1. **Purpose of the Scheme**

1.1 The College of Business Early Career Researcher (ECR) Publication scheme is a competitive scheme for ECRs. This scheme will assist ECRs in establishing track records for future grant funding scheme applications.

1.2 The scheme:

   a. does not fund new research but provides funding to complete research that is already substantially in progress towards an A* or A journal as identified on the ERA or Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) Journal Lists.

   b. provides funding to redevelop paper(s) that have received a resubmission review from an A* or A journal as identified on the ERA or ABDC Journal Lists.

2. **Eligibility**

2.1 Applicants must be an academic staff member in the College of Business, RMIT, and be the first author of the publication(s). Their co-authors, if any, need not be ECRs.

2.2 ECRs are defined as academics who have been awarded a doctorate within the last five years.

2.3 If the ECR is employed on a fixed term contract, he or she must demonstrate that their employment will last the duration of the grant.

2.4 If the ECR currently holds or has any prior funding for the proposed project, whether from RMIT or elsewhere, this must be disclosed on the application form.

2.5 All reporting and compliance obligations for previously funded grants from any College of Business research funding schemes must be fulfilled for applications to be deemed eligible. Applications will be excluded from consideration where reporting requirements have not been fulfilled.

3. **Duration of Grant**

3.1 Grants for Semester 1 2014 must be expended by 13 June 2014.

4. **Funding**

4.1 The total value of each grant from this scheme is up to $5,000, subject to availability.

5. **Application Process**

5.1 Applications must be submitted to Danielle Annese, Research Coordinator, on the College of Business Early Career Researcher Publication scheme Application Form.

5.2 Applications must be accompanied by a publication proposal no more than one page in length (excluding references) using 12 point font identifying:

   i) the stage at which the publication(s) is at;

   ii) timetable for the submission or resubmission of the publication(s); or

   iii) potential for refereed publication in the 2010 ERA or Australian Business Deans Council list of A* or A journals;

   iv) contribution to the RMIT Business research profile through alignment with areas of research concentration.

   Do not include attachments.

5.3 Applications must be accompanied by no more than a one page track record for each investigator outlining their publications and external research income for the years 2011-2013. Publications must include journal rankings as identified on the ERA or ABDC Journal Lists.

5.4 The applicant’s Head of School must sign the declaration stating that they support the application and have sufficient resources to accommodate the proposed research project/publication.

5.5 A signed electronic copy of the completed application must be submitted by 4.00pm on Wednesday 21 August, 2013.

5.6 ECRs can only submit one application per funding round.

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1 These include: College of Business Research Grant scheme; College of Business Staff Doctorate Completion scheme; College of Business Early Career Researcher Publication scheme and College of Business Research Readership scheme.
6. **Administration Process**

6.1 Funding will be transferred to an account in the first ECR’s School.

6.2 Unspent funds will be reclaimed by the Business Research Office at the end of the grant period.

6.3 Throughout the grant duration the College Research Capacity Building Team will be available to provide assistance in the writing and submission processes.

7. **Assessment Procedure**

7.1 Applications will be assessed and ranked by the Deputy PVC (Research) and the Deputy Heads of School (Research).

8. **Selection Criteria**

8.1 The assessment will be based on the quality of the proposed publication(s) and the performance record of the applicant(s), including:

   a. viability of proposed publication plan;
   b. potential for refereed publication in an A* or A journal;
   c. track record of publications and other research outputs; and
   d. contribution to the RMIT Business research profile through alignment with areas of research concentration.

9. **Compliance**

9.1 All publications involving human participants must have approval by the College of Business CHEAN (College Human Ethics Advisory Network) or the RMIT Human Research Ethics Committee (http://www.rmit.edu.au/governance/committees/hrec).

9.2 All researchers must comply with the RMIT Intellectual Property policy (http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=65zyqgra83gl).

9.3 All grant recipients must submit a paper for publication to an ERA or ABDC A* or A journal. Failure to submit a paper for publication will render awardees ineligible for future grants from this scheme.

9.4 All grant recipients must participate in a quality development workshop organised by the College of Business prior to the submission of this paper.

9.5 Within three months of completing the grant, grant holders must submit a half page report to the Deputy PVC Research outlining the publication and its reference details.

9.6 The grant is non-transferable to another institution. If the ECR ceases to be employed by the College of Business, RMIT, the grant funds will be retained by the College of Business.

10. **Budget**

10.1 There are two application options, both of which require a detailed, accurately costed budget and justification of the requested funding. Quotes must be provided where relevant. Chosen option (A OR B) must be disclosed in the Application Form.

10.2 **Option A** - this provides support with:

   • research assistants – (e.g. to update materials, finalise/review analyses, editor) – indicate level of salary (including on-costs) and hours
   • limited amount of travel and accommodation (e.g. to undertake field work or archival research)

10.3 **Option B** - this provides buy out of one class with the Head of School’s approval, which includes:

   • buy out of teaching time of one class for the semester with the agreement that the grantee not engage in any above load teaching or administrative duties for that semester.

10.4 The following budget items are not supported by the scheme under either option:

   a. presentation at conferences
   b. salaries of ECRs
   c. computing equipment and software (Schools will be expected to provide this)

   Note: if specialised computer software is necessary, then it must be secured prior to application and details must be disclosed in the application proposal.