



**pancare**  
FOUNDATION

# SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS PROGRAM 2021

Program Guidelines



# Pancare Foundation Scholarships & Awards Program Guidelines 2021

Pancare Foundation [Pancare] is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the advancement of awareness and research on into upper gastrointestinal (GI) cancers. In fact, we have raised over \$11.3 million for pancreatic, oesophageal, stomach, liver and biliary cancer research and patient care since we began in 2011.

Pancare recognises that fostering an engaged clinical research community is a major factor in developing research programs and clinical trials that will progress the therapies and best-practice care for those impacted by upper GI cancer into the future.

Importantly, Pancare funds a range of scholarships and awards for emerging leaders researching pancreatic, oesophageal, stomach, liver and biliary cancers. These awards form one of the key pillar of Supporting Future Leaders in ***Pancare's Research Strategy***.

The aim of the Pancare Scholarships & Awards Program is to engage early career researchers in accelerating world-leading research to deliver results that improve outcomes and quality of life for those living with upper GI cancer, their carers and families.

Our engagement with the research community and individual researchers increases the awareness of the high-quality upper GI cancer research that is being undertaken by Australian researchers. We hope to enable researchers to continue studying these devastating cancers long into the future, so that the patients, carers and families affected can live better and longer lives.

## **Award Criteria**

Pancare is offering two scholarships in its 2021 application round, including a new scholarship opportunity. Pancare is also raising the value of both awards on offer in 2021.

The 2021 Phil Sly Research Scholarship and the 2021 Onwards & Upwards Damien Woodruff Scholarship will enable early career researchers to undertake research initiatives related to upper GI cancers that are complementary to their PhD studies. For example, applicants may wish to undertake extra studies to investigate additional factors beyond what was included in their original PhD study plans. The project would require additional funding for materials, reagents, surveys, pathology review, participant reimbursement, conference registration/attendance, among other options.

For more information on the stories behind the Scholarships please visit [www.pancare.org.au/cancer-research/scholarships-awards](http://www.pancare.org.au/cancer-research/scholarships-awards).

## General Information

Pancare Scholarships and Awards are merit-based.

Pancare reserves the right to:

- Reject submissions and not make an award in any one year;
- Accrue funding if no applications meet the criteria described below;
- Waive all or some of the requirements set out in this booklet based on an individual case-by case basis;
- Impose additional requirements on successful applicants for the duration of the award.

Decisions on the selected applicants are final and no explanation of the decisions will be available.

## Submission dates

Applications open for the 2021 round on Friday, April 29 and close on Thursday, June 10, 2021. See below in each award section for detailed timeline. Late submissions will not be accepted.

## Funding amount

\$75,000 (\$25,000 per year over three years) starting from July 1, 2021.

## Funding outcome notification

Successful applicants will be notified by Pancare on Monday, June 28, 2021. An official public announcement will be made on or after July 1, 2021.

## Applicants

Preference will be given to medical graduates seeking to undertake a PhD related to pancreatic, liver, biliary, oesophageal or gastric cancer. Please refer to the selection criteria for each award, below.

## Acknowledgement of sponsors

Funds for the Phil Sly Research Scholarship have been graciously donated by the Sly family and through Pancare's Heidelberg Corporate Golf Day.

Funds for the Onwards & Upwards Damien Woodruff Scholarship have been graciously donated by Insurance Advisernet and raised through Pancare's Festival of Sport event.

Companies are not involved in the assessment of individual candidate's submissions for any of the awards they financially support.



# Application guidelines

## Prior to Application Submission

Intending applicants are strongly advised to discuss their intended plans with their supervisor/s in order to obtain appropriate advice prior to submitting the application.

## Assess Eligibility

Applicants should assess their eligibility by referring to the conditions for the award. The majority of awards are designed for candidates at an early stage in their research careers. Preference is given to those seeking funds to undertake a PhD.

All projects must focus on the management or understanding of pancreatic, liver, biliary or foregut cancers.

## Nationality

Applicants must be Australian citizens or hold permanent Australian resident status.

