



# Swan Research Institute

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## SRI RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS information to applicants

### Information and Application Form

The Swan Research Institute (SRI) was formed in 2001 as an independent, incorporated Association to promote quality research in areas related to the causes, prevention or cure of diseases in humans. SRI has Deductible Gift Recipient status from the Australian Tax Office on this basis for this category.

SRI has decided to initially focus on exploring and developing better understanding of the many practices within the science of yoga and their implications for physical and mental health, healthy lifestyle, mental and spiritual development; particularly in prevention of many modern diseases, but also in possible treatments in promising areas such as asthma, diabetes, cancer, depression and other mental illnesses, anxiety, drug addiction, hypertension, high or low blood pressure and cardiac disease, to name a few.

SRI is offering at least one Research Fellowship per year to conduct research into the field of Yoga in order to develop further understanding of its practices and the implications for physical and mental health, healthy lifestyle, mental and spiritual development.

### Terms and conditions

SRI Fellowships are open to citizens of any country and applicants do not have to be permanent residents of Australia. Any international travel costs, Visas and travel costs while in Australia are NOT covered and must be borne by the applicant. The Fellowship tenure is temporary and on an annual basis. Applications **MUST** be received by the end of August each year in electronic format via email. Hard copy must follow and be posted to arrive no later than 7<sup>th</sup> September. \*\*\* **NO late applications will be accepted.** \*\*\*

The dollar amount awarded to the successful applicant/s each year is currently \$1080, usually payable in two installments of \$540. Furthermore, the SRI Fellowship also covers the full value of all accommodation and meals etc. (to an approximate value of \$3,500) at the Satyananda Yoga Academy (SYA) at Mangrove Mountain in NSW, Australia for three 2-week periods during the tenure of the Fellowship for the purposes of planning, researching, developing protocol/s and conducting appropriate research projects, plus presentation of subsequent results at a SRI Conference and/or Colloquia for and on behalf of SRI. Data analysis and writing-up, publishing etc will be done during the intervening months to be completed within a 12-month or 24-month SRI Fellowship cycle.

On completion of their tenure, SRI Research Fellows will be encouraged to share their knowledge and skills with subsequent Fellows in later Fellowship programs by supporting and supervising various SRI research projects according to their interest and availability (if on a volunteer basis) or according to contractual arrangements if offered further Fellowship tenure.

As the SRI Fellowship program is not full-time, applicants may hold other Fellowships concurrently with any other award or scholarship as long as completion is assured and managed appropriately. Successful and unsuccessful applicants may reapply in subsequent years.

### **Payment conditions**

Initial payment will be made on successful application. The second instalment will be made after six months, on receipt of the SRI research supervisor's progress report stating satisfactory progress. An official SRI Fellowship certificate accompanies the Fellowship on successful completion of tenure.

Costs of accommodation and meals at the SYA at Mangrove Mountain in NSW, Australia for the 2-week residential periods during the tenure of the Fellowship will be borne by SRI and SYA directly.

Costs of research consumables, photocopying, publication etc will be borne directly by SRI.

### **Academic Prerequisites for SRI Research Fellowships**

To qualify for the SRI research Fellowship, the applicant must be an appropriately qualified researcher with university based research experience and/or sufficient industry based research experience such as field or laboratory experience as a research assistant, laboratory technician etc.

- **Junior Research Fellowship:** the minimum requirement is an undergraduate university degree recognised in Australia in an appropriate discipline suitable for the proposed SRI research projects available, with a preference for those with an honours degree. Junior Fellowships are offered on a 12-month basis and projects must be completed within that time.
- **SRI Research Fellowship:** the minimum requirement is a postgraduate university degree recognised in Australia in (an) appropriate discipline/s suitable for the proposed SRI research projects, with a preference for a PhD or Masters. SRI Research Fellowships may be offered on a 12-month or 2-year basis and projects must be completed within that time frame.
- **Senior Research Fellowship:** the minimum requirement is a postgraduate university degree recognised in Australia in (an) appropriate discipline/s suitable for the proposed SRI research projects, with a preference for a PhD or Masters. Furthermore, a Senior Research Fellow would have satisfactorily completed a previous SRI Fellowship program under the guidance of the SRI Research Advisor and/or other appropriate supervision and is currently in a position of tenure to supervise other Research Fellows and/or SRI research projects for and on behalf of SRI. Senior Research Fellowship tenure may be granted on an annual or longer basis, depending on SRI Committee approval.

