

November, 2022

Procedure for seeking ACGR endorsement for project or grant proposals

1 Introduction

The Australian Council of Graduate Research Inc is committed to supporting projects that enhance the quality and reputation of graduate research training in Australia. The Council, therefore, is willing to consider requests for letters of support from organisations or individuals seeking grant or other funding for such research projects. This policy outlines the processes for requesting, considering and articulating such statements of support.

2 Intention to Request Letter of Support

Researchers developing grant applications that would benefit from a letter of endorsement from ACGR Inc should formally advise the Executive Committee (via the Executive Officer) of the intention to make such a request as soon as possible and at least 6 weeks before the application closing date. The Executive Officer will seek advice from the Convenor and provide a response to the researcher(s) indicating whether the Executive would consider a formal request for support.

3 Application Summary and Case for Support

A formal request for a letter of support, accompanied by the project proposal abstract and details of the researchers involved must be submitted to the Executive Committee no less than 4 weeks prior to the closing date for the grant

program. Details of the requirements for the letter must be provided to the Committee and a draft of the proposed letter of support may also be submitted.

4 Consideration of Request and Provision of Letter of Support

In keeping with the ACGR Strategic Plan 2020, the Council will actively support projects that develop and promote quality graduate research. Specifically the Executive will consider whether the proposed project could:

- advocate and promote the important role and contribution of graduate research to the higher education sector, government, public and private industry sectors and the general public and/or:
- define and support the development of quality graduate research training practice across Australia.

5 Consideration of Request and Provision of Letter of Support

All requests for letters of endorsement for a particular grant program will be considered simultaneously. The Executive will review all requests and determine whether all or only some of these requests would appropriately be supported by ACGR. Due to the timing of grant rounds, this consideration may be undertaken electronically.

Following approval by the Executive Committee, the Executive Officer will prepare the letter(s) of support on behalf of the Convenor. These will be endorsed by the Convenor prior to dispatch (as appropriate either to the researcher or direct to the funding body).

All statements of support will be subsequently circulated to the Executive Committee and reported to the full ACGR membership.