## Supporting Documentation

Applicants must check the conditions for each award to ensure that they have submitted the required supporting documentation.

## How to apply

Applications must be submitted to Pancare foundation by email to [info@pancare.org.au](mailto:info@pancare.org.au). Please include the relevant scholarship title and your full name in the subject line. You will be sent a confirmation email within a few days of submission. No extensions beyond closing dates are granted and the application must contain all necessary documents as specified in the guidelines.

## Application form

The applicant must submit a complete application form (e.g. editable pdf form), which includes sections highlighting the proposed research project, background, hypothesis, aims, proposed methodology and potential significance and impact of the research.

A curriculum vitae of maximum length five pages including all publications is also required.

A letter of recommendation from the applicant's supervisor/s, signed by the supervisor and Head of Department must accompany the application.

## Attachments

- Evidence of Australian citizenship or permanent residency status.
- Certification of Australian medical/professional registration, if applicable.
- Required clearances from ethics committees, if applicable.
- Letter of recommendation from supervisor (see above)
- Curriculum vitae, including a summary of undergraduate performance, career chronology, research experience, publications, presentations and articles, etc.
- Reference articles important for your proposal.

## Clarification of individual items

### Requested Scholarship

If the applicant is already enrolled for the higher degree for which scholarship support is sought, funding will be considered in particular circumstances. In total, funding will only be provided for three (3) years of a PhD program.

### Current Qualifications/Professional Registration

Indicate your current qualifications and attach copies of certificates if necessary. Medical applicants must provide a copy of current registration in an Australian State or Territory.

### Title of Proposed Study

The title should reflect the desired achievements for the duration of the award.

### Administering Institution

The full name and full address of the institution responsible for administering the grant must be included with the application. While there may be instances where the research is carried out in more than one location, there can be only one administering institution for each award.

### Summarise Undergraduate Performance

An official academic transcript with an explanation of the institutional grading system must also be included in the application. A list of any awards/honours is also encouraged.

### Research Experience

Where the applicant has completed a research-based project or degree (i.e. research internship, Honours, Masters) they should include information on the duration/status (i.e. part-time, full-time), and in the instance of a degree, the ratio of coursework to research.

### Publications

The applicant's publications should be listed as:

- Peer reviewed journal articles (indicate clearly whether published, publication pending, or submitted for review). Please use the format shown below and include all authors, full title, journals, volume, first and last page numbers, and the date of publication.  
Example: Bloogs A., Smith B., Jones D. "Studies on how best to get a Scholarship", J. Appl. Sci. 10(3): 1-15 (2005).

- Other articles: i.e. conference/workshop papers, technical reports, reviews, book chapters.
- Case Reports.
- Patents.

### Career Chronology

Please provide a summary of complete career chronology from the commencement of tertiary education. Include all periods of relevant employment and courses of training/study, and indicate full-time or part-time in the notation (F/T, P/T) next to the dates.

### Research Project, Aims, Background, Proposed Research Program, Significance, References

The proposed research program, including references, should not exceed the pages provided in the form. The proposal should be made up of background, hypothesis, aims, proposed methodology and potential significance and impact of the research. Important references should also be included as required.

### Additional Report: Supervisor for the Project

The supervisor is to provide a letter of support of maximum length one page.

### Signatures

The application is invalid without the signature of the applicant. Additionally, the application will not be considered without the signatures of the intended supervisor, head of department and head of administering institution. As head of institutions, Pancare foundation accepts registrars of universities or university research offices, the directors of independent institutes, and the managers/secretaries or medical superintendents of hospitals.

### Clearance Requirements

Detailed instructions regarding ethics clearance requirements, including species listings, categories of animal experiments, description of the ethical implications of human/animal experimentation, are available from the NHMRC website ([www.nhmrc.gov.au](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au)).

# Phil Sly Research Scholarship

Phil Sly was an entrepreneur, building developer, racehorse owner, philanthropist and cancer survivor. He was a loving father and grandfather, whose motto was “it takes more energy making excuses than finding the answers”. He battled colorectal cancer, liver and lung metastases with the same determination as he applied to all aspects of his life.

