

RGSSA Dorothy Pyatt Postgraduate Research Grants

Description

The Dorothy Pyatt Postgraduate Research Grants initiated by the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia (RGSSA) will provide financial support to high-achieving postgraduate research students specialising in Geography. The Grants will support research work for two successful candidates each year, defraying some of the costs associated with that research to significantly enhance their doctorate.

The Research Grants provide an opportunity for the RGSSA to actively support and promote geographical research, contributing to the advancement of knowledge in the discipline of Geography. Providing funding for high achieving postgraduate research students allows the Society to support in-depth investigations and scholarly exploration of diverse geographical phenomena, yielding valuable insights, discoveries, and academic publications that contribute to the broader body of knowledge.

The research activities and outputs enabled by the Grants will provide ongoing opportunities to promote Geography through the Society and its newsletters, journal, and social media channels. Furthermore, the Research Grants may present an opportunity for the RGSSA to connect with researchers and universities around Australia and internationally through the supported research.

Marketed to attract high-quality applications from promising young researchers, the initiative positions the RGSSA to encourage the next generation of geographers and nurture their talent, while aligning the Society with innovative ideas that advance geographical perspectives. The intention is to support: *one annual award for research to be conducted within Australia, and one annual award for research to be conducted outside Australia.*

Funding

In any single year funding for the two Grants will not normally exceed a total of \$3,000 per grant. Initially, the funding will be supplied from the Society's Dorothy Pyatt Fund; and hence the use of the name 'Pyatt' in the title of the awards. [Dorothy Pyatt OAM was a pioneer of women in policing in South Australia and was an active supporter of several community organisations including the RGSSA].

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Postgraduate Research Grant, candidates must meet the following criteria. They must:

- be enrolled for a PhD program specialising in Geography in a South Australian tertiary institution, preferably in their second or early third year of full-time study (or an equivalent period part-time).
- have received their Confirmation of Candidature (or equivalent)
- have demonstrated a strong aptitude for research during this period.
- have received unequivocal endorsement from their supervisor.

The Postgraduate Research Grants will **not** normally be awarded to:

- candidates in the fourth year of study (or an equivalent period part-time).

- academic staff with an appointment of 0.4 or above.
- candidates enrolled in their first year of any research degree.
- candidates who have already been awarded a University Travelling Fellowship or equivalent for the PhD project.

Selection Criteria

The RGSSA Postgraduate Research Grants shall be awarded by the RGSSA Council, which shall take into consideration the merits of both the applicant and the application, and the supporting statement/s provided by the applicant and supervisor. A recipient must be an RGSSA Member (or can pay reduced student amount to submit application)

Instructions to the applicants

Please include the following documents with your application: a curriculum vitae (not more than two pages), a detailed itinerary, and a justification statement that includes an itemised budget. The justification statement should be signed by both you and your principal supervisor. In your justification, explain how the Grant will contribute to the quality and successful completion of your thesis. It is mandatory for the supervisor to provide comments on the student's justification statement and assess the expected impact of the research supported by the Grant on the thesis quality. Applications without a supervisor's statement will not be considered.

The Grant recipient must submit a brief report (not more than 1,000 words) detailing the work conducted during the Grant period and provide proof of expenses. The report will be published in GeoNews and on the RGSSA official website.

In addition, Grant recipients will be encouraged to publish in *South Australian Geographical Journal* or another academic journal at least one refereed paper that directly relates to the research supported by the Grant.

Grant recipients will be expected to make acknowledgment of their Grant in any publication or thesis issuing wholly or in part from the Grant.

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Application deadline: October 25th, 2024

Results to be announced: November 22nd, 2024 for Grants to be received in 2025.

Electronic submission is required. Applications may be submitted via email to: Admin@rgssa.org.au

The awards will be made by the Council of the RGSSA after consultation with the Grants selection committee.

For further information on the Postgraduate Grants program, write to, phone, or e-mail:

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