

SCI RESEARCH COLLABORATION GRANTS PROCESS



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This document explains the Spinal Research Institute's (SRI) process for advertising, assessing and awarding collaboration grants.

Advertising and Application Process

A notification/invitation for collaboration grant applications is advertised, at a minimum, via:

- Email – to the SRI's newsletter distribution lists for PLEXUS and SCoRH
- SRI's social media channels – Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn
- SRI's website – thesri.org

The collaboration grant notification provides details of:

- The purpose and objective of the collaboration grant
- The value (dollar amount) of the collaboration grant
- Funding guidelines
- Applicant eligibility criteria
- Application instructions

Application Assessment

Applications are assessed by the SRI's collaboration grant panel:

- Associate Professor Doug Brown, SRI Executive Director (Australia)
- Professor Graham Creasey, Stanford University (USA)
- Dr Colleen O'Connell, Stan Cassidy Centre for Rehabilitation (Canada)
- Ms Emma Peleg, Research Collaborations Program Manager, SRI (Australia)

If a member of the collaboration grant panel has an association or conflict-of-interest with an application, they will not assess that particular application.

All eligible applications are assessed independently by the collaboration grant panel members and reviewed against the following criteria:

Feasibility

- Intentions of the applicant to continue research in the spinal cord injury field (score 1-9)

Track Record

- Applicant's research track record (score 1-9)

Approach

- Level of proposed collaboration opportunity (score 1-9)

Significance

- Relevance and importance of the research project to the spinal cord injury community (score 1-9)

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Awarding of Funding

Based on assessment results, the collaboration grant panel selects the successful application(s). The Executive Director is responsible for the final recommendation of selected application(s) and funding to the SRI's Board of Directors.

The SRI will advise applicants of the outcome of their collaboration grant applications via email.

For successful applicants, the Letter of Offer stipulates the grant conditions and the timing for receipt of reports detailing the grant experience. Applicants are asked to acknowledge acceptance of the offer in writing.

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