

The Australian Federation of University Women SA Inc. Trust Postdoctoral Grants 2021

RULES

The Australian Federation of University Women SA existed under that name from 1974, but the association has a much longer history. In 1914 the Women Graduates' Club was founded as a sub-society of the Adelaide University Women Students' Club (which was founded in 1909).

In the aftermath of the devastation of World War I, women's organisations world-wide began to forge bonds with the purpose of encouraging educated women to use their knowledge and skills to promote peace through the education of women and girls. This led to the formation of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW) in 1920 and the Australian Federation of University Women (AFUW) in 1922, with which the Adelaide Women Graduates' Club along with similar organisations in other Australian states immediately formally affiliated.

In 1929 the organisation became the Adelaide University Women Graduates' Association, and in 1968, the South Australian University Women Graduates' Association to cater for graduates of the newly established Flinders University. In 1974, it became the Australian Federation of University Women – South Australia when all of AFUW's state and territory member associations adopted the uniform nomenclature. In 2009–10, AFUW and all its member associations adopted the name Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc. (AFGW) to cater for the greater diversity of tertiary education available in Australia.

AFGW is one of over 60 national federations and associations across all geographic regions that are members of the Graduate Women International (GWI). GWI has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This enables GWI to advocate up to the highest levels, to promote the right to quality education of all girls and women. AFGW works for the advancement and equality of opportunity for women worldwide, through initiatives in education, friendship and peace. AFGW places priority on providing financial assistance for women to undertake university studies in Australia and overseas.

During the 1920s Adelaide women graduates established a bursary fund from which the association could assist female students undertaking postgraduate research. At that stage contributions were derived from a levy on membership subscriptions, but in 1935 the association began hiring out academic dress at graduation ceremonies within the University of Adelaide and this became the main source of income for the bursary fund. The academic dress hiring service was based at the University of Adelaide from 1935 to 2009. In 1989 the women established a Trust to manage the fund - The Australian Federation of University Women SA Inc. Trust Fund. As funds grew, so did the range of bursaries offered – for postgraduate research and coursework degrees, for men as well as women and for female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at undergraduate and graduate levels.

In the twenty years prior to 2009 when AFUW SA Inc. Trust ceased operating the academic dress hire service, \$1.3million in bursaries was given away. Since 2009, the main sources of income have been investment returns, donations and bequests. At least 75% of the income earned by the Trust Fund each year is still distributed in the form of scholarships and bursaries, with the remainder adding to the investment base.

The University of Adelaide takes pride in its long history and the quality of its many graduates. As the first Australian university to confer degrees on women, a special place in its historical record is preserved for the accomplishments of female graduates.

To acknowledge the contribution made by the AFUW SA, the University has established in perpetuity, the *Australian Federation of University Women South Australia Inc. Trust Postdoctoral Grants*. The aim of the grants is to help female postdoctoral fellows to establish their careers.

1. The Grants are formally named *The Australian Federation of University Women South Australia Inc. Trust Postdoctoral Grants*.
2. The Grants will provide financial assistance to early career female postdoctoral fellows at the University of Adelaide who will be presenting either a research poster or an oral research presentation at a conference*, or require small grant support for research not covered by other funding sources. Examples of such support include:
 - Travel* to make use of collections or laboratories
 - Cost of collection of data
 - Purchase of equipment
3. The Grants will be awarded to female Postdoctoral fellows awarded a Doctor of Philosophy not more than five years prior to the closing date for applications, relative to opportunity.
4. It is anticipated that two Grants valued at up to \$5,000 each will be awarded annually.
5. Selection will be based on the applicant's track record, necessity of the award to an applicant's research/scholarly activities and the expected benefits to the applicant (including standing of the conference if applicable).
6. Awards are made on the condition that they are used solely for the purpose stated in the application (i.e. for travel to the conference, conference accommodation, registration and any legitimate scholarly or research-related expense).
7. Applications will be called each year and the Grants must be utilised in within 12 months from being awarded.
8. The Selection Panel will consist of two Associate/Deputy Deans (Research), a representative from Research Services at the University and a representative from the AFUW SA Inc. Trust.

* Please note: For the 2021 round, due to current COVID-19 international travel restrictions, only travel within Australia will be considered; this should preferably be within South Australia, or if interstate travel is considered critical, such travel requires the approval of your Executive Dean or Divisional Head.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Eligibility

1. The grant scheme is open to all female academic staff employed by the University of Adelaide.
2. Staff may be employed either full-time or part-time, and hold either a continuing or limited term contract position. In all cases, funds must be fully expended before the end of your contract. Any unspent funds must be returned to the University of Adelaide.
3. The Grants will be awarded to female Postdoctoral fellows awarded a Doctor of Philosophy not more than five years prior to the closing date for applications, relative to opportunity. The following circumstances will be taken into account in determining time since award of the PhD:
 - Maternity or parental leave
 - Carers' responsibilities
 - Major illness or injury
 - Non-research employment
 - Periods of unemployment or part-time employment
 - International Relocation.
4. An applicant may only lodge one application per year.

Award conditions

1. Awards are made on the condition that they are used solely for the purpose stated in the application (i.e. for travel to the conference, conference accommodation, registration and any legitimate scholarly or research-related expense).
2. Grants must be utilised in within 12 months from being awarded.

Applicant documents

All applicants are required to provide the following documents:

1. A completed application form
2. A statement of purpose (maximum of two A4 pages)
3. A summary curriculum vitae (maximum of five A4 pages)
4. A letter of support from the applicant's supervisor or Head of School (maximum of one A4 page)

The **statement of purpose** document provides an opportunity to address point 5 of the Grant Rules on selection. It needs to include the following:

1. Description of the applicant's research track record.
2. The purpose for which the funding will be spent, being either:
 - a. Details of the research poster or an oral research presentation at a conference, the standing of the conference, and the necessity of the travel to the applicant's research/scholarly activities; or
 - b. Details of the small grant support for research not covered by other funding sources. (Examples are listed in point 2 of the Grant Rules).
3. The expected benefits to the applicant.

Application submission

Applications are to be submitted in electronic format by **5.00pm 3 September 2021** to:

Nikki Hodge, Email: DVCRschemes@adelaide.edu.au