2018 PRACTITIONER FELLOWSHIPS - Key changes and important information

**Key Changes**
- **Funding Rules Section 9.1** All interviews will be conducted via videoconference
- **Funding Rules Section 9.1** Applicants can inform NHMRC of any special considerations for their interview via a webform
- **Funding Rules Section 10.3** The text has been revised to provide clear guidance for Parental Leave
- ‘Assessing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Contributions’ text included in Attachment A: Category Descriptors.

**Critical Dates:**
10 January 2017 – internal review by RIC
25 January 2017 – final submission to RIC*

*RIC process for Submission of Authority to Submit form has changed. Hard copy of form is no longer required, now to be submitted to RIC by email as one PDF form via nhmrc-people-support@unimelb.edu.au

**Grant Proposal template**
Formatting requirements have been slightly ‘softened’ for all schemes. Some changes are:
- NHMRC now ‘recommend’ a minimum of TNR 12pt font be used (including text within diagrams, graphics and headings) rather than rather than ‘requires’ this font be used.
- Labelling graphs and images – description and/or legends must be no smaller than 12pt Times New Roman. The labelling of graphs and parts of images may be in reduced font, but should be readable by assessors
- Tables are exempt from minimum font but it must be readable
- *NEW* If the assessor cannot read the application due to inconsistency with any of the above formatting requirements, or a combination of any of them, the assessor is not compelled to consider the improperly completed section in their assessment or complete the assessment of the application, on the grounds that the application does not comply with the formatting requirements.

(Refer 2017 Funding Rules Clause 10.3.3 for full details of formatting requirements)

**NHMRC Eligibility**
Applicants must not include in any part of their application, including their CV/Profile:
- links to external websites, apart from references to journal articles, guidelines, government reports, datasets and other outputs that are only available online. Where links are included, provide the URL in full e.g. the NHMRC website https://www.nhmrc.gov.au
- publication metrics such as Journal Impact Factors, and the previous Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Ranked Journal List, consistent with the recommendations from the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment.

**Funding Rules to take special note of:**
- Funding Rules Attachment A – Category Descriptors guide to score applications against assessment criteria.
- Funding Rules Attachment B - Statement of Expectations describes various levels available.

**5.2 Qualifications**
It is expected that applicants will hold a PhD or a qualification equivalent to the level 10 criteria of the Australian Qualifications Framework Second Edition January 2013 (link is external). Other clinical qualifications, such as a Fellowship in a clinical college or equivalent research experience, will be considered on a case by case basis.

**5.2.1 Additional requirements**
In addition, applicants must confirm in their application, that they hold or have been offered a funded position in clinical, public health or equivalent practice, or that they are self-employed in private practice and confirm the employer will release the applicant to conduct the research associated with this Practitioner Fellowship.
Refer to the Practitioner Fellowships Advice and Instructions for funding commencing in 2018, section 2.12, for further details.

**5.3 Time Commitment**
The combination of time committed to the Fellowship and other employment does not have to equate to a full-time equivalent (FTE). Applicants can still be part-time (in total) to be eligible for this Fellowship.

**5.4 Other Salaried Awards and Full-time Employment**
Recipients of a Practitioner Fellowship are not entitled to receive additional salary from another comparable Fellowship (e.g. Laureate Fellowship), full-time academic position, or other full- time position in conjunction with their Practitioner Fellowship.

**5.6 Citizenship**
Applicants who are not Australian citizens (as indicated in Part Pro-PD Personal Details of their CV in RGMS) must indicate their Permanent Resident of Australia status in the same section. Otherwise the application will be ineligible.
For information on citizenship, refer to NHMRC Funding Rules, section 7.4.