### **Ethics Committee Approval**

Any research involving humans whether directly or indirectly, including interviews or use of previous medical records, must be approved by a formally constituted ethics committee. SRI has a Human Research Ethics Committee which is able to provide this approval. Literature research and meta analyses of existing published research does not require ethics approval.

### **Eligibility and Minimum Requirements**

The SRI Fellowships are for conducting Yoga Research for and on behalf of SRI. The research will be applied in a manner that would satisfy SRI's aim of exploring and better understanding the practices within the science of yoga and their implications for physical and mental health, healthy lifestyle, mental and spiritual development. Applicants should therefore have received some formal training in yoga, rather than attending general yoga classes.

On completion of the Fellowship, the candidate will be required to write a report to SRI and to publish the outcomes in a relevant journal or other publication. An appropriate authorship (as per NH&MRC authorship guidelines) and recognition of SRI will be included in all publications. Furthermore, Fellows will be invited to present their findings at a SRI research conference or other such gathering for public dissemination of results and/or findings.

### **Volunteers and Paying Participants in the SRI Research Program**

During the residential components of the the Annual SRI research program, in addition to conducting research projects for and on behalf of SRI, Fellows may be expected to assist in managing various unpaid volunteers assisting SRI, various volunteer subjects involved in experiments and other participants in SRI's research program who are learning research skills as part of their Yogic Studies Diploma course or as part of SRI's Research Skills training-programs.

### **Intellectual Property**

The intellectual property (IP) of the research, its findings and any publication merit will remain with SRI, unless the proposed research project originated entirely from the applicant, in which case a separate IP contractual document will outline any variation to this clause. Appropriate single or multiple authorships will be honoured according to the NH&MRC authorship guidelines at all times.

### **Application Form and Supporting Evidence (to be no more than 2000 words)**

A summary application form must be submitted that includes all the following information:

- Professional qualifications;
- Any relevant additional qualifications and experience;
- Brief details of previous research and publication history;
- Yoga qualifications and references. Copies of actual references from 2 or more referees (professional and personal) who can confirm the applicant's eligibility and suitability to meet the requirements of the SRI Fellowship program;
- Details of any other previous funding already secured;
- Professional affiliation/s, if applicable.

**Email a full copy of the application and supporting information to: [sri@swanresearch.net](mailto:sri@swanresearch.net)**

### **Hard copy of all applications and supporting information should then be mailed to:**

SRI Research Fellowship - Application  
Swan Research Institute (Attention: YogaPrabha)  
300 Mangrove Creek Rd  
MANGROVE CREEK NSW 2250

### **Selection of Applicant/s**

A panel of at least three members of the SRI Committee will select the successful applicant/s.

Short listing and interview/s of applicant/s will occur in September of each year.

The decision of the SRI panel will be final.

The successful applicant/s will be advised by end of October each year in writing.

The following details will be included in the letter of offer:

- contact details of the SRI Research Advisor, to whom report are to be sent;
- the value of the award, the duration and the commencement date.
- The original letter sent to the student and a copy to their Research Supervisor(s).
- Two copies of the Conditions of any SRI funding. The candidate will be expected to return one signed copy of the Conditions of funding.

### **Notification of Applicants**

Notification to unsuccessful applicants will be issued as soon as practicable.

### **Suspention or Termination**

Where a recipient of any SRI funding does not complete any required report/s, or their research supervisor's progress report shows unsatisfactory progress, SRI may choose to suspend issuing further instalment/s of any funding until such progress has been achieved or (in certain cases) terminate the funding entirely. Funding can also be suspended or terminated for innapropriate behaviour or conduct unbecoming their position that may bring disrepute to SRI or SYA.

No refunds or repayments of any monies already received by the Fellow will be sought by SRI, however no further funding will be awarded until and unless satisfactory progress or completion has been achieved.

### **Right of appeal**

Where it has been determined that funding should be suspended, or terminated, due to unsatisfactory progress or for innapropriate behaviour or conduct, the candidate shall have the right of appeal to the SRI committee.

The appeal is to be submitted to SRI in writing within 2 weeks of receiving notice of the suspension or termination.

For any queries please call the SRI Research Officer on 03 9589 2108 or email [research@yogalinks.net](mailto:research@yogalinks.net) or the SRI Public Officer, YogaPrabha (Margaret Thomas) on (02) 4374 1828 or email [sri@swanresearch.net](mailto:sri@swanresearch.net)

All applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

