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**AEA Early Career Professional Development Award**

The Australasian Epidemiological Association (AEA) invites applications for the 2025 AEA Early Career Professional Development (previously Travel) Awards.

The aim of the awards ($AU2,000) is to support early career epidemiologists and biostatisticians to engage in research and training opportunities that they may not otherwise have the capacity to undertake. While the professional development awards are not available for the purposes of attending the AEA Annual Scientific Meeting, they can be used for other forms of training, courses or collaborative working for professional purposes.

When completing the application form, the Council encourages consideration of:

* Track record (scored out of 5) – describe your contributions to:
	+ publications (academic or otherwise, written or otherwise);
	+ developing epidemiology in your chosen specialty;
	+ local, national and international (where relevant) contributions, including the translation of epidemiology
	+ publications (academic or otherwise, written or otherwise);
* The wider impact of the travel (scored out of 5) – describe:
	+ How will the professional development activities generate or advance new knowledge for your chosen specialty?
	+ How will the professional development improve (local or national) population health,
	+ How will the professional development activities advance your understanding of methods/epidemiology or allow you to share epidemiologic methods developed or train other people?
* Impact of the proposed professional development on the applicant’s career (scored out of 5) – describe how the award is going to benefit you personally, including:
	+ opportunities for collaboration,
	+ opportunities for personal and professional development
	+ opportunities to learn or enhance your understanding.

Where relevant, applicants should describe career breaks and the impact of this on career progression.

Up to three early career professional development awards are available:

* An award for a candidate who identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or Māori or Pasifika
* An award for an applied epidemiology candidate (government or non-government role)
* An award for a research or teaching candidate (universities, medical research institutes, other research-intensive centres).

Extra awards may be offered depending on number of applicants and funding available, and subject to Council approval.

**Eligibility:**

1. The applicants must be financial members of AEA at the time of application.
2. Be currently enrolled in, or within 5 years of completing, a postgraduate coursework or research degree in epidemiology, biostatistics or a related discipline, on the closing date of this application. Career interruptions will be taken into account.
3. Previous award recipients may apply but preference will be given to candidates who have not previously received the award.
4. The proposed professional development must start between 1 July 2025 and 1 June 2026.
5. Voting members of the AEA Council are not eligible to apply.

**Selection Process:**

1. Applications will be assessed by at least two AEA Council members or nominees. The AEA reserves the right not to offer an award in any given year.
2. Applications for the award will be assessed relative to opportunity and will be judged on the criteria outlined in the Application Procedure, below.

**Requirements of Award Recipients:**

1. Award recipients are requested to write a brief report of one to two paragraphs, following the travel for inclusion in the AEA Bulletin, summarising the outcomes from the award.
2. Any publications or presentations supported by the Award should acknowledge the financial contribution of the AEA.
3. Awardees should be available to accept their awards at the AEA AGM.

**Application Procedure:**

Applications must be submitted as one PDF document and must include:

1. A completed cover page (see next page) that includes your details and certification from your supervisor or head of department.
2. A description of your current position and confirmation that you meet the eligibility criteria (max 100 words)
3. Purpose of the professional development, including related travel (max 100 words)
4. A budget outlining professional development expenses (max 100 words)
5. A statement in response to the 3 selection criteria*,* using separate headings to outline:
* Impact of the proposed professional development on the applicant’s career, including opportunities for collaboration and partnerships (scored out of 5)
* The wider impact of the professional development, for example generating new knowledge, improving population health, advancing or sharing methods, training others, etc. (scored out of 5)
* Track record (2-page CV) tailored to your experience, including where applicable: awards, translation, teaching (including training and supervision), fieldwork, NGO work, publications, grants, translation, fieldwork, NGO work, and contribution to the discipline (scored out of 5)

Only electronic applications will be accepted. Applications should be emailed to the AEA Secretary, Dr Steve Simpson-Yap: steve.simpsonyap@unimelb.edu.au.

* Applications close 16 May 2025.
* Successful applicants will be notified in early June 2025.

**AEA Early Career Professional Development Award**

Application cover page and certification from your supervisor or head of department

**Applicant details**

Title:

Name:

Work address:

Tel: (    )

Mobile:

Email:

Please tick which award/s you are applying for:

* An award for a candidate who identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander or Māori or Pasifika
* An award for an applied epidemiology candidate (government or non-government role)
* An award for a research or teaching candidate (universities, medical research institutes, other research-intensive centres).

**Certification**

I certify that the information in this application is accurate. I certify that any proposed research activities in this application adhere to the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research, and that any appropriate approvals will be obtained before undertaking any proposed travel.

Applicant:

Name ..........................................…..................................

Signature: ….......................................................................

Date: …...…………………………………………….......

Supervisor or Head of Department: I endorse this application and if the proposal requires additional financial support beyond that provided by the award, I confirm that extra funding support is available.

Name ..........................................…..................................

Signature: ….......................................................................

Date: …...…………………………………………….......