



Ethel Mary Read (EMR) Research Grant

2024

Instructions to Applicants

Applicants should read the following comments and instructions carefully. If your application is successful, you must agree to comply with the Conditions listed below.

Please note that this document forms part of your application.

You must sign and attach your agreement to the conditions of this grant (see the last page of these instructions) to your application.

The Application Process

Applications should be emailed to: office@rzsnsw.org.au

Applications must reach the Society's rooms by midnight 30th April 2024 and late applications will not be considered. The EMR Research Grants Committee will make its decisions within two months of this closing date and all applicants will be notified of the results by email. The merits of each application will be judged by the Royal Zoological Society of NSW EMR Research Grants Committee.

In any year the Society will award up to four Grants.

Your application must consist of the following components compiled into one (1) pdf document:

1. A completed application form (containing your project proposal)
2. A signed copy of this document as acceptance of the conditions of the grant if successful

Please use the enclosed *Checklist* to be sure you have your application in order.

Criteria

- **Quality of Science (20%):** How good is the project idea for which EMR funds are sought? How significant a contribution will the project make to zoological knowledge of Australasian fauna?
- **Method/Feasibility (20%):** Will the proposed methods adequately test the stated hypothesis? Is the methodology likely to generate meaningful data that can be analysed and reported within the timeframe of the EMR grant? How critical is the EMR grant to funding the methodology? Will the methodology still be feasible if the EMR grant is not supplemented by other funds?
- **Quality of Application (20%):** Does the grant application present the hypothesis and background information, scientific references and identify potential project outcomes in a relevant and concise manner? Has the application been proof-read, and typographical and grammatical errors been removed or corrected prior to submission of the application?
- **Track Record (20%):** The past academic and research performances of the EMR applicant.
- **Conservation Relevance (20%):** The relevance and importance of the project in promoting conservation of Australasian fauna.



Your Project Proposal (Checklist)

You must prepare a brief project proposal that you will input into the EMR application form. Your proposal must be a maximum of four pages (4) in Times Roman (font size 12). However, your CV and signed supervisor statement do not form part of this page limit. All complete applications for the EMR grant must be submitted as one (1) pdf document. Please provide the following information in your project proposal:

- Name, address, date of birth and tertiary qualifications.
- Project title and degree for which enrolled, if applicable.
- Brief description of the project, stating aims and justification, methods, including project design, progress made to date, and expected year of completion. Make sure you address the zoological significance of the work
- The application should indicate the conservation significance of the work. Preference will be given to applications involving Australasian fauna.
- Applications should be written concisely and so that a person without familiarity or specialist knowledge with the research project can evaluate it.
- An indication of how the award would be spent.
- Details of all other sources of funding for the project.
- Name of department and supervisor, if applicable. A signed statement by the supervisor verifying that the project has been represented accurately and that the Institution is prepared to administer the award.
- A brief CV including any relevant publications.

Conditions

1. Successful applicants should supply the RZS NSW with a short paragraph about their project and a photograph that can be used for publicity.
2. Grantees must provide a project report to the Convenor of the EMR Research Grants Committee within 12 months of award, unless an extension has been approved in advance and emailed to the RZS NSW at: office@rzsnsw.org.au. This project report is only for the purpose of identifying to the Society how money was spent and is not considered taxable supply as it is of no material benefit to the Society. This report should include:
 - a. an abstract of up to 400 words suitable for publication in the RZS NSW Newsletter. The abstract should inform members of the nature and progress of the research. As the RZS NSW is a broad-based zoological society, authors should assume limited prior knowledge on the part of readers and the abstract should be written in a relatively informal style compatible with past RZS NSW newsletters;
 - b. The main body of the report should include a summary of the results of the research project, a financial accounting of how the grant was spent (receipts should not be forwarded with the report but should be retained for six months in case they are required by the RZS NSW Treasurer), and a statement of anticipated publications arising from this support. Project reports may be posted on the RZS NSW website. If the original budget was modified, the grantee will need to obtain approval from the EMR Research Grants Committee.
3. Grantees may be asked to discuss/present their findings in a public forum (e.g., as part of the RZS NSW Wildlife at the Watering Hole seminar series).
4. The results of EMR-financed research should be made freely available and, wherever possible, should be published in the scientific press.
5. Grantees must undertake to acknowledge the support provided by the Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales in any publications or spoken presentations arising from the research. A copy of relevant publications or conference abstracts should be forwarded to the Convenor of the EMR Research Grants Committee.
6. Any native animal specimens which may be collected as a result of support by the fund must be offered to an approved public (not private) zoological collection. Normally this means deposition in the collections of a State Museum.
7. Upon completion of the project, grantees must consult with the Society about the ultimate disposition of any equipment purchased using funds from any EMR Research Grant. Normally such equipment will become the property of the host institution



in which the work is carried out. In any case, when the grantee is not using this equipment, it should be made available to others whose projects will benefit from its use.

8. Applicants must indicate that they have obtained (or will obtain) all necessary permits (e.g., from State fauna authorities) to carry out the research project. Grants will be conditional on all necessary permits being obtained before the research begins.
9. On receipt of the award the student will receive all but \$500 of the amount granted. The final \$500 will be paid on receipt of the project report.
10. Applicants are required to be current members of the RZS NSW at the time of applying for an EMR grant and, if the application is successful, throughout the life of the grant.
11. Applicants are free to apply for funding regardless of whether they have been successful in previous years, but only one grant will be awarded for any single project (i.e., successful applicants can only apply for future grants for a different project).
12. University or research institutional on-costs are not supported.

Signed

Date