

Overview

The Graeme Clark Institute Travel Support Scheme is a research support initiative with the aim to provide Graduate Researchers and Early-Career Researchers with financial support to attend national and international conferences or visit another institution as part of their research projects. The scheme aspires to create opportunities for researchers to build their networks and experience and also foster interdisciplinary research collaboration with other institutes, departments and research groups outside of the University of Melbourne.

Key Details

Timeline	Refer to Critical Dates noted on website here .
Funding Available	Up to \$3,000 (excluding GST) per award
Eligible Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate or early career researcher (≤ 5 years post-PhD) at FEIT, MDHS, or Science, University of Melbourne • Current member of the Graeme Clark Institute • Research relevant to biomedical engineering or with transferable impact to medtech • Accepted oral or poster presentation at a conference or lab visit • Travel occurs at least 8 weeks after the scheme closing date (after 27 July 2026) • Has not previously received funding from this scheme
Application Requirements	Applications must include a CV, conference letter of acceptance, project description, statement on the benefit of travel to the Institute and travel budget.

Further information on these details provided below.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the Graeme Clark Institute travel support scheme, an applicant must:

- Be a graduate researcher or Early career researcher (up to 5 years post PhD not including career interruptions) at the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, or Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, or Faculty of Science at the University of Melbourne;
- Be a member of the Graeme Clark Institute. If you wish to join to be eligible, please register [here](#). Refer to Graeme Clark Institute Membership [Terms of Reference](#)
- The research project is relevant to biomedical engineering or have transferable impact for biomedical engineering or medtech research. For key research areas within the institute, please refer to: <https://clarkinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/#research>;
- Have an oral or poster presentation at the conference/during the lab visit
- The actual travel must be **at least eight weeks after the closing date** of this scheme (after 27 July 2026)
- The applicant has not received funding in the same scheme in the previous years.

Application Requirements

Application Form to be submitted through the GCI website (<https://clarkinstitute.unimelb.edu.au/research-support-initiatives/gci-travel-support-scheme>) by the specified due date, including:

- **One-page CV** of the applicant focusing on research capabilities and past experience attending conferences/lab visit
- **Letter of Acceptance** from the conference organiser (if not yet available, provide the expected date to receive this document)
- The **project description** (250 words maximum), that includes a short summary of the project
 - outlining research impact and innovation
 - the relevance to biomedical engineering or the transferable impact on biomedical engineering and medtech
- A document outlining the **significance of this travel to the applicant's research** and how the applicant will promote the Institute at the national and international level
- A **travel budget** outlining the type of expenses and estimate costs.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- **Research quality and innovation:** innovative aspects and demonstrate high-quality research outcomes or potential
- **Interdisciplinary research and alignment with biomedical engineering:** the extent to which the project integrates interdisciplinary approaches and aligns with or contributes to biomedical engineering or medtech research
- **Impact of travel:** how the proposed travel will enhance the applicant's research outcomes, career development, and academic profile
- **Strategic benefits to the Institute:** how the applicant will represent and promote the Graeme Clark Institute during and after the travel to support the Institute's broader mission, including fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration and strengthening links across faculties or external partners.

Funding

- Generally, successful applicants will be advised of the outcome in writing within 4-5 weeks from the closing date
- The financial support amount is **up to \$3,000 (excluding GST)** for each award
- The approved funding will be determined based on the application budget and at the discretion of the Institute leadership team.

Award Conditions

Successful recipients must agree to the following:

- Grant recipients to acknowledge the Graeme Clark Institute's affiliation on relevant oral and poster presentations as well as research outputs originated from this travel
- Grant recipients to give the Institute permission to post research project highlights on their website, annual report or other communication platforms.
- If there is a change in circumstances after approval of funding, meaning that the funding is no longer required for the proposed activity, the applicant must notify us immediately.

Reporting requirements:

Grant recipients to provide a brief report to the Graeme Clark Institute on the outcomes of the travel within two weeks after the conference/visit (including photos and proof of acknowledgement as mentioned above).

Enquiries

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