Pancare offers the Phil Sly Research Scholarship to support a dedicated PhD candidate to achieve success in the important research area of pancreatic, liver, biliary, oesophageal or stomach cancer.

## The applicant must be:

- Completing PhD study (e.g. PhD candidate) in relevant field of upper GI cancer
- Based within an established Australian university, hospital or medical research institution.
- Able to provide half-yearly progress reports, including a full annual progress report and a full final report.
- Engaging in regular Pancare media and communications surrounding the project, including news stories, photography, social media posts, etc.

## The research project presented in the application must be:

- Performed in Australia
- Related to the field of upper GI cancer research, including pancreatic, oesophageal, gastric, biliary and/or liver (e.g. primary liver cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma) cancer
- Fall under the category of health and medical research, clinical trials and/or supportive care research
- Prospectively funded, e.g. Pancare will not support projects requiring retrospective funding
- Presented at a national or international conference.

Note: Projects that have received independent consumer review and those that focus on underserved populations will be highly regarded.

## The successful project will:

- Meet all the criteria to the satisfaction of the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee review process
- Receive \$75,000 total over three years (\$25,000 per year)
- Commence from July 1, 2021

## Assessment Timeline

Applications for the 2021 Pancare Scholarships & Awards Program open May 1, 2021.

- Applications open on Friday April 29, 2021 8am AEST
- Applications close on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 5pm AEST.
- Winners announced on or after July 1, 2021.

Upon closure of the application portal on June 10, the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee will then meet to review, assess and select the winning researchers and projects.

Please visit the [Pancare Scholarships Page](#) to download the application form.





# Onward & Upward Damien Woodruff Scholarship

The newest Pancare Scholarship has been named in honour of Damien Woodruff, a bank executive, family man and pancreatic cancer survivor.

Pancare offers the Onwards & Upwards Damien Woodruff Scholarship to support a dedicated PhD candidate to achieve success in high-quality research related to pancreatic cancer – with a focus on early diagnosis or supportive care for patients, carers and families.

## The applicant must be:

- Completing PhD study (e.g. PhD candidate) in pancreatic cancer research
- Based within an established Australian university, hospital or medical research institution.
- Willing to provide half-yearly progress reports, including a full annual progress report.
- Engaging in regular Pancare media and communications surrounding the project, including news stories, photography, social media posts, etc.

## The research project presented in the application must be:

- Performed in Australia
- Related to the field of pancreatic cancer research
- Fall under the category of health and medical research, clinical trials and/or supportive care research
- Prospectively funded, e.g. Pancare will not support projects requiring retrospective funding
- Presented at a national or international conference.

**Note:** Projects that have received independent consumer review and those that focus on underserved populations will be highly regarded.

## The successful project will:

- Meet all the criteria to the satisfaction of the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee review process
- Receive \$75,000 total over three years (\$25,000 per year)
- Be able to commence work from July 1, 2021.

## Assessment Timeline

Applications for the 2021 Pancare Scholarships & Awards Program open May 1, 2021.

- Applications open on Friday April 29, 2021 8am AEST
- Applications close on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 5pm AEST.
- Winners announced on or after July 1, 2021.

Upon closure of the application portal on June 10, the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee will then meet to review, assess and select the winning researchers and projects.

Please visit the [Pancare Scholarships Page](#) to download the application form.

# Conditions

## 1 Eligibility

Applicants must show evidence of commitment to a research career within Australia, in health and disease related to research into pancreatic, liver, biliary or foregut cancer.

## 2 Applications from previous recipients

Previous recipients of awards or applicants for PhD or post-doctoral fellowships are not eligible to apply. Applicants who obtain funding from other sources during their course fellowship must notify Pancare immediately.

## 3 Taking up an award & payments

Unless otherwise agreed by the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee, an award must be commenced in the year in which it was awarded. Awards generally commence in January or February, or as directed by Pancare. In general all awards will be paid to the administering institution, not to the individual applicant, on terms prescribed by Pancare.

Successful applicants will be expected to spend the major part of their time in an institution, nominated by the applicant, which has been approved by Pancare. The Pancare Medical Advisory Committee will require confirmation of the applicant's acceptance by this institution before making an award.

