Genetics Society of AustralAsia 2025 Student Research Grant Scheme

The Genetics Society of AustralAsia (GSA) is pleased to announce our 2025 Student Research Grant Scheme including two Illumina NovaSeq Mini Grants in conjunction with **Illumina**, the **Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics, Australia** and **GenomNZ from The Bioeconomy Science Institute (BSI) AgResearch Group, Aotearoa New Zealand**. Researchers with innovative projects are invited to submit a 700-word application outlining how next generation sequencing can be utilised to advance their research. The winner of the Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics Illumina Award (for students at an Australian Institution) will receive an Illumina NovaSeq X Series 300 cycle 1.5B flowcell and library construction (choose either WGS prep of up to 24 samples OR Total RNA-seq of up to 16 samples OR mRNA-seq of up to 24 samples). The winner of the AgResearch Illumina Award (for students at Institutions in Aotearoa New Zealand or other Asia-Pacific countries) will receive an Illumina NovaSeq 6000 S1 300 cycle v1.5 flowcell and library construction (choose either WGS prep of up to 24 samples OR Total RNA-seq of up to 16 samples OR mRNA-seq of up to 24 samples). Submit your entry by completing this application form and emailing it to GSA@asnevents.net.au with the subject heading "Illumina NovaSeq Mini Grant". Terms and conditions apply.

About Illumina

At Illumina, our goal is to apply innovative technologies to the analysis of genetic variation and function, making studies possible that were not even imaginable just a few years ago. It is mission critical for us to deliver innovative, flexible, and scalable solutions to meet the needs of our customers. As a global company that places high value on collaborative interactions, rapid delivery of solutions, and providing the highest level of quality, we strive to meet this challenge. Illumina innovative sequencing and array technologies are fueling groundbreaking advancements in life science research, translational and consumer genomics, and molecular diagnostics.

About the Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics

The Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics, located at UNSW, is a not-for-profit provider of genomic services. We enable access to state-of-the-art, cutting edge technologies at affordable prices and deliver data of the highest quality. Our technology suite includes long- and short-read next-generation sequencing, genotyping microarrays, high-throughput qPCR and capillary sequencing. Our professional team of scientists have many years of experience providing researchers with a personalised service from design through to downstream analysis.

About AgResearch Group

The GenomNZ AgResearch Genomics Team continue to embrace genomic technologies to deliver genomic solutions to our primary industries and conservation estate. In addition to developing a suite of SNP array based genotyping tools, sequencing based genotyping methods, both targeted and restriction enzyme based that compliment and enable compatibility between platforms have been developed. AgResearch genomics laboratory offers microarray technology (custom and public SNP chips including methylation arrays) and scalable sequencing services (amplicon, genotyping-by-sequencing, whole genome, low-pass sequencing, transcriptome, methylome, metagenome, microbiome) for small research projects through to large high-throughput investments. The Animal Genomics Team and GenomNZ from AgResearch offers a one-stop shop for your genomic solutions. A high-quality service customised to meet research needs and ensure results make a difference.

Terms & Conditions

- Applicants must complete the application form in full.
- Applications close on 26th of October 2024 at 11:59pm AEDT. Late submissions will not be considered.
- For The Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics Illumina Award, the successful recipient will receive sequencing data from an Illumina NovaSeq X Series 300 cycle flowcell and can utilise Ramaciotti Centre's library prep service free of charge. Library prep kit options available: Illumina DNA PCR-free prep, Illumina Stranded Total RNA Ribo-Zero Plus and Illumina Stranded mRNA. Purified DNA or RNA must be submitted, as applicable per prep option. All samples or libraries submitted for the sequencing run must be submitted in a single batch and conform with Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics submission guidelines.
- For The AgResearch Illumina Award, the successful recipient will receive sequencing data from an Illumina NovaSeq 6000 S1 300 cycle flowcell and can utilise GenomNZ AgResearch's library prep service free of charge. Library prep kit options available: Illumina DNA PCR-free prep, Illumina Stranded Total RNA Ribo-Zero Plus and Illumina Stranded mRNA. Purified DNA or RNA must be submitted, as applicable per prep option. All samples or libraries submitted for the sequencing run must be submitted in a single batch and conform with AgResearch's submission guidelines.
- The sequencing kit can also be used for a submission of a user-prepared library pool.
- DNA/RNA samples or libraries must be submitted and pass quality check before 1st of March 2026.
- This grant is only open to postgraduate students enrolled in Australasian institutions and that hold current GSA memberships.
- The grant is for research only and cannot be used for commercial or clinical purposes.
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of GSA, Illumina, Ramaciotti Centre and AgResearch representatives.
- The winners will be announced on social media including the GSA website, Facebook and BlueSky and will be encouraged to present their research at the annual GSA conference.
- The successful applicant for each Award agrees to have their name and the purpose of the grant made public.
- Applicants agree to being contacted by Illumina for marketing purposes.

Name _____

Institution _____

Institution Address _____

Supervisor(s) _____

Email _____

Please write your initials to confirm you are a current GSA member:

I am applying for (delete one):

The Ramaciotti Centre for Genomics Illumina Award
(for students at an Australian Institution)

The AgResearch Illumina Award
(for students at Institutions in Aotearoa New Zealand or other Asia-Pacific countries)

Postgraduate Project Summary (250 word limit):

How will this grant be used? (250 word limit, please outline sample numbers and technical plan, images may be included):

Why is your research important to the genetics community? (200 word limit)

We ask for the following basic information about ethics and permitting, to ensure that the project can be completed within the required timeframe for the grant (see grant conditions above for further details). Projects utilising samples that cannot be collected / permitted in the required timeframe should be submitted in next year's grant round.			
Approval information	Animal subjects: Yes/No	Human participants: Yes/No	Additional research permit requirements*: Yes/No
Is animal/human ethics approval required?			
Has ethics approval been sought? (N/A if no ethics approval required)			
Has ethics approval been obtained? (N/A if no ethics approval required) If not, please state the expected date of approval.			
Is a sample collection permit required? (N/A if no collection permit required)			
Has collection permit approval been sought? (N/A if no collection permit required)			
Has collection approval been obtained? (N/A if no collection permit required) If not, please state the expected date of approval.			

*for example, an Australian Government Listed Species and Ecological Community Permit, a New Zealand Department of Conservation Research or Collection Authorisation, a CITES permit, etc.