



SA CVRN Award for PhD Rising Star in Cardiovascular Research

2026 Guidelines and Application Form

Instructions to applicants

Please read the instructions carefully before completing the application form. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Closing Date: 5pm 16 October 2026

Background

In 2026 we are pleased to offer the annual SA CVRN Awards for Cardiovascular Research to recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to research in cardiovascular diseases, including diabetes, stroke and renal disease.

The SA CVRN Awards for PhD Rising Star in Cardiovascular Research specifically recognises research excellence in doctoral studies for a researcher up to one year post PhD. In 2026 three PhD Rising Star in Cardiovascular Research Awards are available for each of the following research areas; Basic - Biomedical / Clinical Medicine and Science / Public Health.

Application for this Award is by nomination by a Senior Researcher or Senior Executive in a similar or related field (can be the Nominee's supervisor).

Who can be nominated?

Any researcher who is currently enrolled and nearing the end of their candidature but is yet to submit their thesis, or any researcher who has had their PhD conferred within one year prior to the closing date, and has pursued their PhD in SA, and has demonstrated excellence in cardiovascular research in their thesis submission.

Selection criteria

Excellence in achievement in cardiovascular research is demonstrated by the researcher's Track Record during and post PhD candidature (excluding achievements and Track Record prior to PhD enrolment).

A strong Track Record could include, but is not limited to:

- Specific research achievements
- Research impact and benefit
- Originality and significance
- Collaboration achievements
- Publications' record
- Grants awarded
- Awards and prizes.

Eligibility criteria

The PhD Rising Star Awards are open to residents of SA working in research in cardiovascular disciplines, including diabetes, stroke and renal disease.

Note:

- Only individual researchers are eligible (not research teams).
- The Nominee must be a member of the SA Cardiovascular Research Network (SA CVRN). If you are not a member of the SA CVRN, it is free to [join](#).
- Nominees must be either enrolled as a PhD Candidate and nearing the end of their candidature, or have had their PhD conferred in the 12 months prior to the closing date.
- Only Candidates who pursued their PhD in SA are eligible.
- Nominees must either be permanent residents or citizens of Australia.
- Self-nominations are not eligible.
- The winner is expected to attend the Awards Ceremony, 20 November 2026, unless extenuating circumstances will prevent attendance.

Nomination requirements

Nominators should hold a senior research or executive position and be from a similar or related field to that of the Nominee (can be the Nominee's supervisor). Nomination forms should be completed by the Nominator and Nominee.

A completed form should include:

- Nominator's reference and statement endorsing the Nominee;
- An outline by the Nominee of their research; and
- Nominee's brief resume or curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages) and key publications (maximum 1 page) completed by the Nominee.

Entries with insufficient documentation or documentation in excess of requirements, or those received after the closing date, will not be considered. Submitted material will not be returned.

Selection procedure

The SA CVRN Award Review Committee may include representatives from the relevant CVD research community, both within SA and nationally. The Review Committee will shortlist applicants against the selection criteria.

From the shortlist, the Review Committee will reach their decision on the recipients of the award solely on the material submitted by the Nominees and Nominators. The deliberations of the Review Committee will remain confidential. The decisions of the Review Committee in the selection of the Award recipients are final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

Award

Recipients of a SA CVRN Award for PhD Rising Star in Cardiovascular Research will receive a framed certificate alongside public and peer recognition at the SA CVRN Awards Ceremony.

Winners will also receive a cash prize of \$500 each, intended to support their career in cardiovascular research. The cash prize is paid via the recipient's employing institution. Payments cannot be made directly to individuals.

Privacy legislation

Individuals, investigators or research institutions associated with SA CVRN Awards shall abide by the current NHMRC Guidelines issued pursuant to Section 95 of the Privacy Act 1988. All applications will be treated confidentially and will only be viewed by assessors, review committees, and SA CVRN staff.

Closing date

Applications must be submitted by the Nominator.

All nominations must be received by 5pm ACST on 16 October 2026.

Following receipt, each nomination will be thoroughly checked for completion. When all relevant information has been obtained, the nomination will be submitted to the Review Committee for consideration.

When are recipients advised?

Shortlisted applicants will be notified approximately 3 weeks prior to the Awards Ceremony. Shortlisted applicants may be requested to participate in promoting and marketing of the Awards, prior to the Ceremony.

The winner of the Award will be announced at the SA CVRN Awards Ceremony, and following the Awards, the recipient will be advised officially in writing of the offer of the award. The name of the successful Nominee will be published on the SA CVRN, Heart Foundation Website.

The SA CVRN Awards Ceremony will be held on 20 November 2026.

Are nominators advised

Nominators are advised of the outcome of their nomination coincident with notification of shortlisted applicants.

More information or help

If you have any questions or require guidance, please contact sacvrn@heartfoundation.org.au

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Nomination Form

Nominee Details

Title First Name Surname

Current Appointment

Current Institution

Preferred contact number Email

Date PhD conferred (Institution) or Expected Date of Completion (Institution)

Which research area are you nominating for the award? (tick one only)

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Basic-Biomedical

☐

Clinical medicine and Science

☐

Public Health

Current Research Interests (key phrases only)

Signature

Date

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Nominator's Details

Please provide your contact details to enable officers of the Review Committee to seek further information, if required.

Title

First Name

Surname

Current Appointment

Current Institution

Research Area

Current Research Interests (Key phrases only)

Preferred contact number

Email

Describe the nature of the Nominator's relationship with their Nominee

Signature

Date / /

Nominator's Reference - to be completed by the Nominator

Briefly outline the candidate's research/academic achievements including impact, outputs and collaborations relating to cardiovascular research and describe their standing relative to opportunity in their field. Include a description of what it is that sets them apart from their peers in the field and discipline in terms of achievements to date.

You may wish to consider:

- Specific research achievements
- Research impact and benefit
- Originality and significance of research
- Collaboration achievements
- Publications' record
- Grants awarded
- Awards and prizes.

Maximum 500 words

Nominee's Statement - to be completed by the Nominee

Briefly describe in **plain language** your research and its implications for cardiovascular disease and how it will benefit the community. May be used for media. (Maximum 200 words)

Nominee's CV and Key Publications - to be completed by the Nominee

Please attach:

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Brief resume or curriculum vitae of the Nominee (Maximum 2 pages)

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Nominee's key publications (Maximum 1 page, no smaller than 11pt Calibri).

Completing and Submitting Nomination

Please complete this Nomination Form including:

- Nominee's and Nominator's contact details
- Nominator's Reference Statement
- Nominee's Statement.
- Nominee's 2 page curriculum vitae
- Nominee's list of key publications (max 1 page).

Incomplete submissions will not be considered by the Selection Committee.

To Submit: email to sacvrn@heartfoundation.org.au

Nominations must be received by 5pm ACDT on 16 October 2026