

Fraser Mustard PhD Top-up Scholarship

The Fraser Mustard Centre, named in honour of Dr Fraser Mustard's contribution to child development in South Australia, is a research collaboration between the South Australian Department for Education and the Telethon Kids Institute. We are offering a three-year PhD Top-up Scholarship valued at \$36,000 (\$12,000 paid p.a. comprising \$8,000 p.a. stipend and \$4,000 p.a. research support) to an outstanding student who is passionate about improving developmental, health and education outcomes for children and young people.

The successful PhD candidate will be co-supervised by a team member from the Telethon Kids Institute and/or South Australian Department for Education. The following areas are of interest, but all topics will be considered:

- Social and emotional wellbeing, mental health, school engagement and academic achievement of primary and high school students.
- School breakfast programs designed to reduce breakfast skipping among students, as well as effects of skipping breakfast on child and adolescent wellbeing and academic outcomes.
- The home environment including language exposure and screen use, during the early years and its influence on children's health and development.
- Genetic testing, childhood disease/disorder and wellbeing and education outcomes
- Early education and care pathways and children's later development outcomes

The successful candidate will have access to existing South Australian administrative datasets on student's wellbeing, engagement, academic achievement (NAPLAN), and child development at school entry (AEDC) to use in their PhD research.

The Fraser Mustard Centre aims to:

- improve and promote the development, health, wellbeing, and education of all children and young people in South Australia through the unique application of multidisciplinary research
- help shift focus from the historical delineation between health and education services to an integrated approach with a focus on child development
- build capacity amongst public sector staff and academic researchers to design, undertake and use research to improve the environments in which children live and the service systems which support families.

To be eligible applicants must:

- have completed an undergraduate degree with first class honours or demonstrate equivalent research experience
- meet the admission requirements for a PhD at an Australian University
- be willing to enrol full-time for a research higher degree (PhD or equivalent) at an Australian University
- apply for a Research Training Program (RTP) or equivalent scholarship or demonstrate evidence of outstanding research ability.

Applications need to include:

- a cover letter outlining your research interests and how they align with the work of the Fraser Mustard Centre
- a copy of the scholarship application which has been submitted to the University (please note that you must apply separately for scholarship support) or supporting evidence of outstanding research ability. Students should email verification that a scholarship has been awarded as soon as possible
- a copy of your tertiary studies academic record. Students should email Honours/Masters results as soon as possible
- a copy of your curriculum vitae
- contact details of two referees.

Applications will be judged on merit.

Enquiries and applications:

Trudy Crickmar

info.FraserMustardcentre@sa.gov.au

For more information about the Fraser Mustard Centre, visit www.frasermustardcentre.sa.edu.au