

---

# John Mulvaney Fellowship 2023 Application Guidelines

---

Established in 2019, the **John Mulvaney Fellowship** honours the outstanding contribution to Humanities scholarship, the Academy, and the cultural life of the nation of one of our longest serving Fellows and former Academy Secretary John Mulvaney AO CMG FBA FSA FRAI FAHA.

In keeping with Professor Mulvaney's deep commitment to Indigenous people and cultures, The John Mulvaney Fellowship is an award for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early career researchers and PhD students working in any area of the humanities. The recipient of the John Mulvaney Fellowship will receive \$4000 towards undertaking research or fieldwork in Australia or overseas, including accessing archives and other research materials and connecting with researchers and networks.

We recognise that due to the ongoing restrictions to international and domestic travel and disruptions to the working lives of many researchers, changes to research plans and activities may be unavoidable. Please read the Application Guidelines carefully as we have introduced some changes and additions to eligible research activities and expenses in light of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. These can be found in Section B.

## A. ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicants must be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people.
2. The Fellowship is open to early career researchers (ECRs) and PhD students currently enrolled in an Australian institution.
3. Applicants must be Citizens or Permanent Residents of the Commonwealth of Australia, whose principal place of residence is Australia.
4. Applicants must be working in the Humanities, defined as those discipline areas by which the Academy is structured – Archaeology; Asian Studies; Classical Studies; English; European Languages and Cultures; History; Linguistics; Philosophy and the History of Ideas; Religion; Cultural and Communication Studies; and The Arts. Applicants working on projects in Indigenous Studies; Digital Humanities; and Environmental Humanities will also be eligible to apply.
5. Interdisciplinary work is encouraged, provided that it includes a substantial proportion of work in the Humanities.
6. Applications will be accepted from independent scholars holding a PhD as well as those working in institutional settings.

7. ECR applicants must be in the early stages of their careers, which will be determined, *inter alia*, by how recently a PhD was conferred. In normal circumstances it should have been conferred no more than five years prior to the closing date for applications.
8. Recipients of a Humanities Travelling Fellowship offered by this Academy are ineligible.
9. Applicants must submit a complete application in order to be assessed for eligibility.
10. The decision of the Awards Committee upon the eligibility of an application is final.

## B. USE OF FUNDS

1. The Fellowship is valued at a maximum of \$4,000 and is to be used to support outstanding research and/or fieldwork in Australia or overseas, including accessing archives and other research materials and/or to connect with researchers or networks.
2. Funds may be spent on economy class travel, accommodation, living and research expenses. Due to the ongoing restrictions on international travel, successful applicants may also use the funds for expenses including but not limited to:
  - a. Domestic and international research assistance; including hiring an assistant to access the designated archives and research material on behalf of the researcher in cases where they are unable to travel to their intended destination.
  - b. Ordering and scanning archival and/or source material; including expenses associated with inter-library loans and other lending schemes (digital and hard copy).
  - c. Carer's work; including expenses for childcare (e.g., hiring a carer, nanny, or paying for additional childcare) to enable the parent to conduct the research, and other caring work including care of a dependent child or family member due to illness or disability. If a child or dependent needs to travel with the applicant in order for the research to be undertaken, these expenses can be included in the application.

Other expenses deemed necessary by the applicant must be identified in the budget and approved by the Awards Committee. If you are unsure about your eligible expenses, please contact [grants@humanities.org.au](mailto:grants@humanities.org.au) before submitting your application.

3. Successful candidates will be expected to provide evidence of their expenditure and a concise acquittal report once the research activity is completed.
4. Fellowships are not available to attend conferences or to enrol in any course of study, although conference attendance incidental to research activity will not be penalised.
5. Successful applicants will be required to attest that they accept the conditions of the award and provide bank account details to the Academy by 30 June of the year in which the award was made, to ensure the expedient payment of funds.

## C. CONDITIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

1. The Mulvaney Fellowship supports Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the successful applicant will be required to confirm their eligibility when they accept the conditions of the award.

