

Tyre Stewardship Fund Guidelines:

Scholarship Stream

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This application, including attachments, must be submitted via email, with '**Scholarship Stream**' in the subject line, to: funding@tyrestewardship.org.au

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1. About TSA

Tyre Stewardship Australia (TSA) is a not-for-profit company established to administer the national Tyre Product Stewardship Scheme ('the Scheme'), the objectives of which are to:

- increase resource recovery and recycling and minimise the environmental, health and safety impacts of end-of-life tyres generated in Australia, and
- develop Australia's tyre recycling industry and markets for tyre-derived products.

The Scheme provides an industry led and government supported framework to effectively reduce the environmental, health and safety impacts of the 56 million equivalent passenger units (EPU), which reach end of life in Australia each year.

TSA is supported by a voluntary levy payment of 25 cent per EPU on new tyres coming into Australia by TSA member companies (Bridgestone, Continental, Goodyear Dunlop, Kumho Tyre, Michelin, Pirelli, Toyo Tires and Yokohama). TSA uses these funds to deliver a robust audit and compliance program, promote the Scheme, its members and participants and fund market development initiatives.

The Tyre Stewardship Fund ('the Fund') is the primary mechanism for TSA to facilitate research and support to develop Australia's tyre recycling industry and markets for tyre-derived products (TDPs).

The fund is delivered in two streams:

- **PhD Scholarship Stream** – Specific scholarships to investigate future technology and solutions that will develop new intellectual property and assist in the transformation of markets for tyre recycling and tyre-derived products (this document pertains to the PhD Scholarship Stream)
- **Project Stream** – Funding to support either 'Research and Development' or 'Demonstration and Infrastructure' projects that will lead to increased uptake of tyre derived products.

This document contains the guidelines and application form for the 'Scholarship Stream' of the Fund. Interested applicants are encouraged to read the guidelines in detail and contacting TSA prior to lodging any application for funding.

For more information on TSA or the scheme please visit the TSA website (www.tyrestewardship.org.au).

If you'd like to talk to someone about the Tyre Stewardship Scholarship Fund, contact:

Jan van de Graaff – Business Relationship Manager

Email: jan.vandegraaff@tyrestewardship.org.au

Phone: 03 9977 7828

Liam O'Keefe - Market Development Manager

Email: liam.okeefe@tyrestewardship.org.au

Phone: 03 9977 7824

2. Tyre Stewardship Research Fund objectives

The Australian tyre recycling industry produces a number of TDPs such as crumb rubber and rubber granules that can be used in applications from road construction and playground surfacing to adhesives and aggregates, and even as an additive into explosives. However, at this point the market for these products is not large enough to absorb all of the waste tyres (around 56 million annually) being created in Australia.

The TSA Board has therefore established the Fund as a means of stimulating development of new products and markets for TDP.

Put simply, the primary objective of the fund is to invest in projects that increase the volume of Australian generated end-of-life tyres (EOLTs) being processed into TDPs and sold by Australian tyre recyclers and processors.

3. Research themes

TSA aims to support research and development that is practical, feasible and will have commercial outcomes that benefit the end of life tyre and associated markets. However, the TSA Board recognises the role TSA has in being future focused and supporting projects that can lead the long-term transformation of the tyre recycling industry through innovative, cutting edge research.

Therefore, the Scholarship Stream of the fund is seeking proposals which may be more exploratory in nature. That is, research projects that look for new ideas and technologies and/or new applications for existing ideas and technologies, that will create new intellectual property and benefit the waste tyre and associated manufacturing industries.

Beyond that, TSA has no desire to constrain thinking about what might be involved. It is, however, crucial that the research targets one or more of the overarching objectives of TSA funding which is to:

- increase the consumption of Australian tyre-derived product from locally generated EOLTs;
- contribute to market development activities that are consistent with the goal of increased and enhanced utilisation of EOLTs; and
- support growth in skills, expertise and capacity in the Australian EOLTs and associated end user markets.

