



**Movember Institute of Men's Health**

**Research Partnership Opportunity - Gaming and Masculinities and Young Men's Mental Health  
(2025)**

---

Request for Applications (RFA)

**ISSUE DATE:** 24 March 2025

**CLOSING TIME:** 12 midnight on 16 April 2025 (Australian eastern standard time)

**FUNDING:** \$125,000 (AUD equivalent) to be released across 2 stages

**DOCUMENT STRUCTURE:**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
Part A	General information and instructions to Applicants
Part B	Specific RFA requirements – overview of the partnership, key dates and any other requirements.
Part C	Research Partnership scope, application guidelines and eligibility

# PART A

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

---

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. The Research Partnership Opportunity

The Movember Institute of Men's Health (Movember Institute) is seeking Applicants to submit an Application for a Research Partnership Project as set out further in Part B and Part C.

#### 1.2. About Movember and the Movember Institute of Men's Health

Movember is leading charity changing the face of men's health on a global scale. Since 2003, the charity has created a men's health movement, raising awareness and critical funds to tackle some of the biggest problems affecting men's health and wellbeing today. It has taken on mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer. It has funded over 1320 men's health projects globally, challenging the status quo, and transformed the way we reach and connect with men, and the communities around men, to support their health and wellbeing.

Movember is doing this by partnering with its community and expert partners all year round. The charity's vision is to have an everlasting impact on the face of men's health. Leading the charge in encouraging men to adopt healthy behaviours, challenging health systems and confronting gender norms and health inequities, to save more lives.

Building on a 20-year legacy of investment in men's physical and mental health, the Movember Institute of Men's Health was established in 2023 to strengthen our advocacy work, enhance convening across the men's health landscape, and to uplift the men's health research sector to fast-track knowledge generation and its translation into real world delivery programs that are impactful and far-reaching.

#### 1.3. Introduction to the Movember Research Partnership Opportunity

This research partnership opportunity provides Applicants with the chance to work with the Movember Institute of Men's Health on a priority area in men's health. This opportunity is designed to foster innovation and collaboration by funding a two-stage project that evolves based on the insights gained in the initial phase.

In **Stage 1**, Movember will fund the successful Applicant to explore a new or existing area of men's health, with the goal of generating valuable findings that can inform a future intervention or innovation. The outcomes from Stage 1 will form the basis for developing a focused, actionable plan for **Stage 2**, which will build directly on the discoveries and progress made in the first phase. For both stages, the successful Applicant will work in partnership with a designated Research Fellow at the Movember Institute of Men's Health.

Once Stage 1 is completed, Movember will continue its support by partnering with the successful Applicant to design and fund **Stage 2** of the project. This phase will test the hypotheses or findings from Stage 1. By creating a dynamic partnership between the Movember Institute of Men's Health and the successful Applicant, this opportunity encourages adaptive, data-driven research that can evolve in real time, ensuring the development of tangible, and impactful solutions for men's health.

#### 1.4. Purpose of this RFA

The purpose of this RFA is to:

- (a) invite Applicants, through an open call, to submit a partnership Application;
- (b) provide each Applicant with general information to assist in the preparation and lodgement of their Application; and

- (c) set out information about the evaluation and assessment process, and other requirements of the Movember Institute of Men's Health.

## **2. THE RFA PROCESS**

### **2.1. Proposed RFA timetable**

- (a) The RFA process timetable and requirements for lodgement is set out in Part B.
- (b) Movember will acknowledge receipt of Applications by email and Applicants must retain email confirmation as verification that the application has been received.

### **2.2. Communications**

Unless directed otherwise, Applicants must direct their communications with the Movember Institute of Men's Health, including any questions arising during the preparation of their application or requests for clarification, via email to [partnerships@movember.com](mailto:partnerships@movember.com).

### **2.3. Questions**

Prior to the Closing Time, all questions and enquiries received from an Applicant, and the subsequent answers to such questions, may be shared with other Applicants. The Movember Institute of Men's Health may refuse to answer any question at any time.

## **3. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS**

### **3.1. Application documents**

In lodging an Application, each Applicant understands and agrees that:

- (a) their Application must conform with the requirements of this RFA (including the requirements set out in Part B and Part C);
- (b) their Application will become the property of Movember at the time of lodgement and will be treated as confidential; and
- (c) Movember may use and copy the Application as required for the purpose of this RFA process, evaluating the Applications, negotiating an Agreement and external audit requirements.

