Screen Use and Addiction Research Fund: Leveraging Grants Application Form

Please submit completed applications to the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation at the Department of Education by **6PM AEDT Saturday 31 August 2024** by email to screenfund@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please include all necessary attachments with your email and clearly state ‘**Screen Use and Addiction Research Fund Leveraging Application**’ in the subject line.

Please do not handwrite your application.

If you have any questions about this Fund or the application process, please contact Dr Todd Walton, Screen Fund Lead, Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation at screenfund@det.nsw.edu.au or todd.walton@det.nsw.edu.au.

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| **1. Research project title**  |
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| Name of grant(s):  |
| Grant reference number(s): |
| Grant dates (start and end), and values (per year and total): |
| Title of new research project: |

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| **1.1 Eligibility** |
| Please indicate your project’s alignment to the Statements of Opportunity and research questions. |
| **Statement of Opportunity** | **Research questions** | **Category (Please X)** |
| *Research that investigates the effects of screen use for learning in schools and at home on students’ learning and behaviour outcomes*. | 1. a) Is there a cumulative impact of screen use across the day at school and home on:
* learning,
* the development of cognitive abilities (e.g., attention and memory), and
* behaviour (e.g., self-regulation, social skills and school attendance)?

b) Is there a cumulative impact of screen use over time?1. Is there a relationship between the type/amount of screen use in school and home on learning, cognitive development, and behaviour?
2. How can the science of learning inform our understanding of best practice use of screens in schools?
3. What are the most/least effective types of digital technologies for improving learning outcomes?
4. What are the most/least effective pedagogies for incorporating digital technologies into an educational setting?
5. Are there particular concerns or differences by age or stage of learning?
6. Do digital texts and media have an impact on students’ reading and writing (including handwriting) outcomes or cognitive development?
7. How does the effect of screen use in schools interact with factors such as reading ability, motivation, reading material, text type (e.g., informational text vs narrative), and time constraints (e.g., reading under test conditions)?
8. Are learning outcomes of some subgroups of students or students in different settings more affected by screen use in school than others?
9. Does the proportion of time students spend reading on-screen vs paper impact learning, cognitive development and behaviour?
10. What models of best practice could underpin guidance for schools or school communities about effects of screen use for students at different ages and stages?
 | ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ |
| *Research that investigates the effects on students of problematic and addictive screen use outside of school hours.* | 1. Separate from screen use in school hours, is there a point at which screen use outside of school hours becomes problematic and/or addictive?
2. Is there an overall effect of screen use (within and outside of school hours) that has detrimental effects on:
* Mental health and wellbeing outcomes, including social skills
* Health and physical outcomes, and/or
* Cognitive development and critical thinking skills
1. Is the advice on screen use outside of school hours different for different subgroups of students (e.g., age group; gender, demographic characteristics) and why?
2. Are the behavioural or wellbeing outcomes of some subgroups of students more affected by screen use outside of school than others?
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| Is the Lead Researcher employed at an Australian university, research organisation or NGO? Y ☐ N ☐ |
| Does the proposed research project have ethics approval, or is it likely to receive ethics approval, from a NHMRC-registered human research ethics committee? Y ☐ N ☐(please provide the HREC approval letter and HREC-approved ethics application (including project collateral) as an attachment)**Note**: The department will only fund ethics approved projects |
| Successful applicants will be required to submit their research through State Education Research and Partnerships (SERAP).Have you already applied for SERAP approval?Yes, I have applied for and received SERAP approval (please provide evidence as an attachment) ☐Yes, I have applied for SERAP approval (please provide evidence as an attachment) ☐No, I will apply for SERAP approval if my Screen Fund application is successful ☐**Note**: The department will not fund the project if its SERAP application is unsuccessful. |
| Have you read the *Leveraging Guidelines for Applicants* and *Funding Deed*? Y ☐ N ☐ |

