

GUIDELINES: Tasmanian Devil

Grants and Scholarships



1.0 The Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal

The Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal (the Appeal) is an initiative of the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program (the Program) coordinated by the University of Tasmania (Advancement Office).

The Program is Australia's official national response to Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD 1 and DFTD 2), two extremely unusual contagious cancers ravaging the population of Tasmanian devils. It involves a partnership between the Tasmanian State Government and the University of Tasmania and Australian Zoo and Aquarium Association, backed by the international conservation and wildlife management expert community. The Program is delivered through the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) as well as, wildlife parks and zoos in Australia and international collaborations with research institutions and universities in Australia and overseas.

To help fulfil this vision, the Appeal was created in 2003 to raise funds to support the primary objectives of the Program (as outlined in Section 2.1) and the University continues to manage the fundraising and disbursement for the Appeal.

The Appeal makes funds available through the University of Tasmania's Advancement Office on receiving advice from the Tasmanian Devil Research Advisory Committee (TDRAC). TDRAC's grant allocation priorities are established by agreement between the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program and the University of Tasmania. Grant applications will be assessed as to whether their purpose aligns closely with those priorities.

Before application, all projects should be discussed with the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program.

All grant applications are received and assessed by TDRAC and funds for approved projects are made available through Project Grants and Scholarships:

Grants

- Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Research Grant
- Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Research Grant – HDR
- Dr Eric Guiler ACL Bearing Tasmanian devil early to mid-career Research Grant

Scholarships

- Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Honours Scholarship;
- Dr Eric Guiler Tall Foundation Tasmanian Devil Honours Scholarship and

2.0 General criteria against which all applications will be assessed

The general criteria in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 are applicable to all grant applications and will be used to assist in the assessment of all grant applications.

Only high-quality projects will be supported.

2.1 Alignment with the research priorities as agreed to by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Save the Tasmanian Devil Program) and the University of Tasmania

Applications for all grants must be aligned with the current key Program priority areas. The Program's vision is a resilient wild devil population that needs limited management intervention. A Program objective is to support research collaborations that are actively investigating potential management strategies to create a resilient wild devil population. The STDP and the University of Tasmania have agreed on the following research priorities:

- Identify and develop a prophylactic therapy such as a vaccine or immunotherapy for devil facial tumour diseases.
- Quantify the impact of anthropogenic induced threats on the population viability of devils and identify effective methods to mitigate them.
- Identify factors, including new disease outbreaks and habitat continuity, which limit genetic and demographic connectivity across the island of Tasmania.
- Determine the distribution and impact of DFT2
- Determine if releasing insurance devils into the wild is beneficial, neutral or detrimental to wild devil population dynamics, DFTD epidemiology and evolution of natural disease resistance.

2.2 Alignment with the University of Tasmania

As an initiative coordinated by the University, all grant projects must have a link with the fulfilment of the Universities missions and goals. In a practical sense, this means that the University must be involved to some degree in the project or that some demonstrable and tangible benefit must flow back to University from the making of a grant. It is essential that the relationship with the mission and goals of the University is addressed explicitly in the application.

The Committee will also consider whether:

- The grant contribution represents value for money; and/or
- The Program will gain exposure and visibility through the project; and/or
- The aims and goals of the University, and the Program align with those of other sponsors or supporters of the project.

All applicants must explain how their project will help achieve at least one of these objectives outlined above.

3.0 • Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Research Grant

Value	Description	Closing dates
Up to \$50,000	Grants of up to \$50,000 are available to assist with research costs for projects	Sunday 22 October

	endorsed by the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. Decisions according to research priorities and as funding allows.	
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Organisations and individuals, nationally and internationally, may apply for Dr Eric Guiler research grants.

Applications for research grants should be for research projects that closely align with the research priority areas identified in Section 2.0 of these guidelines. The more closely aligned with these priorities, the more likely the application is to be successful.

Applicants are only allowed to lead on one application but there is no limit on how many applications you can be involved

Applications for research grants will be more likely to be successful where:

- they are part of a collaborative research project in which the University of Tasmania is involved; or
- they fall within a research area of priority as determined by TDRAC

Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Research Grant - HDR

Value	Description	Closing dates
Up to \$25,000	Grants of up to \$25 000 are available to assist with research costs for projects endorsed by the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. Decisions according to research priorities and as funding allows.	Sunday 22 October

Organisations and individuals, nationally and internationally, may apply for Dr Eric Guiler HDR research grants.

Applications for HDR research grants should be for research projects that closely align with the research priority areas identified in Section 2.0 of these guidelines. The more closely aligned with these priorities, the more likely the application is to be successful.

Applications for HDR research grants will be more likely to be successful where:

- they are part of a collaborative research project in which the University of Tasmania is involved; or
- they fall within a research area of priority as determined by TDRAC

Dr Eric Guiler ACL Bearing Tasmanian Devil early to mid career (Level A-C) Research Grant – UTAS only

Value	Description	Closing dates
Up to \$10,000	Grants of up to \$10 000 are available to assist with research costs for projects endorsed by the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. Decisions according to research priorities and as funding allows.	Sunday 22 October

Applications for these research grants should be for research projects that closely align with the research priority areas identified in Section 2.0 of these guidelines. The more closely aligned with these priorities, the more likely the application is to be successful.

Applications for research grants will be more likely to be successful where:

- they fall within a research area of priority as determined by TDRAC
- This Grant is specifically for research that is based in Tasmania

**5.0 Dr Eric Guiler Honours Scholarship and the Dr Eric Guiler Tall Foundation
Tasmanian Devil Honours Scholarship**

Value	Description		Closing dates
\$7,000	Up to two scholarships will be awarded each year by the Tasmanian Devil Research Advisory Committee in recognition of the work of the late Dr Guiler in zoological teaching and research. \$5,000 is to support the Honours student and \$2,000 to support the research cost associated with their project	Available to UTAS honours students undertaking research related to the Devil Facial Tumour Disease currently affecting the Tasmanian devil population.	Study in semester 1, 31 November year prior Study in semester 2, 13 June same year Applications may be taken at other times at the discretion of the TDRAC.

6.0 How to apply

- Applications for the Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Research Grant, must be completed using the application form available from ‘Grant and Scholarships’ utas.edu.au/devil
- For full details on the Dr Eric Guiler Tasmanian Devil Honours Scholarship go to: utas.edu.au/scholarships
- You will be contacted about your application after consideration by TDRAC, and a final decision has been made.
- Funded projects will be required to comply with conditions of the grant. These will be contained in a document which the applicant or their organisation will be required to sign before the grant funds will be released.
- Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the grant must be used:
 - only for the project as identified in the application; and
 - within the time frame specified in the application.

- Detailed financial records of the acquittal of the grant funds must be kept.

Reporting obligations will be imposed in relation to the acquittal of the funds and the project outcomes. You must have met your reporting obligations on any grants previously awarded through this scheme before there will be consideration of new applications.

- Funded projects are required to acknowledge the Appeal's support on published material or signage.
- The Appeal must approve of any publicity relating to the grant or the project prior to the release of that publicity.
- Grant recipients who do not commence the project within 6 months of receiving grant approval will be required to return funds.

7.0 Conditions

- Must have Animal Ethics approval where appropriate.

8.0 Exclusions

- Proposals to establish captive breeding facilities that are not part of the STDP Insurance Meta-Population; or
- Activities that have a primarily commercial outcome.

For further information

All enquiries and applications should be addressed to:

Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal

University of Tasmania Advancement Office

Private Bag 40 Hobart TAS 7001

Email: devil.appeal@utas.edu.au