

Jreissati Pancreatic Centre PhD Top-Up Scholarships

The Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth is offering three (3) PhD top-up scholarships to support outstanding individuals pursuing a doctoral degree in Victoria with a specific focus on pancreatic cancer research. These scholarships are intended to supplement existing funding and provide additional financial support to selected candidates.

Each scholarship comprises \$10,000 AUD per year for a maximum of three years. A total commitment of up to \$30,000 AUD per successful candidate will be awarded.

We welcome applications at various stages of investigation, encompassing all areas of pancreatic cancer research, from fundamental/basic research to diagnostic advancements, innovative treatment strategies, translational studies, and initiatives related to cancer survivorship.

Objectives

- To provide additional financial support to selected candidates pursuing a PhD program with a specific focus on pancreatic cancer.
- To encourage and foster research projects that contribute to the detection, prevention, and treatment of pancreatic cancer.
- To attract and retain outstanding early-career researchers who demonstrate dedication and commitment to advancing knowledge in the field of pancreatic cancer.

Applications close

Monday, 6 October 2025, 5pm AEST

Late applications will not be accepted.

Proudly supported by the

Application process

Interested candidates should follow the steps below to apply for a Jreissati Pancreatic Centre PhD Top-Up Scholarship:

1. Application Submission:

Fill out the application form, ensuring all required fields are properly addressed.

Completed applications must be emailed by the due date to EH-PancreaticCentre@epworth.org.au. Your application must be submitted as a PDF file.

Both the Subject Heading of the email and the Completed Application must be sent in the following file format:

- *Initial_Last Name_Organisation Name_JPCE PhD Top-Up_Date Submitted*

The Jreissati Pancreatic Cancer will acknowledge receipt of your application by email.

2. Review and Selection:

The scholarship selection committee will carefully evaluate all applications based on the eligibility criteria and the quality and potential impact of the research proposal.

3. Notification:

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application via email by early December 2025. Successful candidates will receive detailed instructions regarding the scholarship acceptance process and the subsequent steps to be taken.

4. Reporting and Evaluation:

Throughout the duration of the scholarship, recipients will be required to provide yearly progress reports to the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth. These templated reports will outline the research activities undertaken, highlight key findings or milestones achieved, and describe any challenges encountered.

Recipients are also required to acknowledge the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth in any publications, presentations, or public communications related to their research.

Application timeline

Monday, 4 August 2025: Applications open.

Monday, 6 October 2025: Applications close (submissions will not be accepted after 5 pm (AEST)).

Monday, 1 December 2025: Applicants notified of outcome.

Contact us

If you have any questions about the top-up scholarship, or would like more information about our application process, please email EH-PancreaticCentre@epworth.org.au.

Assessment criteria

- 1. Scientific merit (50% weight):** Alignment of the applicant's research project with the detection, prevention, treatment, or care of pancreatic cancer. Applicants will be assessed on:
 - a. Clarity, feasibility, and scientific rigor of the research project.
 - b. Potential impact of the research in advancing knowledge and addressing current challenges in the field.
- 2. Consumer involvement (10% weight):** Involvement of consumers in the design and progress of the research. Note: the level and type of consumer involvement appropriate for each project will vary depending on the nature of the project.
- 3. Track record and career development (30% weight):** Quality of the research environment where the research will be conducted, and the applicant's academic achievements, including relevant publications, conference presentations, awards, and extracurricular activities (e.g., committee involvement).
- 4. Letter of Recommendation (10% weight):** Referee's assessment of the applicant's research capabilities, potential, and suitability for the scholarship.

Terms and conditions

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Enrolled in a full-time PhD program in Victoria.
- Hold an appropriate visa to study in Australia (if international).
- Currently hold a PhD scholarship (Government Research Training Program, NHMRC scholarship, or equivalent).
- Be within their first or second year of PhD at time of application, or confirmed to commence no later than 30 June 2026.
- Undertake a research project into the detection, prevention, or treatment of pancreatic cancer.
- Not be in receipt of any other Top-up Scholarship.
- Previously unsuccessful applicants are eligible to re-apply.

Funding decisions

- Decisions made by the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth with respect to applications (successful and unsuccessful) are final.
- The Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth reserves the right to only award scholarships for applications that are of sufficient merit.
- Due to the large number of applications, the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth is unable to provide individual feedback to those who are unsuccessful in their scholarship application.

Funding and payment schedule

- The Jreissati Pancreatic Centre will provide three PhD top-up scholarships annually, each comprising \$10,000 AUD per year.
- Top-up scholarships will be awarded for a maximum duration of three years and is only applicable for the duration of the applicant's primary PhD scholarship.
- A total commitment of up to \$30,000 AUD per successful candidate will be awarded.
- Scholarship funds will be transferred annually, subject to satisfactory progress and compliance with the terms and conditions outlined in the funding agreement.

Responsibilities of the recipient

- Scholarship recipients will undertake a research project focusing on the detection, prevention, treatment, or care of pancreatic cancer.
- They will maintain full-time PhD enrolment in Victoria for the duration of the scholarship.
- The recipients will reside in Victoria for the tenure of their PhD program. However, scholarship recipients may participate in overseas exchanges for a duration that does not exceed more than 50% of their candidature.
- They will submit yearly progress reports to the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre and provide updates on their research findings. Reports must be submitted to EH-PancreaticCentre@epworth.org.au before annual payments can be made.
- The recipients will acknowledge the Jreissati Pancreatic Centre at Epworth in all publications, presentations, or public communications related to their research. A copy of the publication must also be forwarded to EH-PancreaticCentre@epworth.org.au.

Responsibilities of the administering institution

- The administering institution guarantees that the infrastructure necessary to support the research will be available and will undertake to meet all infrastructure costs pertaining to the work supported by the scholarship. Its explicit support for and commitment to the application is therefore essential before any application can be considered.
- The Jreissati Pancreatic Centre must be notified immediately of any changes to the applicant's candidature. Changes include, but not exclusively:
 - When the award holder ceases to be a full-time student
 - Suspension of the award
 - Conversion of degrees
 - Institution transfer

Termination

The Jreissati Pancreatic Centre reserves the right to terminate the scholarship agreement if the recipient fails to comply with the terms and conditions outlined herein or if their progress is deemed unsatisfactory.