



## THELMA CARDWELL FOUNDATION AWARD FOR RESEARCH 2026

### Application form

#### Introduction

The aim of the WFOT Thelma Cardwell Foundation Award for Research is to provide funding for pilot projects or small-scale feasibility projects that can build and/or strengthen research capacity in occupational therapy.

#### Criteria

1. The WFOT Thelma Cardwell Foundation Award for Research specifically addresses contextually relevant and culturally sensitive projects that support the occupational needs of local communities and individuals.
2. Applications must relate to one or more of the WFOT international occupational therapy research priorities:
  - Effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions
  - Evidence-based practice and knowledge translation
  - Participation in everyday life
  - Healthy ageing
  - Occupational therapy and chronic conditions
  - Sustainable community development and population based-occupational therapy interventions
  - Technology and occupational therapy
  - Occupational therapy professional issues

More information on WFOT international occupational therapy research priorities can be found in: <https://wfot.org/resources/wfot-research-priorities>.

3. Applications must support original ideas that have not received funds from other sources.
4. Projects should be completed within a two-year maximum timeline. Applications are not accepted for projects that have commenced prior to the date of the award announcement.
5. The principal investigator for each application must be an individual member of WFOT.
6. Only one application can be submitted for each applicant.
7. Budgets totalling up to US\$5500 will be considered for funding. The Award funds may be used for human resources support, equipment, supplies, participant compensation or technical assistance for an approved project. Funding does not allow for indirect costs. Travel is an allowable cost item but only if it pertains to the completion of the research project (data collection or analysis). WFOT allows congress/conference registration to disseminate the results of the research project, but not travel.
8. The successful applicant(s) must be willing to submit an interim and final project report to WFOT.

#### Application deadline

The application deadline is the **30 September 2025 by 5:00pm** in the applicant's time zone.

#### Guidelines

For more information, please review the [Guidelines for the Thelma Cardwell Foundation Award for Research](#).

**Review**

Applications for the Award will be assessed by external reviewers.

The successful applicant will be announced at the WFOT General Assembly Meeting, held every second year.

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Privacy Policy

\* You understand that by sharing your personal data with WFOT, it will be used in accordance with the WFOT Privacy Policy. See our Privacy Policy here:

<https://www.wfot.org/privacy-cookies>

Yes

Comment

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Applicant Information

\* PROJECT TITLE:

\* PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Provide full name, country and affiliation.

\* WFOT INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP NUMBER of the Principal Investigator:

MEMBER ORGANISATION COUNTRY of the Principal Investigator:

CO-INVESTIGATORS: Provide full names, country and affiliation.

\* FULL postal address of the Principal Investigator:

\* EMAIL address of the Principal Investigator:

\* Please RESUBMIT the email address of the Principal Investigator:

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Project Abstract

\* Provide a summary of the project using language that a general audience can understand. Indicate why and to whom this work is relevant and important. Maximum 250 words.

Note: This abstract will be available to WFOT members if the proposal is funded.

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Project Rationale and Background

\* Describe how the project:

- Addresses one or more of the International Occupational Therapy Research priorities
- Addresses the occupational needs of the individuals or community
- Advances the current knowledge and understanding of occupation and participation
- Is built on a grounded theoretical and evidence-based framework

Maximum 350 words.

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Objectives, Methodology and Intended Impact

\* Describe the specific objectives of the project, as well as the way in which this project contributes or will lay the foundation for long-term research objectives. Maximum 150 words.

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\* Clearly identify the proposed methods and/or approach, as well as a description of the participants or partners, the procedures and outcomes. If ethics approval is necessary (for all research involving participants) please provide a statement regarding the ethics board from which approval will be sought. Maximum 300 words.

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\* Describe how this award will foster research capacity and continued advancement of occupational therapy and occupational science. Maximum 250 words.



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Budget

\* Outline a detailed budget. These answers have logic applied

Include the amount requested with a brief justification, including (if applicable): a) Personnel  
b) Equipment (itemise) c) Consumables/materials (itemise) d) Other expenses (itemise)  
Maximum 500 words.

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

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Curriculum Vitae

\* Provide a concise Curriculum Vitae These answers have logic applied

Do not exceed two pages (Include current affiliations, education, professional experience and appointments, as well as recent and relevant publications from the last five years).

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

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Letters of Support

**Two letters of support may be submitted with the application (optional).**

Letter of support These answers have logic applied

Choose File

Choose File

No file chosen

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Conditions of Submission

**By submitting this application, you agree to the following conditions:**

\* If the proposal is selected by WFOT for funding, the study must be reviewed by a responsible ethics committee

Yes

\* Applicant(s) assume(s) all responsibility and liability associated with the proposed research. WFOT can under no circumstances be held liable for any damages suffered by the applicant(s) or any third parties in relation to the research.

Yes

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**Please ensure you have provided all the relevant information then press DONE to make your submission.**

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