

## Subsidised Access Program

The subsidised access program seeks to address the need to provide support for the following:

- Promotion of new facilities where Node Directors/Science Committees will look to draw researchers to use the appropriate capability where it is clear that this capability may provide critical data to solve a scientific problem of national and/or international significance;
- Strategic research initiatives for researchers of merit who need to initiate research programs out of cycle with research funding opportunities; and
- Support and promotion of early career researchers or recently appointed staff who may not yet have had an opportunity to attract independent research funding.

For further information regarding **access criteria** to NIF instrumentation and pricings please refer to the NIF Access Policy ([www.anif.org.au](http://www.anif.org.au)).

Ethics approval is required.

## How to Apply for Subsidised Access

To apply for subsidised access to equipment and facilities available through NIF visit [www.anif.org.au](http://www.anif.org.au), click on 'Subsidised Access' and fill in the details required (as shown below).

- Describe the project you will be working on. What are your aims and objectives?
- What do you require (e.g. advice on techniques; use of equipment; training on equipment; other)?
- Will you require the use of facilities to acquire data with operator support? If not, will you access the facility with your own operator?
- Estimated time required. Please include number of samples (animals), number of time points per sample and acquisition time per time point (if possible):
- Do you need help with image analysis? What format do you require for the image analysis? Normally raw data will be provided in standard formats (DICOM, ANALYSE etc),
- If help is required please describe (e.g. DTI calculations, Kinetic modelling). This will raise the project to status of collaborative project.

## Application Process

Applications will be assessed by the NIF Operations Committee and a decision made as to the merit of research and availability of resources. Evaluation will be based on eligibility, merit and general scientific interest. Once a decision is reached the Researcher will be contacted directly by the Facility Fellow or Laboratory Manager. Applications must be received one week prior to each subsidised access meeting to be eligible for assessment within that round of funding. The Operations Committee meets bimonthly to assess applications.

## Successful Applicant Requirements

Successful applicants will typically be awarded approximately 10 sessions\* of instrument time (typically 1 session = 1 hour). It is typically expected that 25% of the standard instrument costs would be met by the researcher.

Successful applicants will be required to do the following:

- Formally reply to the offer by transmitting acceptance of the award to the NIF Operations Facility Manager and NIF staff as instructed in the offer letter
- Complete a short report on their activities within six months of the experiment.
- Will be obliged to use successful data in publications and/or grant applications and notify NIF.
- Acknowledge the use of the National Imaging Facility in any subsequent publications or presentations.