### **3.2. Non-conforming Applications**

An Application may be regarded as non-conforming if it is not lodged in accordance with the terms and conditions or the requirements of this RFA. Movember may, in its absolute discretion, accept or reject an Application that is non-conforming.

### **3.3. Costs and expenses**

Participation in this RFA is at the Applicant's sole risk, cost and expense. In particular, all costs incurred by or on behalf of an Applicant in relation to this RFA, including:

- (a) in relation to preparing and lodging an Application;
- (b) providing Movember with any further information; or
- (c) participating in subsequent negotiations with Movember,

are wholly the responsibility of the Applicant (regardless of whether the Applicant is successful in the RFA process).

### **3.4. General Application Requirements**

An Application submitted under this RFA must include the following:

- (a) information about the academic profile of the Applicant including, but not limited to:
  - (i) information about the qualifications, training and position and relevant expertise;

- (ii) details about the Applicant's research team, where applicable, that will be involved in the Project;
  - (iii) confirmation that there is no past, current, pending or finalised litigation or academic conduct complaint under investigation that would impact upon the Applicant's ability to perform the Project, or an explanation of such litigation/complaint;
  - (iv) particulars of any petition, claim, action, judgment or decision which is likely to impact or affect the Applicant's undertaking of the Project;
  - (v) where applicable, information on corporate and ownership structure, including information on related bodies corporate;>
- (b) information about how the Applicant will meet each of the requirements set out in this RFA;
  - (c) details of similar research which the Applicant has been involved in; and
  - (d) any other matters that are relevant to the Applicant's ability to undertake the Project.

#### **4. APPLICATION EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT**

##### **4.1. Overview**

The evaluation of Applications by Movember will be based on the information provided by Applicants as set out in their Applications. The evaluation of Applications will be completed in accordance with:

- (a) any assessment criteria set out in Part B and Part C;
- (b) the best Application as per a whole (assessed at Movember's complete discretion) – this involves consideration of the assessment of relevant expertise and track record demonstrating capability and capacity.
- (c) the Applicant's ability to satisfy Movember that it is able to comply with any reporting or other compliance requirements as set out in this RFA in its performance of the Project.

##### **4.2. Independent enquiries**

Movember may make independent enquiries about any of the matters that may be relevant to the evaluation of the Application.

#### **5. ENGAGEMENT OF APPLICANT**

##### **5.1. Notification**

If Movember decides to proceed with an Applicant, Movember will notify the preferred Applicant in writing. Unsuccessful Respondents will not be contacted unless otherwise stated in this RFA. Prior to formally engaging the preferred Applicant, execution of a formal agreement as set out in section 5.2, will be required.

##### **5.2. Execution of Agreement**

- (a) By submitting an Application, the Applicant acknowledges and agrees that if selected by Movember, the Project will be governed by an agreement prepared by Movember (**Agreement**).
- (b) The successful Applicant will be required to execute the Agreement in the form provided by Movember, with limited negotiation of terms.

- (c) Notwithstanding the binding nature of an Application, the Applicant acknowledges that there is no binding agreement with Movember until the Agreement is executed by the Applicant and Movember.

## **6. GENERAL**

### **6.1. Insurance**

The successful Applicant must take out and maintain with reputable insurance companies such policies as reasonable for the purposes of the Project. The successful Applicant must also provide certificates of currency or other appropriate evidence of such insurance on the reasonable written request of Movember.

### **6.2. Conflict of interest**

Where an Applicant identifies that circumstances or relationships exist (or may arise in the performance of the Project which constitute or may constitute a conflict or potential conflict of interest, the Applicant must detail that conflict of interest in their Application.

Where any actual or potential conflict of interest is notified, Movember may, in its absolute discretion, take any action it considers appropriate. If any actual or potential conflict of interest arises after the Closing Time and prior to submitting an Application, the Applicant must immediately notify Movember in writing.

### **6.3. Confidentiality**

Each Applicant acknowledges that it is under an obligation of confidentiality to ensure that this RFA and any other documents or information concerning this RFA is kept confidential and is only used for the sole purpose of preparing an Application and participating in this RFA process. This obligation of confidentiality survives the termination or expiration of the RFA process, and any further written agreements between the parties.