Industry linkages

Whilst the nature of the Scholarship Stream of the fund is to look at future technologies and trends, TSA is committed to working with industry and/or government organisations on all projects.

TSA will look favourably on candidates that can show relevant linkages with industry. Support from industry is a critical component of all TSA applications. TSA does not fund research as an outcome in itself. TSA funds research as an **output** to assist in the delivery of the **outcome** of an increase in utilisation of Australian generated end of life tyres for productive purposes.

Therefore, for all Scholarship applications, industry participation and commitment to a project is a critical component. Linkages must therefore be demonstrated between the project team and definitive industry-oriented outcomes. Such linkages may be demonstrated via multiple means, including:

- Financial support from industry/government partners.
- In-kind support from industry/government partners.
- Letters of support to verify the 'impact' of the proposed research in terms of real-world outcomes.

4. Eligible applicants

Applications must:

- Be submitted in accordance with the requirements of this document.
- Include a clear research development opportunity.
- Be for bona-fide research and not for seed capital for a commercial or product development venture.
- Address one or more of the aspects listed under 'research themes'.
- Reflect a project that is well advanced in its planning and executable in the indicated time-frames.
- Demonstrate real world 'impact' with a clear relationship between the research and the provision of benefit to the end of life tyre and associated markets. Most commonly, this benefit would be in developing or creating increased potential markets for Australian generated recycled tyre product.
- Be from a researcher employed at a registered university, learning institute or reputable industry related association in Australia.
- Include access, licencing and/or ownership for TSA to new and exclusive Intellectual Property (to be negotiated depending on the project and expected outcomes).

5. Funding level

There are usually two Scholarships available per year. However, TSA is under no obligation to fund any Scholarship projects. This is particularly so if Project applications are received in the same funding round with high, matched funding that are more likely to lead to increased consumption of high volumes of tyre derived product.

All Scholarships are to be paid out at the Commonwealth government recommended annual stipend (currently between \$25,000 and \$30,000 a year) for 3 years. This could be stand-alone funding or as a co-contribution to an industry project or other scholarship.

Applicants must stipulate where the scholarship funding will be spent. The intent of the Fund is that it be allocated to the PhD stipend to facilitate the research outlined. However, if funding is to be allocated elsewhere, this must be clearly stated, justified and an explanatory budget supplied accordingly.

6. Assessment criteria

All Scholarship applications will be assessed competitively based on the following criteria:

1. Alignment with TSA objectives and research themes (20%).
2. Potential benefit of the research outcomes to TSA and the Australian EOLT and associated end user markets (20%).
3. Quality and relevance of the method and research plan (20%).
4. Applicability of relevant earlier work and quality of team and project lead (15%).
5. Capacity to be utilised commercially and/or relationship with an industry partner (15%).
6. Intellectual property conditions and associated benefits to TSA (10%).

7. Assessment process

In line with the TSA Guidelines, the TSA Board will engage a Research Advisory Committee (RAC) to assess project proposals.

The Research Advisory Committee is an advisory body specifically convened to provide support and technical expertise to the TSA Board on matters of funding. It should be noted that whilst the RAC will provide recommendations and advice, it is the sole responsibility of the TSA Board to make final decisions regarding scholarship funding.

All assessments by the RAC will be made using a weighted scoring system, with additional commentary for clarity and/or feedback. The RAC reserves the right to ask for supplementary information from any applicant.

8. Post selection feedback

Unsuccessful applicants for funding may seek feedback from TSA management – but detailed scoring information will NOT be provided.

TSA management will provide qualitative feedback on why a proposal was not successful using the assessment criteria described earlier.

Confidentiality

TSA treats all information relating to fund applications that it receives confidentially.

9. Key dates

Scholarship applications are due November 30, 2018. Please contact TSA for more information on the application process thereafter.

10. Additional information

TSA intends to work closely with potential applicants to provide adequate guidance. TSA is available to answer questions from applicants over the phone and by email during the preparation of EOIs and full proposals.

Where appropriate, TSA may be able to assist potential applicants in linking up with relevant industry partners and/or tyre recyclers.

