

Pat Anderson Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher Award

Form Preview

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About Lowitja Institute Awards

Lowitja Institute celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership and excellence throughout our work. As Australia's national community controlled health and wellbeing research institute, the biennial conference awards recognise outstanding contributions to the field of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing research. These awards showcase research that is culturally, ethically, and intellectually rigorous and for the benefit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

About the Pat Anderson Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researcher Awards

This award is named after internationally respected health leader Pat Anderson AO, who was instrumental in the organisation's establishment and its development as Australia's renowned national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled health research institute.

Pat Anderson AO, an Alyawarre woman and powerful advocate for the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and First Peoples globally, is Lowitja Institute's co-patron alongside the late Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue AC CBE DSG and former chairperson after nearly 20 years in the role. This award recognises emerging leadership in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing research both inside and outside of the academy.

In 2025, the award was given to Associate Professor Graham Gee from Murdoch Children's Research Institute and Dr Ali Drummond from the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINaM).

The success awardee will receive:

- \$5,000 towards professional development
- One full registration to Lowitja Institute's 5th International Indigenous Health and Wellbeing Conference from 8 - 10 June 2027 in Garramilla (Darwin), including travel and accommodation. Please note, applicants should be available to attend the Awards Ceremony at the Conference Gala Dinner.

Eligibility criteria

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researcher with a minimum three years research experience.
- Has made significant contribution to support, influence and/or advise projects in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing, locally and nationally. This could include a researcher who works in:
 - project management, research support, governance, cultural mentoring and/or advising

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- basic science, medicine, epidemiology, public health, social health and/or community health.
- The primary focus of the research is for the benefit of the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, in line with Lowitja Institute's research agenda themes.
- The researcher has demonstrated community involvement, leadership and capacity building through their research.

Submitting your application

- The application must be completed in full with all required supporting documentation collated and attached at submission.
 - Applicants are to provide at least one letter of support, with the referee also including brief comments against the selection criteria.
 - The referee must identify as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person or community member.
 - An applicant biography (approximately 200 words) must be included, noting this will be used on promotional materials and at the award ceremony if selected.
 - Applicants must upload a headshot, noting this is the image that will be used on promotional materials and at the award ceremony if selected.
 - Applications to be submitted via Smartygrants **by Friday 16 October 2026, 11:59pm (Australian Eastern Daylight Time)**
- **Please note:**
 - It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure their full application has been submitted correctly via SmartyGrants. Applicants will receive notification from SmartyGrants acknowledging submission of their application.
 - Lowitja Institute does not accept any liability if an application is not received (in full) by the due date.
 - Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Application form

* indicates a required field

Is this application a self-nomination? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Nomination by other person

Name of person completing this form *

Title	First Name	Last Name

Position *

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Name of organisation *

Organisation Name

Relationship to nominee *

Nominee contact details

Which researcher award is this application in relation to? *

- ☐ Community researcher
☐ Institutional researcher (i.e. university)

Name *

Title First Name Last Name

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Preferred pronouns

- ☐ He
☐ She
☐ They/them
☐ Non-binary
☐ Other

Address *

Address

Remoteness

Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email *

Must be an email address.

Organisation *

Organisation Name

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Position *

Does the nominee identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander? *

- ☐ Aboriginal
- ☐ Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Neither

No more than 1 choice may be selected.

Confirmation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is required if your application is successful.

Is the nominee a member of Lowitja Institute?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

Please note membership category below.

- ☐ A: Full Member - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Organisation
- ☐ B: Associate Member Organisation
- ☐ C: Lowitja Institute Alumni
- ☐ D: Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Individual Member

Selection criteria

* indicates a required field

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing research - minimum three years' experience.

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe how the nominee has contributed to capacity building, community strengthening and engagement, including community leadership in the research process. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Describe how the nominee has demonstrated research benefit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities in line with one of Lowitja Institute's research agenda themes. *

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Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Please upload a letter of support *

Attach a file:

Letter of support should include brief comments against the selection criteria.

Image and biography

* indicates a required field

If you are the successful awardee, a clear headshot and short biography is required for use on conference promotional materials and at the award ceremony.

Applicant biography *

Word count:

Must be no more than 200 words.

Upload a clear, high resolution headshot. *

Attach a file:

End of application

Thank you

Please ensure your application has been completed and submitted in full. Incomplete applications are unable to be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact the team via conference@lowitja.org.au