

# The RANZCP Senior Research Award

## Terms of Reference



### Description

The RANZCP Senior Research Award (the Award) was established in 1978 to recognise excellence in research in psychiatry. The Award is presented to the applicant or nominee who has made the most significant contribution to psychiatric research over the preceding ten years.

### Eligibility Criteria

Current Fellows or Affiliate members of the RANZCP are eligible for the Award.

The Award may be made to one person or shared by two or more persons.

Previous recipients of the Award are not eligible to receive the Award on a further occasion.

Periods of extended leave (e.g. parental leave) may alter the period of eligibility and can be taken into account by the Selection Panel. Relevant information should be outlined within the submission.

Applicants are encouraged to apply who have worked or trained on a part-time basis, are on or are returning from parental leave, a break in training, or undertaking another form of leave including carers/family leave.

### Form of Award

The Award comprises a framed certificate plus support for the recipient to attend the RANZCP Congress in that year, including a return economy airfare, accommodation and Congress registration.

The recipient(s) is expected to present their research at the Congress as a keynote address within the Congress program and is also invited to attend the College Ceremony at the RANZCP Congress where the Award will be presented.

### Frequency

The Senior Research Award is presented annually, or, if there are no suitable applicants, the Senior Research Award will not be granted in that year.

### Application/Nomination Process

Applications/nominations for the Award may be made by Fellows or Affiliate members on their own behalf, or on their behalf by another RANZCP member.

Applications/nominations for the Award must be made in the manner specified by the RANZCP.

It is required that written applications/nominations include:

- A curriculum vitae
- Five publications authored by the applicant/nominee considered to be their best or most impactful work over the past ten years
- A critical appraisal of the importance of the work to the field of study, and why the five publications were selected
- Copies of publications.

Where there are multiple authors involved, the application/nomination should clearly indicate the contribution of the applicant/nominee to the work.

The psychiatric research submitted as the basis of the application or nomination must have been published within ten years of the awards submission opening date, with publication in prestigious journals or their equivalent.

## Selection Requirements

The Selection Panel will consider the applicant's or nominee's contributions, as well as the importance of the work to the field of study and importance and impact of their contributions.

## Selection Panel Composition and Operation

The Selection Panel shall consist of the Chair of the Awards and Recognition Committee (Convenor), the President, the Chair and one other member of the Committee for Research, the Editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, a representative of the New Zealand National Committee (if not otherwise represented) and a previous RANZCP Senior Research Award winner.

At least one member of the Selection Panel must be from Australia and at least one from New Zealand. Achieving appropriate diversity, including gender balance, will also be considered when forming the Selection Panel.

The Panel may consult recognised subject matter experts as necessary.

It is the responsibility of all members of the selection panel to comply with the [RANZCP Declaring and Managing Conflict of Interest Guideline](#) and to promptly take appropriate action to effectively manage the conflict of interest. In the event that a conflict of interest is identified:

1. the Chair will be responsible for addressing the conflict and taking appropriate steps to ensure the integrity of the selection process is maintained; or
2. where the Chair declares a conflict of interest, and it is not possible to make alternative arrangements, the decision will be deferred to the remaining members of the selection panel.

## Final determination

After reviewing the scoring and comments of each Selection Panel member, the Convenor will determine the highest ranked applicant or nominee. This will then be confirmed by the Panel.

## Revision Record

Date	Executive Manager, Membership, Events and Publications		
Authorising Body:	Board		
Responsible Committee:	Awards and Recognition Committee		
Document Code:	ToR The RANZCP Senior Research Award		
Date	Version	Approver	Description
19/11/2015	1.0	B2015/7	Updated to reflect correct terminology and processes.
10/02/2018	1.1	B2018/1 R14	Updated to reflect correct terminology and processes.
August 2019	1.2	Coordinator, Membership Services	Updated clarify nomination process.
25/08/2020	1.3	B2020/12 R18	Updated with CfR feedback to eligibility, application process and selection panel composition.
15/03/2025	1.4	B2025/5	Updated following in depth committee and Board review of top six College awards, including review by a CCC and CfR member and a Past President.
NEXT REVIEW: TBC			