### **6.4. Anti-competitive conduct**

- (a) Applicants must not engage in any collusive, anti-competitive or similar conduct with any other Applicant in relation to the RFA process which includes, but is not limited to:
- (i) preparation, content or lodgement of their Application; and
  - (ii) the conduct of negotiations with Movember.
- (b) For the purpose of this clause 6.4, anti-competitive conduct or any other similar conduct may include disclosure, exchange and clarification of information, whether or not such information is confidential to Movember or any other Applicant.

### **6.5. Intellectual Property**

Excluding the Applicant's Application, all documents comprising this RFA remain the property of Movember. All copyright and other Intellectual Property Rights contained in this RFA are, and remain, vested in Movember.

### **6.6. Accuracy of RFA**

Whilst all due care has been taken in connection with the preparation of this RFA, Movember does not make any warranties or representations that the content of this RFA or any part of it or any information communicated to or provided to Applicants in connection with this RFA or during the RFA process is, or will be, accurate, current or complete. Movember will not be liable in respect of any information communicated or provided which is not accurate, current or complete or for any omission from this RFA. Applicants should conduct their own independent investigations, review and analysis of the information set out in this RFA.

### **6.7. Movember's rights**

Movember may, in its absolute discretion and at any time without penalty:

- (a) amend this RFA, provide additional information or clarification and/or change the structure and timing of the RFA process. Any changes to this RFA will be communicated by Movember in writing. It is the responsibility of each Applicant to ensure they are referring to, and referencing, the most up to date RFA;
- (b) suspend, defer, discontinue or vary the RFA process (including during the negotiation process);
- (c) determine, at any stage a shortlist of Applicants;
- (d) require additional information or clarification from an Applicant;
- (e) exclude or disqualify an Applicant, or discontinue negotiations with an Applicant for any reason; and
- (f) negotiate with or enter into contractual arrangements with a party who is not an Applicant and enter into a contract with that party on such terms as Movember accepts.

#### **6.8. Acknowledgement**

In lodging an Application, the Applicant acknowledges that:

- (a) it has reviewed this RFA, any documents referred to in it, and any other information made available in writing by Movember in relation to this RFA process;
- (b) this RFA is designed to summarise information concerning Movember's requirements only and is not necessarily a comprehensive description;
- (c) to the maximum extent permitted by law, neither Movember, nor its employees, advisors or agents will in any way be liable to any person or body for any claim related to this RFA;
- (d) in lodging an Application, it did not rely on any express or implied statement, warranty or representation, whether written or oral, other than as expressly contained in this RFA;
- (e) it did not use the improper assistance of Movember's employees;
- (f) it has satisfied itself as to the correctness and sufficiency of its Application;
- (g) nothing in this RFA is to be construed, interpreted or relied upon, whether expressly or implied, as an offer capable of acceptance by any person, or as creating any form of contractual, promissory or other rights;
- (h) all Applicants are deemed to accept the terms and conditions contained in this RFA, which will also form part of a further written agreement between the parties (if the Applicant is successful in the RFA process).

#### **6.9. Allowable costs**

The following expenditures will be considered eligible for the Project:

- (a) Project operating costs for the proposed project, which must be distinct in its objectives from those for which group members currently receive funding;
- (b) Costs of data collection, database management, database integration and maintenance;
- (c) Costs of local, national or international networking activities, including collaboration, planning, and knowledge exchange activities, as determined to be reasonable and agreed to by Movember (relevant in Stage 2 only);
- (d) Salaries of project officers, research assistants, coordinators, technicians, administrative staff, and other personnel; and

- (e) Costs involved in linkage with, and dissemination of findings to, targeted recipients/end users.

#### 6.10. Ineligible costs

The following expenditures are not eligible expenses for the Project:

- (a) Institutional overhead costs,
- (b) Capital costs including associated with construction, renovation or rental of offices, laboratories or other supporting facilities.
- (c) Tuition and professional membership dues.
- (d) Secondary funding issued by the successful Applicant.

#### 6.11. Communication requirements

As a partnership project, the successful Applicant will be required to work in partnership with the Movember Institute of Men's Health and the designated Research Fellow on all communications and publications related to this funding opportunity and the project. In addition, the successful Applicant is also required to adhere to Movember branding requirements as a condition of the funding.

