



**Expressions of interest
sought for**

research funding 2011

Researchers in the field of disaster and emergency communication are invited to submit expressions of interest for funding for research projects lasting up to 12 months.

The Research and Development Committee of Emergency Media and Public Affairs Limited (EMPA) has funding available for such projects and will consider individual applications valued at up to \$5,000.

The criteria for such projects are:

- the focus should be on community awareness and engagement, communication and public affairs projects relevant to the emergency sector (not technical communications, emergency warnings or information transfer)
- the outcomes of the research are expected to be useful to practitioners in the emergency sector in Australia
- outcomes will be reported at the 2011 or 2012 EMPA conferences

Practitioners, academics and independent researchers are invited to apply. Early career researchers will be considered and supported, but must be able to present evidence of some project management in the past and should include in their application the need for a mentor for the process. A mentor may be sourced from EMPA or from the researcher's own contacts.

Applications will be judged on their:

- currency (10%)
- relevance to practice (30%)
- methodology and rigour (30%)
- ability of the applicant/s to work within a budget (10%)
- ability of the applicant/s to complete projects to deadline (10%)
- past experience of the researcher/s (10%)

Outcomes from the research must include a completed conference paper and a submitted journal article by January 30, 2012. Projects that source additional funding from emergency related or other agencies **will** be considered.

Funding can be used for:

- buying out time from employers to spend on the project
- travel and accommodation
- books
- costs associated with research methods.

It can not be used for equipment or recurring costs for equipment already owned or supplied by an employer.

Applicants should send a two-page application, giving details of the team, outlining the proposed project and its methodology and containing the names and phone numbers of two referees, to the EMPA R&D Committee by Monday, October 11, 2010. Applications will be assessed by November 1 and those shortlisted will be asked to submit a formal proposal, due December 30. Successful projects will be expected to commence from January 25, 2011 and research complete by December 30, 2011.

"Rapid response" funding can be applied for at any time and may be granted depending on the availability of funds.

Applications and enquiries should be submitted to barbara.ryan@usq.edu.au

For more information on EMPA, go to the [website](#).