-kind support from perioperative unit, hospital or health service district
6. Must demonstrate readiness to implement the research project within one month of receipt of funding or is already in the process of the research project
7. Must be able to demonstrate assurance of protection of human rights or animal subjects by applying for approval for the research from the relevant Ethics Review Board prior to research funding
8. Must submit a completed research application to the PNAQ Secretariat by the advertised deadline

### **3.3 Mentor**

Nominated Mentor (if required) must meet the following criteria:

1. Must possess a strong research track record in the broad area of research, as demonstrated through external grants, publications and / or supervision of research project staff and/or higher degree research students
2. Must be prepared to fully engage with the Chief Investigator(s) in terms of advice and guidance in relation to project development and research activities undertaken throughout the project, including joint publications

### **3.4 Conditions of Receiving Funds**

Prior to disbursement of funds, successful applicant(s):

1. Must sign and return the PNAQ Research Grant Agreement
2. Must be able to demonstrate evidence of approval for the research from the relevant Ethics Review Board prior to research funding
3. Must submit an interim progress report at 6 months to the PNAQ Secretariat, including progress to date and preliminary findings
4. must submit a Final Report, including an executive summary and abstract, to the PNAQ Secretariat within four (4) weeks upon completion of the project (Note: This report must be suitable for publication.)
5. Must submit a manuscript of the research study for publication in ACORN Journal
6. Must present the research outcomes at the next PNAQ State Conference.
7. will not be eligible to apply for funding from the PNAQ Perioperative Nursing Research Scheme within a two (2) year period

## 4. FUNDING

Maximum funding to be awarded per project is:

1. \$5000.00 to facilitate the conduct of evidenced based research that will advance Perioperative nursing. **NB This grant is not available for private research.**

### 4.1 Eligible Budget Items

- Personnel (research assistance, relief from other duties etc)
- Equipment
- Consumables
- Other direct research costs

### 4.2 Ineligible Budget Items

- Basic infrastructure (computing equipment (including laptops), office space, email, internet etc)
- Seminars, conference travel or workshops
- Publication or multimedia costs
- Production costs of teaching materials
- Professional Development activities
- Funding for Mentors

## 5. DURATION

Projects will be funded for one-year only, and funding will be available from January 2008. Final report must be submitted within four (4) weeks of project completion and findings must be presented at next PNAQ State Conference following project completion. (*Note: Support of PNAQ must be acknowledged on all posters, publications, etc*)

## 6. APPLICATION

Application the PNAQ Perioperative Nursing Collaborative Research Scheme should be no more than 10 pages and include the following:

1. Title Page (includes title of project, investigators and contact details of chief investigator)
2. Abstract (maximum 200 words)
3. Background
4. Purpose, Aims and Significance of Project
5. Literature Review
6. Design and Methods
7. Data Analysis
8. Time Frame
9. Budget
10. Evidence of Support
11. Brief (2 page) CVs of investigators and Mentor

Note: Only the title pages and the CVs should contain investigator names or details. Use a running footer containing a brief title on all pages and number all pages.

## 7. APPROVAL

The primary emphasis in the award of grants is the merit of the project, evidenced by a well-designed research project investigating a significant problem or major issue in the theory or practice of a perioperative nursing or perioperative patient care. Applicants should demonstrate that they have the particular skills within their team, basic resources and time to carry out the project.