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| **1.2 Research project summary**Please provide a **short summary** of your current project including description, rationale and key aims and/or objectives and any proposed additions for the new project – **400 words maximum** (citations will not be included in the word count). You can provide more detail in 2.1 and 2.2. |
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| **1.3 Design and Methods**Please provide a **short summary** of the proposed design and methods, including participant inclusion and exclusion criteria, recruitment and consent processes and data collection activities – **400 words maximum** (citations will not be included in the word count). |
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| **1.4 Anticipated outputs and outcomes**Please list the anticipated outputs of your research project. For example, teaching and learning resources, professional development tools or reports, publications and presentations, new datasets, statistical analysis, linked datasets and/or dashboards. Include a dissemination plan of your research outputs. |
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| What do you expect to be the short-, medium- and long-term outcomes of your research project (consider, for example, knowledge advancement, capacity building, education impacts, health and social impacts, economic benefits, policy and legislation impacts, changes to teaching and education practices)? |

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| **1.5 Knowledge translation and research impact**Please describe, in **300 words maximum:** * Who are the knowledge users of your research e.g., who may potentially use, need to know, benefit from knowing about your research or need to change behaviour (i.e. adopt or implement a new teaching or education practice or policy).
* Your plan for engaging knowledge users throughout the different stages of the research from planning to dissemination and implementation initiatives (when, how and for what purpose).
* How will you demonstrate this impact (e.g., how will this be measured?)?
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| **1.6 Total funding requested** | **Total research project cost** |
| $ | $ |

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| **1.7 Administering Organisation** |
| Organisation name |  |
| Contact person |  |
| Title |  |
| Position |  |
| Postal address |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Email |  |
| **Partner Organisation** (If required, copy and paste this table for additional partner organisations) |
| Organisation name |  |
| Contact person |  |
| Title |  |
| Position |  |
| Postal address |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Email |  |

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| **1.8 Research team** |
| **Lead Researcher** |
| First name |  |
| Surname |  |
| Title  |  |
| Position |  |
| Postal address |  |
| Phone number |  |
| Email address  |  |
| Time commitment to project (FTE) |  |
| Signature |  |
| **Research team** |
| Name | Current Organisation | Contact email | Contact Phone | Time Commitment (FTE) |
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| **2. Assessment criteria****To address 2.1 and 2.2, please include a project description as an attachment to your application. The project description should:*** **Be no more than 3 pages long (references are not included),**
* **Use single spacing, 12-pt font and 2.54cm margins,**
* **Reference the current literature on screen use and addiction (include a list of references on a separate page/s).**

Please indicate how your research project addresses 2.3 and 2.4 within this document in the spaces provided. |
| **2.1 Alignment to the Screen Use and Addiction Research Fund Statements of Opportunity (25%)** |
| * Clearly defined proposal to address one or both of the department’s screen use Statements of Opportunity.
* Demonstrated understanding of the project requirements and the extent to which the expected outcome(s) will effectively address the project scope and deliver the project objectives.
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| **2.2 Project quality and innovation (35%)** |
| * The extent to which the approach to the project and the proposed methodology are demonstrated to be appropriate, feasible and robust.
* The extent to which the evidence provided, including the background and references, substantiate the proposed approach.
* Demonstrated capacity of the project to make a significant contribution to the current evidence base.
* The extent to which the project will create resources, in the form of deliverables, for education setting.
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| **2.3 Capacity to deliver (20%)** |
| * The extent to which the project team demonstrates the experience, expertise and capacity to deliver the project as described.
* The extent to which the project demonstrates a realis2tic plan (including clear milestones, timeframes and key performance indicators) for delivering the desired project outcome(s) as required and on time.
* The extent to which the risk management plan is comprehensive and appropriate across the lifetime of the project (including the development, implementation and ongoing management phases).

Please complete the risk matrix provided. |
| **(400 words maximum**, not including the risk matrix provided**)**

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| **Risk rating guide** |
| Low | Medium | High | Extreme |
| very low to no risk | effects are felt but not critical to achieving milestones | serious impact on achieving milestones | could result in failure to achieve |
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| Risk*Please outline identified risks that could impact the delivery of Milestones and intended Outcomes* | Likelihood | Risk rating | Mitigation strategy *Please outline any actions to be taken to assist mitigation of the identified risk* | Comments |
| <*Example: Reputation to the Department>* | <*Low>* | <*High>* | <*High stakes activities assigned to senior staff; regular staff meetings>* | <*Guidelines developed to ensure reputational safeguarding>* |
| <*Example: Limited buy-in from schools>* | <*Medium>* | <*Extreme>* | <*Clear articulation of benefits; leveraging existing relationships>* |  |
| <insert> | <insert> | <insert> | <insert> | <insert> |
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| * 1. **Value for money (20%)**
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| * The extent to which the proposed budget is appropriate, clearly justified, and transparent.
* The demonstrated potential to achieve the project outcomes in a high quality and cost-effective manner.
* Justification of the cost related to the time and effort of department staff and students, as participants or co-investigators (if involving schools or other education sites).
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| **(300 words maximum)** |