At its own discretion, Pancare may revoke or terminate an award that is not taken up in accordance with its requirements, or transfer the balance of the benefit of the award to another person.

## 4 Tenure

Throughout the duration of the award, candidates will be subject to annual performance progress reviews. On request, participating applicants must supply the Pancare with such information and data that it requires regarding the research project, and the allocation and use of monies (funding) awarded.

Applicants must immediately notify the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee in writing if their tenure is terminated by a hospital or university, or if they terminate or attempt to terminate their engagement before the expiration of the proposed period of an award.

## 5 Extension of tenure

Only under extreme circumstances will an extension be granted, and then only on terms prescribed by the Pancare foundation Research Committee.

## 6 Place of tenure

Awards are designed specifically for use at Australian institutions, or as otherwise specified.

## 7 Employee & employer relationship

Participation in a research program does not give rise to any term or condition of employment between successful applicants and Pancare. Applicants must negotiate and finalise the terms and benefits of their engagement, including their entitlements with the employing hospital or university. Pancare is not liable for any costs or expenses associated with the engagement of applicants; such costs and expenses are the sole responsibility of the administering institution. Pancare provides a \$5,000 annual stipend (independent of the successful applicant's award) to the administering institution to assist in the costs of the proposed research.

On request, participating applicants must provide the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee with a copy of the employment terms between the applicant and the employing institution.

## 8 Services

Applicants must spend the majority time at the administering institution as approved by the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee, and conduct their activities in accordance with the directions of the employing institution.

If requested, participating applicants must notify Pancare of any disciplinary action taken against them in connection with their engagement, as well as any complaints, allegations or claims made against them in respect of misconduct, unprofessional conduct, unethical behaviour, illegal acts or omissions or negligence.

## 9 Leave, fees & allowances

During the three (3) year tenure of the award applicants will be entitled to annual recreational leave not exceeding twelve (12) weeks. Under normal circumstances, this means four (4) weeks during each twelve (12) month period of full time employment.

Entitlements to sick, parental, bereavement and other leave will be in accordance with the conditions of the employing institution. No other allowances are available and Pancare will not contribute toward costs and expenses incurred.

## 10 Superannuation

Pancare will not act as an employer and will not, therefore, contribute to superannuation, loadings or continuation of service. Whether time spent under the award is counted as service contributing towards long-service leave or study leave is dependent on the rules and policies of the administering institution.

## 11 Tax

A scholarship provided to a full-time student, principally for educational purposes, may be exempt income in the hands of the recipient.

Further information can be found at the ATO website [Scholarship payments and tax | Australian Taxation Office \(ato.gov.au\)](https://www.ato.gov.au), and participants in the Scholarship program should direct all questions to their financial or tax advisor or directly to the ATO.

## 12 Additional earnings

The applicant is expected to work full-time on the stipulated research project. Any additional funds anticipated must be declared and approved by the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee on application.

## 13 Award recognition

On request, successful applicants are occasionally required to participate in activities organised by Pancare foundation to publicise program related awards. Participating applicants must not make any public statements or announcements about the rights, privileges and entitlements of an award, without the prior written consent of the Pancare foundation Research Committee.

## 14 Publications

Applications should inform Pancare of any publications arising from work conducted during the award. All publications shall include a prominent written acknowledgment, acceptable to Pancare that the underlying work was carried out during the tenure of an award from Pancare. On request, applicants must provide Pancare with a copy of all such publications prior to submission.

## 15 Intellectual property & assignment of rights

All patentable discoveries or other registrable intellectual property rights, inventions, processes or improvements arising out of research conducted in the course of an award remains the property of the individual or administering institution.

Participating applicants are required to notify Pancare rights, inventions, processes or improvements arising out of research conducted in the course of an award. All such discoveries and intellectual property rights shall be jointly owned by the Pancare and the administering institution(s), in equal shares, and to the extent necessary the applicant and the administering institution:

- Must assign to and vest in the foundation the preceding rights and entitlements, without any additional consideration being payable by the foundation; and
- Must do all things necessary to confirm and give effect to the rights of the foundation under these terms.