2. Significant variations to the research plan detailed in the application must be approved by the Awards Committee. Where the research project needs to be postponed for reasons beyond the successful applicant's control, the Academy must be advised promptly of the change of circumstances.
3. The Academy requires that applicants will conduct their research according to appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards.
4. Successful applicants will be expected to acquire travel insurance before undertaking their research trip and to be sure to abide by all quarantine and social distancing measures in place in the country they are intending to visit.
5. The travel period of the project must be of at least 2 weeks' duration.
6. Funds must be expended by the end of the calendar year following the date of the award.
7. The Academy reserves the right to recoup funds if the Rules of the Award have not been met and/or funds have not been expended.
8. Funds will normally be made available directly to scholars on acceptance of the conditions of the award. In the event that a University is the nominated recipient of funds, a Fellowship will be awarded only on the condition that an administration charge will not be levied by the institution.
9. The Academy requires a concise written report on the research activity undertaken and the significance of the Academy's assistance to the overall research project, to be submitted via email within one month of expenditure of the funds or by the end of the calendar year following the date of the award, whichever comes first.
10. Reports must include a brief acquittal budget showing all relevant expenditures (in Australian dollars).
11. Recipients agree that these reports may be published on the Academy website [www.humanities.org.au](http://www.humanities.org.au) and may appear in whole or in extract or in other Academy publications.
12. Recipients must make suitable acknowledgement of the Academy's assistance in funding the research in any resulting publication, either through the use of the Academy logo or a statement acknowledging the grant.
13. The Awards Committee's decision is final; no correspondence will be entered into.
14. The Academy Secretariat and its staff are not responsible for any Committee decisions and are unable to discuss selection procedures, issue reports or give advice on the progress of nominations.

## D. SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Applications will be assessed on the rigour and significance of the research, its likely impact within a specialist field, and its potential to engage and/or benefit the wider community.
2. Applicants will also need to demonstrate the relevance of the project to their academic career development and be able to show evidence of this through either traditional or non-traditional research outputs.

## E. ASSESSMENT

1. Applications will be considered by the Awards Committee. The Academy Secretariat is not responsible for Committee decisions and its staff is not able to discuss selection procedures. The Committee

reserves the right to award as many or as few Fellowships each year as appropriate. Decisions of the Awards Committee are final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

2. The Academy reserves the right to invite applications, which will be subject without favour to the same deadlines and competitive processes as unsolicited applications.

## F. APPLICATION PROCEEDURE

1. Applications for this Fellowship must be lodged electronically by **5pm AEST Friday 28 April 2023** via the [Awards & Grants](#) section on our webpage.
2. Applications **must** include the following:
  - a. A **Project Proposal** (max. two A4 pages)
  - b. A copy of the applicant's **Curriculum Vitae** including any relevant publications (max. five A4 pages);
  - c. A scanned copy of the applicant's official **doctoral transcript** (for PhD students) or **PhD testamur** (for early career researchers).
  - d. **Supporting letters from two referees** (max. one A4 page each). Letters should be addressed to the John Mulvaney Fellowship Advisory Panel of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Referees should have knowledge of your recent work.
3. The application form and all supporting documentation should be provided in English (or accompanied by a translation into English made by a NAATI-accredited translator).
4. All applications are to be submitted online by the specified closing date and time. Late applications will not be accepted.
5. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by email.

This opportunity accords with the 'special measure' provisions in the Federal Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth).

## G. Frequently Asked Questions

### Q. When do nominations close?

- A. Applications close at **5.00pm AEST Friday 28 April 2023**.

### Q. How do I submit a nomination?

- A. All nominations must be submitted using our online application system which can be accessed via the [Awards & Grants](#) webpage.

### Q. Can I submit a nomination on behalf of myself?

- A. Yes. Self-nominations are accepted.

**Q. Is the John Mulvaney Fellowship closed to nominees who received their PhD more than five years ago?**

A. At the discretion of the Awards Committee, nominees who have received their PhD more than five years ago but who can demonstrate a significant, commensurate period of career interruption (such as maternity or parental leave, carer's responsibility, illness, unemployment, or non-research employment) may be considered eligible. A justification for the career interruption must be submitted as part of the proposal.

**Q. How should I attach documents to the online application form?**

A. All attachments must be PDFs. The attachments are required to be uploaded in the following format:

[Applicant's SURNAME]-Research-Proposal

[Applicant's SURNAME]-CV

[Applicant's SURNAME]-Doctoral-Transcript-or-PhD-Testamur

[Applicant's SURNAME]-Referee-Report-1

[Applicant's SURNAME]-Referee-Report-2

For any additional supporting material, please use the following format:

[Applicant's SURNAME]-SM1