

Richard Johns Research Grant



Richard Johns was born in 1940, a great grandson of the founder of an engineering company, known as Johns & Waygood, then Johns Perry. Richard followed honours at Wesley College with a scholarship to study engineering at the University of Melbourne and management positions in the company, until there was a hostile takeover by Boral. In 1986, Richard joined Mensa and in later years said that Mensa was like a family to him. On his death in 2008, Richard Johns left Australian Mensa a substantial amount of money. Some of the bequest will be used to fund an annual \$5000 research grant.

Information for applicants

The Richard Johns Research Grant will be awarded to a researcher for use on one particular research project. It can be used for equipment, consumable materials, to help with subsistence, or to allow the researcher to present the research at an international conference.

The National Committee of Australian Mensa will assess applications against the following criteria:

1. The research must aim to make new discoveries into the characteristics and uses of intelligence, including intellectual giftedness.
2. Preference will be given to research which will help Mensa in one or both of these aims:
 - To identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity.
 - To provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members.
3. The researcher must be of the highest merit and have an affiliation with a Australian university, as a postgraduate student, post doctoral researcher, associate or academic staff member.
4. The researcher must be located in Australia, although the grant may be used for short term travel overseas as part of a larger project.
5. It is expected that the researcher will have other sources of funding, but preference will be given to research that would not be subject to delay or veto of publication by another body.
6. The researcher should be genuinely interested in developing a relationship with Mensa and sympathetic to Mensa's aims.
7. The recipient must be willing to travel to the Australian Mensa Conference (AMC) to give a verbal presentation of his or her work, if requested.

Terms and conditions of the grant

1. The research must be conducted with the appropriate approvals and licences as would be required for research funded by the NHMRC or other research body as appropriate for the particular field of the research.
2. The research should be conducted according to the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research.
3. The grant winner will be advised in writing by the 6th of June. Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified. The decision will be final. The National Committee will not be required to give reasons for its decision.
4. The recipient may be invited to attend the AMC held in an Australian State capital on a weekend of November. Reasonable travel expenses will be covered by Mensa in the event that the recipient is invited to attend the AMC. It is hoped that the recipient will interact with the members throughout the conference and will be willing to be interviewed by the media in relation to the grant.
5. The grant will be awarded on condition that the researcher is willing to (but may not be required to) make a verbal presentation of his or her work at the AMC.
6. If the recipient is attending the AMC, an abstract (not more than 250 words) must be submitted by September so that it is available for the AMC program.
7. The recipient will also be asked to provide an article on his/her research for publication in TableAus, the Australian Mensa newsletter to members (no more than 800 words).

Note: It is not necessary for the recipient to be a member of Mensa.

Required materials

To apply for the Richard Johns Grant, the application must contain the following items:

- The completed application form (available as PDF on the Mensa website).
- A curriculum vitae including the following information: education, honours/awards and publications.
- A short summary of the proposed research project (no more than 250 words).
- A short summary of how the grant would benefit the research project (no more than 150 words).

The application packet should be emailed to researchgrants@mensa.org.au by 5 pm on Friday, February 27. Enquiries should be directed to the same email address.



Richard Johns Research Grant Application

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Department: _____

Postal address: _____

City/ State/ Postal code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

e-mail: _____

Are you a member of Mensa: ___Yes___No Mensa membership number: _____

Please attach the following documents:

1. A curriculum vitae
2. A brief description of the proposed research project (no more than 250 words).
3. A short summary of how the grant would benefit your research (no more than 150 words).

Acknowledgements:

I have read and agree to abide by the Terms and Conditions for the Richard Johns Research Grant.

I am willing to attend the Australian Mensa Conference to give a verbal presentation of my work, if requested to do so.

Signature: _____ Date: _____