Sydney Health Partners | Implementation Science Academy

SHP Implementation Science Academy Masterclass

Expression of Interest (EOI) Guidelines

These guidelines apply to the Masterclass series held on the 5th and 19th of June 2026 at the Nepean Clinical School and Westmead Hospital.

1. SHP Masterclass Program Overview

About Sydney Health Partners

Sydney Health Partners (SHP) is a NHMRC accredited Research Translation Centre (RTC) alongside 11 other RTCs across Australia. Please refer to our website for further information.

Sydney Health Partners' goals include building capacity and capability in the workforce and demonstrating that evidence-based interventions can be successfully implemented and scaled-up in large and diverse health systems. Our partners comprise five large health services (Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District, Northern Sydney Local Health District, Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (at Westmead), Sydney Local Health District and Western Sydney Local Health District), the University of Sydney and 10 medical research institutes.

The SHP Implementation Science Academy was launched in March 2023 and contributes to SHP's vision to 'transform the way research improves patient care and public health in our health system' by accelerating the transfer of research innovations into health care improvements. Further information about the Academy can be found here.

About Implementation Science

Implementation Science is "the scientific study of methods to promote the systematic uptake of research findings and other evidence-based practices into routine practice, and, hence, to improve the quality and effectiveness of health services"[1]. It seeks to understand the behaviour of healthcare professionals and other interest-holders as a key variable in the sustainable uptake, adoption, and implementation of evidence-based interventions. Further information about Implementation Science can be found here.

About the Masterclass

SHP has designed the Masterclass as a practical introduction to the science of implementation for health professionals, policy makers and researchers. The aim is to build capacity and expertise across SHP, thereby better enabling health professionals and researchers within the healthcare system to:

- Solve complex problems

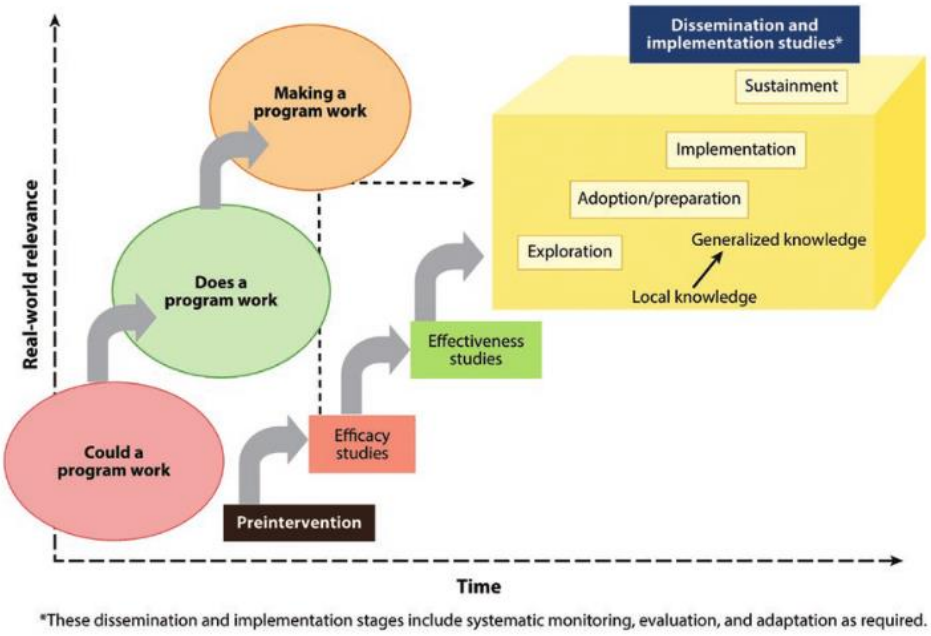
[1] Eccles, M.P., Mittman, B.S. Welcome to *Implementation Science*. *Implementation Sci* **1,** 1 (2006). https://doi.org/10.1186/1748-5908-1-1

- Translate evidence into practice and policy
- Tackle clinical problems that need practical solutions
- Impact on patient outcomes in the longer term

The research pipeline is illustrated in Figure 1 below. The Masterclass intends to support colleagues working on implementation studies, **rather than** preintervention, efficacy or effectiveness studies.

Note: If your project includes planning for implementation as part of an efficacy or effectiveness study, you will still be eligible for the Masterclass. Projects that are exploring the suitability and readiness for implementation, preparing for implementation, or are ready to evaluate implementing, sustaining or scaling-up an evidence-based intervention into practice (including economic evaluations of implementation efforts) will be favoured.

Figure 1. The translational pipeline. Image from: Brown et al, An Overview of Research and Evaluation Designs for Dissemination and Implementation. *Annu.Rev.Public Health* 2017. 38:1–22.