#### 6.12. Performance measurement

Reporting requirements

The Applicant will be required to submit the following:

- (a) **Slide deck:** A slide deck is required within 1 month of the completion of each major stage of the project outlining progress and key outcomes.
- (b) **Financial Reports:** Submission of financial reports outlining expenditure of funds in relation to the research project are required at the end of each stage. At the completion of the project, a financial acquittal will be required.
- (c) **Final report:** The final report will be in the form of one or more draft manuscripts, agreed upon and prepared by the partnership (Movember Institute of Men's Health Research Fellow and successful Applicant, and respective team members), within 3 months of the project end date, if not already prepared throughout the project.

## 7. DEFINED TERMS

In this RFA, unless the context requires otherwise, these terms have the following meaning:

Term	Definition
<b>Agreement</b>	has the meaning as set out in clause 5.2(a).
<b>Closing Time</b>	means the date and closing time for submitting an Application as set out in section 2.1, or as otherwise extended by Movember in writing.
<b>Commencement Date</b>	means the commencement date of the Project.
<b>Intellectual Property Rights</b>	means all intellectual property rights, including but not limited to the following rights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. patents, copyright, rights in circuit layouts, designs, moral rights, trade and service marks (including goodwill in those marks), domain names and trade names and any right to have confidential information kept confidential;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. any application or right to apply for registration of any of the rights referred to above; and</li> <li>c. all rights of a similar nature to any of the rights above which may subsist anywhere in the world, whether or not such rights are registered or capable of being registered.</li> </ul>
<b>Movember</b>	means Movember Group Pty Ltd as Trustee for Movember Foundation (ABN 48 894 537 905) or any other entity in the Movember Group as advised by Movember.
<b>Application</b>	means the documents constituting the Applicant's research proposal under this RFA.
<b>Applicant</b>	means a researcher interested in undertaking the Project pursuant to this RFA.
<b>RFA</b>	means this Request for Application, including all attachments, annexures, or schedules if applicable.
<b>Project</b>	means the research project to be completed by the Applicant, as set out in Part B and Part C.
<b>Partnership</b>	means a research partnership (active collaboration) involving the successful Applicant as the external Project Lead, and a designated Research Fellow at the Movember Institute of Men's Health, and their respective research teams.



# PART B

## RFA REQUIREMENTS

---

### 1 KEY DATES

#### 1.1 Proposed RFA Timetable

The following table provides indicative dates in relation to this RFA process (which, may be amended by Movember in writing at any time in its sole discretion):

Activity	Date
RFA issued	24 March 2025
Last date for questions and enquiries	4 April 2025
Closing date and time	By 12 midnight on 16 April 2025 (Australian eastern standard time)
Selection panel meets to review RFAs and select successful application	23 April 2025
Notice of outcome	30 April 2025
Commencement date	No later than 4 weeks from notice of outcome

#### 1.2 Lodgement of Applications

The Application must be lodged by the closing time by email to [partnerships@movember.com](mailto:partnerships@movember.com) with the subject line: App\_2025\_gaming\_masculinities.

##### Application Format

Applications should be a single Microsoft Word document saved as a PDF:

- (a) prepared in Arial font (regular), minimum 11 point and in single-spaced text;
- (b) on an A4-sized page 8.3" x 11.7" (21cm x 29.7cm) with 1" (2.54cm) margin on all sides of each page;
- (c) include a header on each page with the Applicant's surname in the top left-hand corner, and the page number in the top right-hand corner; and
- (d) password protected (if preferred).

### 2 PARTNERSHIPS FUNDING

#### 2.1 Overview

The Movember Institute of Men's Health aims to partner with researchers to undertake research to address high priorities in men's health and wellbeing.

#### 2.2 Application evaluation and assessment criteria

The assessment criteria for this RFA are:

- (a) the Applicant has the relevant expertise and a strong track record in the proposed area of research,
- (b) the Applicant has demonstrated they have the infrastructure, resource capacity and governance in place to undertake the research; and
- (c) the Application is of high quality, competitive, and aligns with the research objectives.

