



# Connected Futures:

**Partnerships, Platforms,  
and People Powering Research**

## 2026 PERTH CONFERENCE GRANT

Applications due cob 5 PM AEST 1 May 2026 [ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au](mailto:ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au)

### PREAMBLE:

ARMS places professional development as one of its key strategic priorities. Through our annual conference, and the support offered via this grant, we demonstrate our commitment to helping members grow their skills, strengthen their expertise, and thrive in their research management careers. These initiatives not only support individual development but also advance ARMS' goal of broadening and enriching our diverse membership community.

The annual conference is our flagship event, offering opportunities to network, deepen knowledge, and connect with a wide array of peers across the research management community.

### PURPOSE OF THE 2026 PERTH CONFERENCE GRANT:

The purpose of the grant is to support eligible ARMS members to attend the ARMS Perth Conference, to be held from **9–11 September 2026**. Applicants must demonstrate how their attendance supports the strategic priorities of ARMS, as outlined in the [Strategic Plan: Beyond 2030](#).

For 2026, the guidelines have been updated to provide **two complimentary, non-transferable conference registrations per ARMS Chapter**. With **nine Chapters**, this represents a total of **18 conference grants** available to members.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how any remaining costs associated with attending the conference (e.g. travel and accommodation) will be met.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To be considered for the 2026 Perth Conference Grant an applicant must:

1. Be a current financial member of ARMS at the time of the application, and for the duration of the award (as an individual or part of a corporate/small corporate membership).
2. Demonstrate that your organisation supports your attendance at the ARMS Perth Conference and will meet costs not covered by the 2026 Perth Conference Grant. Evidence of the support should be through a **Letter of Support or Self-Employed Statement as follows:**

*If you are an employee, your application must be accompanied by a formal letter of support from the Line Manager or supervisor in your organisation. At a minimum, the letter should:*

- Confirm that the organisation supports your attendance at the conference.
- Confirm that the organisation will meet the costs not covered by the Award to attend the conference; and
- Describe how attending the ARMS Perth Conference is relevant to your current role and responsibilities in the organisation and how it aligns with your career plan.

*If you are self-employed, your application must be accompanied by a one-page statement describing your business and how it contributes to the Australasian research management sector.*

**SPECIAL NOTE:** While applicants for the 2026 Perth Conference Grant are not precluded from applying for any other promoted ARMS-branded travel award for support to attend the Perth Conference, if successful in securing one or more of these awards, the recipient will only be entitled to one (1) award of their choosing.

#### **WHO IS NOT ELIGIBLE?**

- Members of the ARMS Board.
- Members who have previously received an ARMS Chapter Travel Award in the past five years.

#### **WHAT WILL BE COVERED?**

Successful applicants will receive a non-transferrable complimentary registration to the 2026 ARMS Conference in Perth. **Up to two non-transferrable complimentary registrations will be allocated per Chapter.**

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their intention to attend the conference with their immediate supervisor or manager and seek their support prior to submitting an application.

Applicants will be required to provide a justification of the support being requested – see section on “How will applications be assessed?” for more information.

**NOTE:** To ensure fair and balanced allocation of conference grants, applications will be evaluated and ranked by each Chapter Committee selected by the ARMS Executive Office using a predefined rubric. The recommendations by the relevant Chapter Committee shall then be endorsed by the ARMS Board. Note that the Board has the authority to adjust allocations to ensure diversity in participation, considering factors like regional representation, and career stages.

#### **HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE ASSESSED?**

Eligible applicants should complete the application template and to address the following **criteria**:

1. **Professional Experience and Career History:** Summarise your roles, key responsibilities, and any significant challenges in the field of research management over the past five years.
2. **Conference Contribution and Knowledge Sharing:** Identify the conference theme you will engage with (this need not involve a presentation) and explain how you plan to apply insights from the conference within your member institution.
3. **Career Advancement:** Outline how attending the conference will benefit your professional development and support your career trajectory.
4. **Budget Justification:** Provide a brief explanation outlining how travel expenses not covered under this grant are expected to be met.

The ARMS Executive office will notify all applicants via email stating the outcome of their application.

There will be no appeals process, but feedback may be given to all unsuccessful applicants, upon request.

#### **CONDITIONS OF GRANT**

1. The 2026 Perth Conference Grant is to be used to support attendance to the ARMS Perth Conference. The grant shall comprise of a complimentary conference registration.
2. In the unlikely event that the awardee is unable to take up the complimentary conference registration, they must immediately advise the ARMS Executive Office in writing immediately.
3. The 2026 Perth Conference Travel Grant (complimentary conference registration) cannot be transferred to another person.
4. At the conference, Awardees may be required to participate in ARMS promotional activities as required.
5. Awardees will be required to provide a one-page post conference report 6 weeks after the conference. This information will be used for promotional purposes, and the report is to be submitted to the ARMS Executive Office.

**Timings:**

Date	Description
Thursday, 19 March 2026	Call for Applications – To be featured in e-newsletter and via e-blast to members.
Friday, 1 May 2026	Closing date for Applications – <b>COB 5PM AEST</b> - Applications to be submitted to the ARMS Accreditation and Membership Engagement Coordinator email <a href="mailto:ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au">ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au</a> All applications received will be acknowledged by email.
5-15 May 2026	Applications to be distributed to the Chapter Committees.
15 May – 29 May 2026  (Note 1 June submission of Chapter evaluations)	Chapter Committees to review applications and be provided with an assessment rubric by the ARMS Executive Office. Chapter Committees will be required to finalise their evaluations to the Executive Office by no later than the <b>1 June 2026</b> .  All Chapter evaluations will be collated and presented to a working group of the ARMS Board who may adjust to ensure diversity in participation, considering factors such as regional representation, career stages.
By Friday, 5 June 2026	Sub-committee of ARMS Board to consider all Chapter evaluations followed by recommendations to the Board.
By Friday, 12 June 2026	Once all recommendations have been endorsed by the ARMS Board, successful applicants will be notified of their outcome.  Unsuccessful applicants will be advised once all awardees have accepted their offer.
Thursday, 25 June 2026	<b>Early Bird registration closing date:</b> Successful candidates are encouraged to register for the conference by this date. A special registration link will be provided by the Executive Office at the time of offer.
9-11 September 2026	Perth Conference <a href="https://www.arms2026.com.au">https://www.arms2026.com.au</a>
Friday, 30 October 2026	Successful awardees to provide a one-page report on their learning outcomes from the conference to the ARMS Executive Office. <a href="mailto:ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au">ARMSMembership@researchmanagement.org.au</a>