2. Eligibility

Member of a SHP Clinical Academic Group (CAG)	Priority will be given for at least one member of each of the SHP CAGs to attend the Masterclass. Further information about the Sydney Health Partners Clinical Academic Groups can be found here. However, applications are competitive, and membership of a CAG does not guarantee entry into the program. The selection criteria is still required to be met.
Employment	Participants must be employees at a SHP partner organisation.

Where research project is conducted	Applicants must state an intention to conduct their planned research within a clinical setting of a SHP partner organisation. Applications that do not include a SHP partner organisation will be considered ineligible. External organisations that are not part of SHP can be included, but they must be in addition to at least one SHP partner organisation.
Previously attended the Masterclass	Applicants who have previously attended the Masterclass within Sydney Health Partners are not eligible to attend.

3. Selection Criteria

Study is an implementation science project	The planned study is an implementation science project. That is, projects that are exploring the suitability and readiness for implementation, preparing for implementation, or are ready to evaluate implementing or sustaining an evidence-based intervention into practice. Quality improvement or changing practice research questions will also be considered.
Feasible Project Concept	Applicants must have a feasible project concept to work on throughout the two days; the concept should focus on an *implementation science*, *quality improvement* or *changing practice* research question. The concept can focus on any topic relevant to the health system including patient, provider, organisational or health service change, including pilot testing of interventions or implementation strategies. The concept does not need to be a polished piece of work as each applicant will develop the concept throughout the Masterclass.
Intention to Seek Funding	Applicants should have an intention to apply for funding for their project (this could include pilot or seed funding). For example: ○ SHP Implementation Science grants (pilot grants offered annually) ○ NSW Health grants and funding: NSW Health & Medical Research | Home ○ Agency for Clinical Innovation grants: https://aci.health.nsw.gov.au/support-for-innovation/research/grant-scheme ○ University of Sydney grants: Research funding - The University of Sydney. For USyd staff, subscribe to the Research Bulletin by emailing fmh.researchsupport@sydney.edu.au Grant Connect is a useful platform that provides centralised publication of forecast and current Australian Government grant opportunities and grants awarded: https://www.grants.gov.au/go/list If you have existing funding or can access financial support from within a health service organisation, please describe this.

4. Conditions of Masterclass

Participants are expected to meet these conditions when accepting their place in the Masterclass.

- Complete the required pre-learning activities (time required approximately 1 hour).
- Complete the Learning agreement / REDCap survey. The agreement requires all participants to complete three evaluation tasks (pre-Masterclass, post-Masterclass and 6 months post-Masterclass). Each task will take less than 20 minutes to complete. The learning agreement will enable SHP to publish evaluation outcomes about the Masterclass.
- Participants will be asked to give a presentation back at their workplace after they have completed the Masterclass.
- Participants will agree to be contacted by SHP to promote the outcomes of the Masterclass across the SHP Community.
- Participants commit to attending both full days of the Masterclass.

Cost of the Masterclass:

- There is **no cost** for participants.
- Participants are responsible for arranging and paying for their own travel to the Masterclass venue in Sydney.
- SHP **is not** able to provide funding to cover locum replacement for clinical days or to reimburse applicants for leave from their substantive role.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided on both days.

5. EOI Process

Applicants must submit the EOI by the 1st of May

The EOI is to be submitted to shp.implementationscience@sydney.edu.au
NB: Late applications will not be accepted or requests for extensions after the due date.

EOI Form

The EOI forms that are required to be submitted must include:

- **EOI form**
- **Three-page concept outline** describing your plan**:** Please use the headings outlined in the EOI form.
    - Headings 1-11 should be used as a guide and you do not need to include information under every heading, only the sections that are relevant.

File Format: Please submit your application as **one** PDF document.

Review Process: All EOI's will be reviewed by a panel with expertise in Implementation Science. The panel will use the selection criteria and strive to select applicants with a range of experience.

Wait Listing: Unsuccessful Applicants that meet the Eligibility Criteria may be placed on a wait list in the case that a place becomes available.

Key Dates

Activity	Sydney Health Partners Masterclass
Launch Expression of Interests for the Masterclass	24th of March
Online Information Session	2nd of April
Expression of Interests are due	1st of May
Notification of Applicants regarding outcome	8th of May
Provision of pre-learning material and pre-class survey	15th of May
Masterclass	5th and the 19th of June

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us via email: shp.implementationscience@sydney.edu.au

Information Session

An online information session about the Masterclass, and the process for submitting an EOI, will be held via MS Teams on the 2nd of April.