# PART C

## RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP SCOPE, APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND ELIGIBILITY

---

### SCOPE

**Name of Partnership:** Movember Institute of Men's Health Research Partnership: Gaming and Masculinities and Young Men's Mental Health (2025)

**Overall objective:** The Movember Institute of Men's Health is prioritising investment in translatable research that explores the intersection of gaming, masculinity, and the mental health and wellbeing of boys and men. We want to efficiently generate high-quality evidence on how gaming environments shape, reinforce or shift masculine identities, influence mental health and wellbeing, and impact help-seeking behaviours. Simply put, what impact does gaming have on young men's masculinities and vice versa? This work will take a strength-based and expansive view of masculinities in all their diversity, understanding how the gaming environment acts as a space for gender socialisation (both challenging and embedding norms) which directly impacts on young men's mental health. This is to inform data driven innovations in practice and programs that support the health and wellbeing of boys and men who enjoy the world of gaming.

**Research scope:** The research and funding will be stage-gated across 2 stages.

#### Stage 1 (\$25,000 AUD equivalent – 6 months)

Stage 1 will involve a comprehensive literature review(s) (systematic or scoping) to establish contemporary theories of gaming masculinities.

Potential research questions to be answered in Stage 1 (to be co-designed with successful applicants)

1. How do in-game and offline gaming environments influence young men's masculinities?
2. How do cultural and social norms intersect with young men's masculinities in gaming communities?
3. Do frameworks/theories exist to contextualise gaming masculinities?
  - a. What are the frameworks/theories which seek to contextualise gaming masculinities?
4. Is there evidence for the role of gaming masculinities in young men's mental health?
  - a. What is the role of gaming masculinities in young men's mental health?
5. What are the most important next research directions for this field?

#### Stage 2 (\$100,000AUD equivalent – up to 18 months)

Stage 2 will proceed provisionally upon satisfactory completion of Stage 1.

The partnership (Movember Institute of Men's Health Research Fellow/team and the external Project Lead/team) will review the results of Stage 1 and the important research directions proposed, to scope the Stage 2 research, develop a research plan and undertake the research. The research could include qualitative research, quantitative or experimental approaches, and stakeholder and consumer consultation and co-design will be integral to this stage.

Desired outcomes for this research

- Building of an enduring partnership between experts and the Movember Institute of Men's Health to fast-track advances in men's health and wellbeing.
- A comprehensive literature review distilling current theories of gaming masculinities, and empirical evidence on how gaming environments influence masculinities and its moderation of men's mental health and wellbeing.

- Actionable evidence that can be practically applied for gaming communities, mental health advocacy, and for policy recommendations.
- Sharing of evidence through peer reviewed publications.

## ELIGIBILITY

**Further to criteria referenced in PART A, Applicants should only apply if they have:**

- demonstrated expertise in masculinities and/or gaming research,
- a track record of high-quality research and research outputs, including the conduct of comprehensive literature reviews,
- demonstrated success in partnering with key stakeholders, including in research, and
- can confirm that infrastructure, resource capacity, and governance is in place to undertake the research.

## APPLICATION GUIDELINE

**Section 1: Research proposal** (4 page maximum, excluding references)

### Stage 1: Systematic review

It is recommended that the research proposal for Stage 1 include the following:

- overall statement, with evidence, of the Applicant's proficiency in conducting and publishing high-quality systematic or scoping literature reviews,
- project background and rationale,
- objective(s) and specific aim(s),
- methodology, and
- approach to synthesis of findings for Stage 2.

### Stage 2

As this stage of the project will only be scoped after Stage 1 is complete, it is recommended that the Applicant focus on the following in this section of the proposal:

- using examples, describe the successful approaches (and methodologies) the Applicant uses to move results of comprehensive literature reviews into further empirical research,
- briefly outline any preliminary ideas for Stage 2 research, based on the Applicant's current understanding of masculinities and/or gaming,
- describe existing stakeholder relationships and knowledge that can be drawn upon for Stage 2 work,
- describe ethical considerations for stage 2 research,
- describe how Applicants address diversity, equity and inclusion in their research methodologies, and
- describe, with examples, how the Applicant ensures consumer co-design principles in research (where applicable).

### Other information

The Applicant is also required to:

- describe the infrastructure, resource capacity, and governance in place to undertake this research project at their organisation, and
- list all proposed project team members (position and affiliation).

### **Section 2: NIH style biosketch** (4 pages maximum)

A NIH style biosketch is required for the Applicant who should be the Project Lead. The biosketch should convey the Applicant's strong track record in the field of masculinities and/or gaming research. This should include previous and current research funding and all academic outputs for the last 5 years, including those associated with awarded grants.