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| **3. Departmental support**Please describe any support you will need from the department (e.g., with undertaking research in schools, including sampling, or accessing departmental data), and any steps you have taken to secure that support. |
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| **4. Project budget** |
| Please outline the proposed budget for your research project (insert ‘0’ if zero and add rows where necessary). Please ensure cash amounts add up correctly. |
| Please include a brief justification for the project budget (no more than 600 words), including justification for any part of the research occurring outside NSW. |
| **4.1 Project income (excluding GST)** | **CASH** | **IN-KIND** |
| **Cash income** |
| Screen Use and Addiction Research funding requested FY2024/25 | $ | N/A |
| Screen Use and Addiction Research funding requested FY2025/26 | $ |
| Screen Use and Addiction Research funding requested FY2026/27 |  |
| Administering organisation total contribution (if applicable) | $ |
| Partner organisation 1 total contribution (if applicable. Add rows if needed) | $ |
| Total cash income  | $ |
| **In-kind support** |
| Administering organisation in-kind support (estimate of $ value) | N/A | $ |
| Partner organisation 1 in-kind support (estimate of $ value of in-kind support if applicable. Add rows if needed) | $ |
| Total in-kind support  | $ |
| **Total research project income** | **$** |

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| **4.2 Project expenditure** | **CASH** | **IN-KIND** |
| **Labour costs related to this research project** |
| Lead Researcher commitment (applicant, expressed as FTE in-kind) | N/A | $ |
| Research team member 1 (name, FTE) (add rows if needed) | $ | $ |
| Additional project labour costs (total FTE) |  |  |
| Total salary and labour costs | $ | $ |
| **Other costs directly related to the research project**  |
| Project consumables (add rows as necessary) | $ | $ |
| Equipment (either through purchase or in-kind access to equipment, facilities, or infrastructure necessary for the execution of the project) | $ | $ |
| (Add rows as necessary for other project-related costs) | $ | $ |
| Total other costs directly related to the research project | $ | $ |
| **Total research project expenditure** | $ |

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| **5. Project timeline** |
| Project start date (no later than February 2025): |  |
| Project end date (no later than December 2026): |  |
| Total project time: |  |
| Please provide an overview of **key research activities** below (Mark (x) or colour the relevant box to illustrate the duration of individual tasks). |
|  | **Year 1** | **Year 2** (if applicable) |
| **Activity** | **Q1** | **Q2** | **Q3** | **Q4** | **Q1** | **Q2** | **Q3** | **Q4** |
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| **6. Letters of support and evidence** |  |
| Please attach the following documents to your application: |  |
| 6.1 A signed letter of endorsement from the administering organisation confirming:* The Lead Researcher is currently employed by the organisation.
* The organisation supports the proposed research project grant application (all applicants)
* Funding levels of cash contributions and levels of in-kind contributions to the proposed research project (if applicable)
* That research ethics approval is likely to be or already has been granted
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| 6.2 A signed letter of support from any partner organisations clearly indicating the following:* Levels of cash contributions to the proposed research project (if applicable)
* Levels of in-kind contributions to the proposed research project (if applicable)
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| 6.3 Confirmation of ability to satisfy Leveraging Grant requirements alongside the requirements of any pre-existing grant/s attached to the research. |  |
| 6.4 A summary CV for each member of the research team demonstrating evidence of “Capacity to deliver” as a single file (maximum 2 pages each team member). |  |
| **Supporting document checklist:** |  |
| Approved ethics application | ☐ |
| Proof of SERAP application/approval (if applicable) | ☐ |
| Response to 2.1 | ☐ |
| Response to 2.2References document | ☐☐ |
| Letter of endorsement from administering organisation and any partner organisations. | ☐ |