Department of Psychiatry

Winter Scholarships at Southern Synergy

If you are interested in a Winter Scholarship position at Southern Synergy, then please follow these steps:

- Read the possible task list (below). Note that this list does NOT guarantee work on those particular tasks, it is provided to inform you about the type of work you will be required to do at Synergy.
- Check the requirements for obtaining a Winter Scholarship (Synergy cannot over-ride these, so if you are ineligible, then unfortunately we cannot consider you).
- Apply online at: https://www.monash.edu/students/scholarships/current/research-projects
- Contact frances.shawyer@monash.edu by sending your resume and a cover letter. In your cover letter, please explain why you would like to work at Synergy during the Winter of 2022.
- We will review the resumes, trying to match student’s interests with our needs. We will then contact a short-list of students for interview.

Winter Scholarship at Synergy (2022)

Synergy is offering a winter scholarship to two students. The students are required to work 9 days/fortnight between Monday 27 June 2022 and Friday 22 July 2022. Applicants must be at least in their third year of a degree in a relevant health science field such as behavioural or social science or related disciplines, have excellent writing skills, and preferably with research experience including the conduct of literature reviews.

Students will be considered as a full member of the research team during the Winter Scholarship period and will be welcome to participate in research and staff meetings, staff mindfulness sessions, and social activities.

Our purpose-built offices at Dandenong Hospital are designed to optimise translational opportunities for work in mental health care, the facility has close co-location with the key leadership team of Monash Mental Health. A recent refit means that electronic standing desks are available at all workstations. Depending on COVID-19 restrictions, students need to be prepared to work flexibly, including at our Dandenong site and/or from home.

The primary task for this placement will involve an update of the literature related to mindfulness-based cognitive therapy (MBCT) and potentially other related mindfulness-based interventions (MBIs) using the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) six-stage intervention development model. This model encompasses six stages that moves forward from basic science, through generation and refinement then efficacy testing, onto effectiveness then implementation research. The model will be used to organise the evidence base for MBIs in order to identify where the evidence is well, or not so well, progressed with consideration of recommendations for future research and approaches to encouraging changes in policy, system design and healthcare commissioning.
Students may also assist our researchers with more general research tasks that are performed across the centre, allowing for a more diverse experience and greater insight into conducting research in an academic setting. The type of work students may be involved in potentially include assistance with the following activities:

- Writing, editing and proof reading draft study reports and manuscripts.
- Project implementation activities.
- Data entry and data coding.
- Project grant and ethics applications.
- Production of newsletters and research presentation slides.
- Conference organisation

For a more detailed overview of our research program, including descriptions of placement experiences from our recent Summer scholars, please visit our website:

https://www.monash.edu/medicine/scs/southern-synergy

The successful applicants will be notified by the scholarship office mid-June.