

Virtual or Hybrid Churchill Fellowships

About this option

The WCMT recognises that for some applicants leaving Australia for four to eight weeks is very difficult or not at all possible. Reasons why applicants may not be able to travel overseas or undertake longer-term travel include, having a disability, having carer responsibilities or owning a small business (e.g. running a farm).

For this reason we offer two alternative Fellowships:

- A) The Virtual Fellowship option is for applicants who are unable to undertake overseas travel and enables them to complete a Fellowship virtually (e.g. through virtual meetings).
- B) The Hybrid Fellowship option is for applicants who can conduct overseas travel for a short period of time who may need to complete the remainder of the Fellowship virtually. There is a minimum requirement for overseas travel time for hybrid Fellowships but it will be considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the destination/s and the associated costs.

Eligibility

- Applicants who have a disability preventing them from travelling overseas for extended periods of time, if at all
- Applicants who have caring responsibilities meaning they cannot be absent for extended periods of time, if at all
- Applicants who own a small business and cannot be absent from their workplace for extended periods of time, if it all e.g. farmers
- Applicants who need to travel to a particular destination for part of their Fellowship but are not able to due to border closures or the country being deemed not safe for travel. This option is for Hybrid Fellowships only.

Is there any information required from the applicant *in addition* to the application form?

The applicant will need to indicate in the application form that they would like to be considered for the “Virtual Fellowship” or “Hybrid Fellowship” within the Alternative Fellowship Type field. When selected a new field will open asking how you are eligible for this Alternative Fellowship Type. When an applicant is completing the itinerary section of the application form, they will need to check the “virtual” checkbox for every itinerary line they plan to do virtually.

Are there any different funding or insurance details the applicant should be aware of?

The Churchill Trust will provide successful applicants with adequate funding enabling them to successfully complete their Hybrid or Virtual Fellowship. The funding for the overseas travel component of the Fellowship will remain as it is for a standard Fellowship. For the virtual component of the Fellowship, funding is available should a Fellow require monetary support to enable them to fully focus on their research e.g. renting an Airbnb while conducting their Fellowship meetings. One week of this allowance will be withheld until the report has been approved. Successful applicants conducting their Fellowship as a virtual or hybrid Fellowship will be covered by travel insurance.

If you are interested in applying for this Alternative Fellowship Type, please contact the Churchill Trust to discuss on 02 6247 8333.