



1. Purpose & Scope

This policy governs the awarding of the GSA Junior Doctor Research Grants. The policy covers the application and selection criteria of the Grants.

2. Definitions

Listed here are all key terms and acronyms used in the policy and their definitions.

Acronym – Key Word	Definition
GSA	General Surgeons Australia

3. Background

The GSA Junior Doctor Research Grant was established to encourage the commencement or continuation of research related to General Surgery. The Grants are intended to assist with costs associated with undertaking research such as, but not limited to:

- Consumables
- Statistician
- Data Collection and Analysis
- Ethics applications
- Conference Registration, to present research
- Conference Travel and Accommodation, to present research

4. Process

4.1 Frequency of the Grant

The GSA Research Grants will be awarded annually, subject to availability of funding and provided there are eligible applicants and acceptable research projects.

The Grant is limited to any given recipient being eligible once every three (3) years. Unsuccessful applicants can reapply in subsequent years through the normal application process.

4.2 Duration of the Grant

The grant offers funding for up to two (2) years from the date of awarding.

4.3 Number of Grants

Up to ten (10) Grants will be awarded each year.

The recipients of the Grants will be notified by email.

4.4 Eligibility

Current financial GSA Junior Doctor Members are eligible to apply. Membership must be current and financial at the time of application and awarding.

4.5 Value of the Grant

The Grant is valued at up to AUD\$1,000 (ex GST).

The Grant is not transferable or redeemable for cash.

4.6 Call for Applications

The GSA Junior Doctor Coordinator will advertise the Research Grants on the GSA website and in associated GSA materials. The Coordinator will inform all current financial GSA Junior Doctor Members via email when the applications will open.

4.7 Application & Selection Process

Selection will be made based upon an application submitted for consideration by the GSA Research & Scholarships Subcommittee.

The GSA Junior Doctor must submit an application form with the following details:

- Outline of research being undertaken
- How the research relates to General Surgery or its related subspecialties (colorectal, hepatobiliary, upper gastrointestinal, breast/endocrine, rural surgery, trauma, transplantation, surgical oncology)
- Details of approximate costs involved and indication of where funds will be allocated
- A statement that summarises the future benefit to the surgical community from the results of this Grant
- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of support from Research Supervisor
- Ethics approval from the Ethics Committee of the Institution where research will take place if obtained. If the funding is to cover expenses relating to Ethics Approval this documentation will not be required.

Applications received after the advertised due date will not be considered.

The Research & Scholarships Subcommittee will assess the applications and provide a list of successful recipients to the GSA Board of Directors for ratifying.

Research Grant recipients will be advised of the outcome within eight (8) weeks following the closing date for applications. The name of the Grant recipients will be published via email, and in GSA communications.

The opening and closing date of applications will be advertised on the GSA website and to Junior Doctors at the commencement of the year.

4.8 Conditions of Grant

The Grant offer is conditional upon the following terms:

4.8.1. Research Program

- Scholars must undertake the research study as approved by GSA for the award
- An Australian General Surgeon must be involved in the research project as one of the investigators or supervisor
- An annual report on the progression of the research study
- Acknowledgement of support provided by GSA
- Confirmation of how the Grant was utilised
- Final written report following completion of research, which may be published in GSA communications

4.8.2. Financial Arrangements

- It is recommended that the scholar refer to his/her financial or taxation advisor to ascertain the taxability of the award. The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) website has an interactive [decision tool](#) that will assist you to determine if your grant is taxable.
- The grant will be paid to the scholar directly upon receipt of valid tax invoice/s. Payment of the value of the grant can be made in multiple instalments prior to 31 December of the second year of the validity period. An extension to funding past the two years will not be considered.

4.8.3. Ethics Approval

- GSA must receive evidence of Ethics approval from the Ethics Committee of the Institution where research will take place. If the Grant was utilised for the funding of the Ethics Application and the research project subsequently is not granted Ethics Approval, no further costs will be covered by GSA.

5. Documents and Forms

- GSA Research Grant Application Form

6. Implementation

The policy will be available on the GSA website.