

MND NZ Research Grant Round FAQ

FAQ for researchers and health professionals considering MND research in Aotearoa New Zealand

About the research grants

What is an MND NZ Research Grant?

Research grants from Motor Neurone Disease New Zealand (MND NZ) encourage research to improve evidence-based care, support, and potentially even treatment for people with motor neurone disease (MND). The [MND NZ Research Strategy 2025–28](#) provides more detail about the goals of these research grants.

In the 2026/27 financial year, three research grants of up to \$10,000 each are available.

Who can apply?

Applications are encouraged from:

- Academics working in MND-related areas
- Allied health professionals who work with people with MND, working in conjunction with an academic
- Those who work in related areas who haven't done MND research before.

MND-related work areas include health sciences (including speech & language, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, nutrition, respiration), neurology, nursing, and palliative care.

How can the grant funding be used?

Grants are for MND-specific research projects, and can support postgraduate fees, summer studentships, or co-funding for MND-specific research within a larger research programme.

Applying

When does the grant round close?

Applications for the 2026 MND NZ Research Grant Round close at 5pm on Wednesday 27 November 2026.

I'm an allied health professional without research experience – can I still apply?

MND NZ recognises that busy health professionals may be passionate about improving care for people with MND but may not have direct research experience. If you've recognised a research need, we would like to hear from you early. We may be able to support you to partner with an academic working in MND or a related area.

Where can I find the official application form?

The application form can be accessed [here](#).

My colleague is already running a research programme – can I work within that?

Yes. Grants can support co-funding for MND-specific research within a larger research programme

What if I've done some research but haven't published it?

Requests for MND NZ publishing bursaries (\$1,500 each) are open year-round to lead authors publishing New Zealand-based MND research in peer-reviewed journals. When research is published, it can be used by other researchers and clinicians, gains credibility, and can influence how care is delivered. The [MND NZ Research Strategy 2025–28](#) provides more detail about the publishing bursaries. Or email admin@mndnz.org.nz.

When will I know if I've been successful?

Research grant applications will be reviewed and approved by the MND NZ Research Grants Committee. Up to three grants will be allocated in this round. We anticipate contacting successful and unsuccessful applications by 06 January 2027.

Support from MND NZ

Can I contact you for support?

Yes. If you're considering MND research, MND NZ wants to hear from you early. Please email admin@mndnz.org.nz.

The application process itself is straightforward, and the forms are as simple as possible.

What is the NZ MND Registry?

The NZ MND Registry, funded by MND NZ, is a rich source of information. It is used to support research including surveys, observational studies, and recruitment for clinical trials; information is carefully protected and deidentified. MND NZ has supported the Registry since it started in 2017.

How do I access the Registry for research?

A researcher can access the MND Registry by contacting the curator, Dr Margaret Ryan: mndregistry@otago.ac.nz | 0800 MND REG (0800 663 734).