If you have any queries regarding this process, please contact TSA:

Email: liam.okeefe@tyrestewardship.org.au

Phone: 03 9977 7824

Email: jan.vandegraaff@tyrestewardship.org.au

Phone: 03 9977 7828

11. Expression of Interest Form: Tyre Stewardship Research Fund Scholarship Stream

PROJECT TITLE			
DURATION	start		end

Project Leader's Details

Name	
University	
Faculty/school	
Position	
Phone	
e-mail	
Mobile	

Other key members of research team

Name	
University	
Faculty/ school	
Position	
e-mail	

Name	
University	
Faculty/ school	
Position	
e-mail	

Industry partner/s

Name	
Company/ Organisation	
Position	
e-mail	

Summary of the Proposed Research

In **1,000 words or less** provide a clear summary and justification for undertaking the research. Please include research aims, method and expected benefits:

--

Impact

Please outline the potential impact and value to TSA, the tyre recycling and associated industries in Australia of the proposed research project. In particular, the likely future impact of the research on the research target sector (**500 words or less**)

--

Applicants are encouraged to submit letters of support from supervisors and industry partners where relevant (see below).

Team

Please outline the key personal of the research team and associated participating organisations. Please highlight relevant experience, publications and expertise that will assist in delivering benefit to this proposal (**500 words or less**)

--

Intellectual Property

Please outline the intellectual property that will be created through this project. Outline if or how this will be made available to TSA. If not made available to TSA, how will the IP be utilised to deliver real world 'impact':

--

Research background and basis

In 500 words or less, describe previous research and initiatives that may underpin this proposal. If relevant, describe other broader research opportunities this proposal may support or relate to.

--

Extent of financial support sought

Applicants must stipulate where the scholarship funding will be spent. The intent of the Fund is that it be allocated to the PHD stipend to facilitate the research outlined. However, if funding is to be allocated elsewhere, this must be clearly stated, justified and an explanatory budget supplied accordingly.

Co-contributions are not mandatory but are looked upon favourably in a competitive process. This is particularly so as they demonstrate relationships with external organisations and may indicate greater real-world impact.

Please include the income and expenditure for your project, excluding GST. Note that the total income must equal total expenditure.

Project income

- Update the year in the tables below.
- Please include cash amount requested from TSA (Scholarship stipend amount is the usual amount requested from TSA)

Year	20..	20..	20..
Cash requested from TSA			
TOTAL			

Co-Contributions from other sources (i.e. industry funding, ARC grant)

- Please include the name of the co-contributing agencies. This may include your organisation.
- Replicate the table if more than one contributor is participating.
- State the name of the organisation that will be contributing for at the top of each table you create:

Year	20..	20..	20..
Cash			
In- kind			
TOTAL			

Project income total

Year	20..	20..	20..
Cash			
In- kind			
TOTAL			

Project expenditure

- Note that the total income must equal total expenditure.

Expenditure Type	Cash Amount	Justification/Rationale	In-kind Amount	Justification/Rationale
Project Management incl. salaries	\$		\$	
Please detail other costs:	\$		\$	
Materials	\$		\$	
Lab testing	\$		\$	
Travel	\$		\$	
TOTALS (cash & in-kind separate)	\$		\$	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (cash & in-kind combined = Project Income)				

Industry referee

It is most beneficial to an application if it is supported by a practitioner from outside academia, e.g. a tyre recycler, end user, government agency or manufacturer. If one or more such persons are involved, then please provide a letter (or letters) of support for the application if it will strengthen your application. Note that an absence of an industry partner does not mean an application will not be considered, however, applications without industry participation are rarely supported by TSA.

Signatures of project leader and DVC (Research) or approved delegate

PROJECT LEADER:					
Signature		Name		Date	
DVC Research or delegate signature					
Signature		Name		Date	

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PLEASE NOTE:

This is an Expression of Interest form. All applicants who progress beyond the initial assessment stage will be required to provide full insurance, compliance and legal and other required information to TSA. A full project plan will be required for submission as part of a full contract with TSA.