Jointly owned intellectual property may be used by the foundation for its usual purposes, without any fee or royalty being payable to the administering institution(s). The commercialisation or use of such rights for any other purpose is subject to the prior agreement of Pancare and the administering institution.

For the avoidance of doubt, all improvements made to the administering institution's pre-existing intellectual property remain the property of the administering institution.

## 16 Termination

The Pancare Medical Advisory Committee may revoke or terminate an award on written notice to the applicant, with effect from a date recited in the notice (termination may be immediate), in the event that:

- the terms and conditions on which an award is made, including these terms, are not met or, in the opinion of the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee, reasonably unlikely to be met;
- the acts or activities of the applicant and/or the administering institution bring all or part of the Pancare Research Program into disrepute, or are otherwise harmful or damaging to the reputation of Pancare.

The Pancare Medical Advisory Committee may also terminate an award at any time, for any reason, on giving at least three (3) months prior notice to the applicant.

Pancare is not liable or responsible for any losses or damages associated with the termination of a scholarship award.

## 17 Suspension of payments & refunds of monies paid

If a terminating event arises Pancare may, instead of terminating an award (at its absolute discretion), suspend all or part of the payments to be made to the applicant. If payments are suspended, Pancare may impose additional terms and conditions as to the making of any further payments. The suspension of payments does not limit Pancare to terminate an award at any time in the future. In the event that an award is terminated, the applicant and the administering institution must promptly refund to Pancare, without any deduction or set off, all moneys paid or awarded by Pancare for the awarded project and not then properly expended on the provision of services by the applicant for the project.

## 18 Review & evaluation

The Research program is subject to review by Pancare, which relies upon the input of applicants carrying out projects. On agreeing to be part of the program, applicants must participate in, respond to and return, in a timely manner (and in any case, no later than 28 days), any questionnaires, surveys, evaluation forms and data sheets the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee in connection with the program for the purposes of assessing:

- the suitability and effectiveness of awards;
- applicants satisfaction with their program;
- workforce retention; and
- research activities.

## 19 Confidentiality

Unless otherwise agreed by Pancare Medical Advisory Committee in writing, applicants must keep the terms and conditions on which an award is granted confidential. However, applicants may make such disclosures necessary for an administering institution to participate in the program, as well as any disclosures required at law.

## 20 Risk

Pancare makes no warranties or representations that work places in connection with the program will be safe or without risk to health. Participation does not confer on any applicant any rights to compensation or damages from Pancare in consequence of personal harm or injury or the termination of his or her engagement or employment for any reason whatsoever, in so far as those rights arise, or may arise, from his or her ceasing to have rights in connection with the program.

Pancare is not responsible or liable for any claims or actions arising in connection with the Award, or the engagement of applicants by an employing institution.

## 21 Requirements of administering institution

Without limiting the obligations of an administering institution, it may be a requirement of Pancare that no monies or additional monies will be paid to an administering institution unless the administering institution enters into a form of acknowledgement as prescribed by the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee from time to time for the purposes of recording the rights of Pancare and the obligations of the administering institution, including its obligations as an employer.

## 22 Accurate & relevant information

Applicants warrant that:

- the information and material supplied by them to Pancare in connection with their application and the tenure of their award (if applicable) is complete, accurate and up-to-date; and
- they have not and will not withhold any material information which could reasonably be expected to influence or affect a decision of the Pancare Medical Advisory Committee.

## 23 Variation of terms

Pancare may add to or vary any of these terms, or waive or vary the application of any of these terms, in relation to any application, provided that any such waiver or variation must be in writing.

Each variation will be deemed to be effective and part of the contract between the applicant and Pancare in respect of the Research program, on and with effect from the date on which written notice of the change is given to the applicant.

## 25 Pancare Foundation rights

The Pancare Medical Advisory Committee makes recommendations as to the awarding of research fellowships and scholarships on the basis of the research excellence of the applicants and the satisfaction of the eligibility criteria.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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