

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Funding Rules made under section 60 of the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*  
*Funding Rules for schemes under the Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships*

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Education and Education

Subject: *Australian Research Council Act 2001—Funding Rules for schemes under the  
Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships*

### **Authority**

Section 60 of the *Australian Research Council Act 2001* (the Act) provides that the Minister must approve ARC funding rules.

### **Purpose and effect**

These Funding Rules relate to the *Future Fellowships* for funding commencing in 2016 funded under the Discovery Programme of the ARC's *National Competitive Grants Program*. The Discovery Program supports the growth of Australia's research and innovation capacity, which generates new knowledge resulting in the development of new technologies, products and ideas, the creation of jobs, economic growth and an enhanced quality of life in Australia.

In accordance with subsection 59 (2) of the Act, the *Funding Rules for schemes under the Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships* contain:

- (a) the eligibility criteria to be met in order for a proposal to be approved for financial assistance (including criteria relating to the kinds of organisation that may receive assistance and the kinds of research program in respect of which assistance may be provided);
- (b) how to apply for financial assistance;
- (c) the assessment process for deciding which proposals will be recommended for approval;
- (d) the ways in which, and circumstances in which, a funding approval may be varied; and
- (e) any additional accountability requirements that the ARC thinks desirable.

In accordance with subsection 59 (4) of the Act, the *Funding Rules for schemes under the Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships* take account of, and are consistent with:

- (a) the funding cap for the year, or each of the years, to which the rules apply; and
- (b) the funding split determination for the year, or each of the years, to which the rules apply.

The *Funding Rules for schemes under the Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships* were approved by the Minister for Education and Training, Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham, on 23 January 2016. No amendments have been made.

### **Documents incorporated by reference**

The following documents are incorporated by reference:

- *NHMRC/ARC/UA Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research* (2007);
- *NHMRC/ARC/UA National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* (2007, updated 2015);
- *NHMRC Values and Ethics: Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research* (2003);
- *Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies* (2012);
- *Australia Council for the Arts Indigenous Cultural Protocols for Producing Indigenous Music, Writing, Visual Arts, Media Arts and Performing Arts* (2007);
- *Australian Code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes* (2013) endorsed by the NHMRC, the ARC, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and UA; and
- *National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research*, available from ([www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au)).

### Commencement

The *Funding Rules for schemes under the Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships* shall take effect upon registration on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

### The provisions include:

*Part A* – Provides general rules for the schemes under the *Discovery Programme* which includes;

- Name of Funding Rules
- Commencement
- Definitions
- Introduction
- Funding
- General Eligibility requirements
- Submission of proposals
- Selection and approval process
- Appeals process
- Reporting requirements
- Fundamental principles of conducting research
- Eligible Organisations

*Part B* – Provides scheme specific rules for *Discovery Programme 2016—Future Fellowships* for funding commencing in 2014 which includes;

- Interpretation
- Additional Definitions for Part B
- Introduction to *Future Fellowships*
- Funding
- Host Organisations
- Scheme specific eligibility requirements