2021

ASMIRT

Guidelines

Crestani Foundation Grant

Your profession. Your future.

Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy
Contact us at info@asmirt.org or call us on +61 3 9419 3336

asmirt.org

There are a number of protected titles for medical radiation practice. They include:

Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP)

Diagnostic Radiographer (DR)

Medical Imaging Technologist (MIT)

Radiographer

Nuclear Medicine Scientist (NMS)

Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT)

Radiation Therapist (RT).

For the purposes of our documentation we use the broad descriptor Medical Radiation Practitioner (MRP) recognising that it covers a range of areas of practice.

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Crestani Foundation Grant

1. Program Rationale

The Crestani Foundation was founded by Yvonne Crestani in memory of her husband, Chris Crestani, who was the chief radiation therapist at St Vincent's Hospital for 40 years. His passion was advocacy for furthering the education and skills of young and upcoming radiation therapists. Sadly, Chris passed away from cancer in 2006. In 2007, Yvonne founded the Crestani Scholarships.

Funds from the Crestani Foundation have been bestowed as a scholarship to promising radiation therapy graduates. This scholarship enables early career graduates access to higher education both in Australia and overseas, gaining new expertise through both clinical and educational settings.

Previous recipients of this Crestani scholarship have been able to undertake significant continuing professional development and hone their radiation therapy skills and now they are contributing back to their community. For these recipients, the scholarships have provided recipients with an opportunity to grow and often be part of the investigation and implementation of new and highly complex techniques into the workplace. On a personal level, the opportunity has allowed recipients to be inspired to achieve great things.

The Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy (ASMIRT) along with the Crestani Foundation administers the "Crestani Foundation Grant". The grant is intended to assist Radiation Therapy early career graduates undertake research projects, continuing professional development activities or further education locally or internationally which enables contribution to better outcomes for patients.

This grant is offered annually to those radiation therapy members who have less than 2 years entry into practice. The grant value is up to AUD$2000 (incl GST)

The recipients of the scholarships will have one year following successful notification to use the funding.

Monies can be used by the recipient to assist with covering the cost of overseas travel, international conferences/training, virtual conference registrations, online courses to participate in education, training and cultural opportunities. The aim of the scholarship is to allow for personal and professional development of the practitioner and to encourage the practitioner to contribute to the professional body of knowledge.

Who is eligible to apply for a Crestani Foundation Grant?

The Crestani Foundation Grant is available to current radiation therapy members of ASMIRT who have less than 2 years entry into practice. This includes those completing their Supervised Practice Year and students who have successfully completed their four-year program. All applicants are advised that they need to be in a position to take up the grant within a year of notification. Successful applicants must maintain membership of ASMIRT for the duration of the scholarship.

2. Program Framework

The program will be administered under the terms given below:

- The ASMIRT will administer the grant and will have the following responsibilities:
    - Work co-operatively with the Crestani Foundation to ensure the program brief is enacted to a successful outcome.
    - Assess all valid applications on a case-by-case basis for suitability and notify all candidates of the application outcome. Provide recommendations to the Crestani Foundation of applicants for a final decision to be made.
    - Assess the grant at the end of each year and recommend strategies for improvement and ongoing integration into the student and professional environment.
    - Work co-operatively with all relevant Universities to promote the grant.
    - Provide application kits to the Universities, advertise on the ASMIRT and Crestani Foundation websites and social media platforms.
    - Promote the grant to the student community and early career graduates.
    - Field and respond to all questions regarding the grant.
    - Provide a financial report to the foundation for reporting purposes.

3. Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed and ranked using the following criteria:

- Eligibility of the applicant - Student/voting Member for a minimum 12 months prior to application. Applicant must remain an ASMIRT voting member for the duration of the year if awarded the grant.
- Have completed an approved course at an Australian University in Radiation Therapy
- Be registered with Ahpra
- Be an Australian resident
- Hold employment in radiation therapy or be undertaking an Honours program
- Quality of application (clear detailed proposal, collaborative, feasibility & timeline, grammar & formatting, budget justification)
- Suitability of the education plan / research project
- Provide a report suitable for publication on the experience
- Present on their experiences to the Crestani foundation benefactors at a nominated time
- Be willing to be an ambassador for the grant

- Applicants must also address the selection criteria listed in the application form.

Eligibility of the applicant(s) will be assessed as above.

3.1 Applications

Applications in writing, using the attached application form, must be made to the Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, marked attention "Professional Standards Manager".

Applications must include:

- Application Kit, Part 2
- Brief Curriculum Vitae including 3 referees
- Demonstration of commitment to the chosen professional field
- Personal commitment to, and understanding of, the need to undertake continuing professional development in Radiation Therapy
- Commitment to improvement of clinical practice in radiation therapy
- How the grant will benefit the applicant in pursuing a career in radiation therapy
- How their life experiences and/or professional career to date demonstrates commitment to pursuing a career as a health professional.
- Plan on how the money will be utilised and a budget

Applications which are incomplete will not be considered.

Applicants will be sent an acknowledgement receipt when applications are received.

Candidates who have been successful previously are not eligible to apply again.

3.2 Financial Assistance Details

The Crestani Foundation grant is awarded to assist with the costs of research projects, continuing professional development activities or further education locally or internationally which enables contribution to better outcomes for patients. The value of the Crestani Foundation grant is up to $2000.

3.3 When to apply

Applications will be considered for graduates in their first to second year post university studies. In all scenarios, applications should be made as soon as possible each year.

Payments are made post clinical placement. Ensure that all receipts are retained, so that if you are successful in your application, you will be able to support your claim.

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3.4 How to apply

Applications can be sent as a hard copy or as an email copy to the email address listed. Please ensure that all correct information is supplied, including all required documentation.

Forward your completed application form to:

Ms Min Ku
Professional Standards Manager
Australian Society of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy
PO Box 16234
Collins Street West, VIC, 8007

Further information can be obtained from ASMIRT:

Telephone: (03) 9419 3336

Facsimile: (03) 9416 0783

Email: cpd@asmirt.org

Ensure all requirements are complete and all attachments included. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. All recommended applications will be forwarded to the Crestani Foundation for ratification.

Timescales

Each year the following will occur:

- April through November the Crestani Foundation Grant will be advertised, commencing 2022.
- A closing date of December for applications Applicants will receive an acknowledgment within two working days of receipt of their application.
- In January, applications will be reviewed and recommendations will be forwarded to the Crestani Foundation team.
- Recipients will be advised of outcome in late January.
- The recipient of this grant for the coming year will be announced and presented at the ASMIRT conference.
- Successful recipients will be asked to provide a photograph (head shot) for inclusion in the announcement and a summary of the project.

Application Closing Date:

2021 applications will close Friday 21 May 2021

3.5 Notification

All applicants both successful and unsuccessful will be notified via email at the conclusion of the review.

The Crestani Foundation grant will be presented at the ASMIRT scientific meeting yearly.

3.6 Disclaimer

The Crestani Foundation decision will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The Crestani Foundation does not accept appeals to its decision.

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