



ALERT 3: ARC DISCOVERY ROUND

This Bulletin is the third of the regular alerts that will be issued by the Grants Management Office in the lead-up to the closing date for this year's ARC Discovery Round.

TOPICS COVERED

1. Applying for CI & PI status
2. International Collaboration Awards – how many can be applied for in each DP application?
3. Eligibility Exemption Requests decisions due in about a fortnight
4. DP10 Current Statistics and Reminder of Internal Deadline Dates
5. Commencement date of fellowships for moving from ARF to QEII

1. APPLYING FOR CI OR PI STATUS

There seems to be some confusion regarding the use of CI and PI status, especially when a researcher has already reached the maximum number of Discovery Projects allowable (generally 2 as at 1 January 2010 if all applications by the CI in the round are successful, unless a sole CI when it is 1 (sec 6.6.2)). The rules state that to meet the criteria for a PI you must not meet the criteria for a CI (sec 8.5.1). There seems to be an idea floating that to get around the CI maximum number you can just put your self down as a PI: please note, this is not allowable!

2. INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION AWARDS – How many can be applied for in each DP application?

The ARC advise the rules are flexible and the number of ICAs that can be applied for in an application or limits around these have not been included in the rules. They further advise that ICAs will be awarded as special conditions and it is about how well justified the requests are in relation to the project.

To assist with understanding these new rules below is a repeat of information we sent in an earlier alert re ICAs:

Where research teams involve partnerships with overseas collaborators (partner investigators), researchers can now apply for up to \$40,000 for a maximum of six months (or pro-rata for a lesser period) to facilitate joint research work at each other's institutions.

Support provided:

International travel and associated costs for a minimum of 1 month and maximum of 6 months for:

- a. (CIs/Fellows to work in overseas research organisations on the project with PIs living overseas, and
- b. PIs living overseas to work in Australia on the project with CIs/Fellows.

This funding provides for the following budget items: travel on one international return economy class airfare, reasonable local travel, a living allowance available for periods from a minimum of 1

month up to a maximum of 6 months, and consumables. The living allowance should be based on standard institutional rates for academic visitors.

3. ELIGIBILITY EXEMPTION REQUEST DECISIONS DUE IN ABOUT A FORTNIGHT

The ARC deadline for submission of Eligibility Exemption Requests has now passed and we expect to receive the outcome in about a fortnight. Applicants will be contacted as soon as we receive notice.

4. DP10 CURRENT STATISTICS AND REMINDER OF INTERNAL DEADLINE DATES

As at 12.25pm today, Monday 19 January, UNSW has 102 applications registered on GAMS. This is approx a quarter of our total applications. The internal deadline date for full compliance checking is looming – 9 February. Researchers who forward their applications to the GMO by this date will receive written feedback on any compliance issues arising as well as any appropriate observations from a grantspersonship perspective by 20 February, in plenty of time for incorporation into applications. Researchers will then need to submit their final three, page numbered hard copies to GMO by Thursday 26 Feb ensuring that it matches GAMS. A table summarizing the process flow between researcher and GMO is below:

ARC Discovery Cycle		
<i>date</i>	<i>Process flow</i>	<i>Action</i>
9/2/09	Researcher to GMO	Full draft to GMO for compliance check
20/2/09	GMO to researcher	GMO return written feedback to researcher
26/2/09	Researcher to GMO	Final complete hard copy version (three copies, page numbered) to GMO which is identical to GAMS
4/3/09	GMO submit to ARC	Deadline date

For the final version stage, the Grants Management Office requires that researchers provide three (3) page-numbered of their grant application together with their grant application lodgement form and submission checklist by **Thursday 26 February** to allow submission of all finalized hard copies by **Wednesday 4 March**. Please note this requirement and build it into your timeframes.

5. COMMENCEMENT DATE OF FELLOWSHIPS FOR MOVING FROM ARF → QEII

A researcher needs to be in their fourth or fifth year of an ARF fellowship in order to apply to move to a QEII fellowship and the question has arisen if a researcher was awarded a DPO6 which notionally commences on 1 January 2006 but did not take it up until April 2006 (as confirmed by subsequent reports to the ARC) would they still be eligible to apply to move to QEII? The issue is that if the date of 1/1/06 is taken as the commencement date then the researcher is within the fourth year but if the actual start date of 1/4/06 is used then the researcher is outside by one month.

The ARC have advised that it is the actual commencement date and that the researcher should delay applying for a year. So please beware.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

Email mygrants.gmo@unsw.edu.au

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