



CONSORTIUM
FOR RESEARCH
IN EATING DISORDERS

CoRe-ED's "Next Big Research Idea" Initiative 2026 Guidelines

We are inviting CoRe-ED registrant teams to pitch the "Next Big Research Idea" which will really have an impact on the lives of people experiencing eating disorders, their loved ones and communities.

There are no limitations on the type of research that the teams can pitch. From basic to applied – let your imaginations run wild!

We actively encourage research at pilot or preliminary stages as we want to support the newest ideas in the field.

The teams can involve up to 6 members total and must fulfill the following criteria to be **eligible** which align with CoRe-ED's core mission and values:

- 1) All team members must be registered with CoRe-ED (remember, it's free to [register](#)).
- 2) At least two (2) different countries must be represented within the research team. The country of the team member is deemed where they spend the majority of their time.
- 3) At least one (1) team member must have a lived or living experience of an eating disorder whether it be themselves personally or supporting a loved one.
- 4) At least one (1) team member must be an early career researcher or early career health professional which is defined as having being awarded their final degree/qualification since 16 September 2024 taking into account any career disruptions. Team members who are students and still working towards their degree/qualification are eligible as "early career".
- 5) An individual can only lead one (1) application but can be named as a team member on up to three (3) other applications.
- 6) Team members who were finalists/winners of the 2025 Next Big Research Idea round may reapply, but the proposal must be substantially different from the 2025 round.
- 7) Not compulsory but strongly advised: Involving one of our 45+ partners listed on our website in your research pitch in whichever way suits you and the partner. This partner will likely be able to assist you with receiving the funds from the Next Big Research Idea initiative. CoRe-ED will **NOT** engage in correspondence with any organisation which is not a CoRe-ED partner about the Next Big Research Idea Initiative 2026. If you have an organisation involved in your work who is not a current partner of CoRe-ED and is crucial for your proposal, please ask them to get in contact with us via email at hello@core-ed.com.au and we will do our best to fast-track this partnership if the partner is willing to do so as well.

We realise that it may take some effort for these teams to be formed so we encourage you to use our online CoRe-ED noticeboard and private message features in our [online portal](#) to form your teams.

Once you have your research idea and team ready, please complete the brief [online expression of interest form](#) by **11:59pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on Wednesday 16 September 2026**. Late entries will not be accepted. We include the expression of interest form questions at the end of this document so you can prepare your answers before including them in the online form.

After 16 September 2026, our internal CoRe-ED research committee will assess all expression of interest forms received and the top five (5) ranked teams will progress to the finals round. We aim to provide outcome notification via email to all teams by Friday 25 September 2026.



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These five finalist teams will be invited to submit a short pre-recorded video outlining their Next Big Research Idea which will be played at our CoRe-ED Global Research Showcase via Zoom on Wednesday 28 October 2026. Further details about the video requirements will be provided to the finalist teams only. From 28 October 2026 onwards we will open up the voting to our entire CoRe-ED community for one (1) week to vote for their favourite Next Big Research Idea.

Along with the pre-recorded video submission, we will invite the five finalist teams to have a 30-minute online meeting with members of the CoRe-ED Board of Directors to discuss their proposals in October 2026 prior to the Global Research Showcase. Further details about the meetings will be provided to the finalist teams.

The one (1) winning team will be determined based on scoring from the expression of interest form, the meeting with the CoRe-ED Board and the CoRe-ED community vote. This announcement will take place by 11 November 2026. The outcome decision by CoRe-ED is final and no correspondence or communication will be entered into concerning the decision.

The CoRe-ED Directors, Advisors and Partners will then support the winning team to develop and execute a fundraising campaign to support their research idea. The actual campaign will be devised in collaboration between the winning team and CoRe-ED, but we envisage a combination of social media, online and/or in-person events. We have seen and been a part of many successful fundraising campaigns and will support the winning team to raise as much funding as possible to assist with their research.

Note: The winning team and all teams entering retain their intellectual property ownership of their research idea. If the team agrees, CoRe-ED will remain involved in the project ongoing as a partner/advisor.

Of course, there can be only one winner officially, but we outline some of the proposed benefits of entering below:

- The opportunity to think about and propose brand new research ideas that are potentially not suitable for other funding schemes
- Form new and possibly long-lasting collaborations within our CoRe-ED community including with other countries/continents
- Raise global awareness of your research idea by presenting on an international stage at our Global Research Showcase and the subsequent CoRe-ED community voting process
- Learn about fundraising campaigns from a globally focused eating disorder charity
- Be supported in executing and developing your own fundraising campaign and receiving the benefits of the campaign

We really look forward to seeing your entries!

If you have any queries about any aspect of this initiative, please contact us via email on hello@core-ed.com.au.

CoRe-ED Next Big Research Idea 2026

Expression of Interest Form

These expressions of interest are due by **11:59pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on Wednesday 16 September 2026**. Late entries will not be accepted. If you have any queries while completing this form, please email hello@core-ed.com.au.

** Indicates required question*

1. Full Name of the Team Lead including Title: *

2. Team Lead Email Address (Please use the address you registered with CoRe-ED): *

3. Team Lead Contact Phone Number (please include all country and area codes): *

4. Please outline the full names and titles of all your remaining team members and how your team complies with the eligibility criteria. (Maximum of 200 words for this response.) It is the team lead's responsibility to ensure they have written permission from all other team members to list their names in this application as we may ask for these permissions to be provided. We will also be checking that all team members have registered for CoRe-ED or your entry will be deemed ineligible. *

5. If applicable, please name any CoRe-ED partners involved in your application. Again, it is the team lead's responsibility that they have written permission from the partner to list the partner's organisation on this application as we may ask for this permission to be provided.

6. What is the name of your team? (Maximum of 6 words for this response) *

7. What is the title of your research idea? (Maximum of 10 words for this response) *

8. What is the overall aim for your research idea? (Maximum of 50 words for this response) *

9. Why would the proposed research idea be considered a "Next Big Research Idea"?
(Maximum of 150 words for this response) *

10. How might this research idea benefit people with eating disorders/their loved ones/their
communities in the future? (Maximum of 100 words for this response) *

11. Why do you think this research idea is suitable for a fundraising campaign? (Maximum of 100 words for this response) *

12. What ideas do you currently have for a fundraising campaign? Please be as specific as possible. For example, "social media campaign" would not be sufficiently specific. Have a think about what networks you are already connected with and the expertise you have within your team. (Maximum of 100 words for this response) *

13. If your team is ultimately named the Next Big Research Idea 2026 winning team, which organisation or individual will accept the funds? A reminder that CoRe-ED will not engage in correspondence with any organisation which is not a CoRe-ED partner about the Next Big Research Idea so please do not nominate an organisation which is not a CoRe-ED partner to receive the funds. *

Submission

This is the end of the expression of interest form. Thank you very much for completing it. CoRe-ED aims to notify the team lead via email of the outcome by Friday 25 September 2026. Please click on the "Submit" button to send your responses to CoRe-ED. If you would like to confirm that your application has been received by CoRe-ED, please email hello@core-ed.com.au.

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