



To the Superstars of STEM selection committee,

I will require a scholarship in order to participate in the Superstars of STEM program. How I meet the criteria is outlined below.

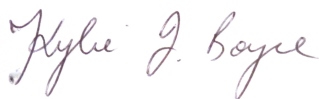
Part A:

My career has been hindered by multiple absences for maternity leave and an extended period of part-time employment (~4 years) for carer's responsibilities of my disabled child. It has only been recently that I have been able to resume a 1.0 FTE (October 2017) and establish an independent research group. As such my research group is only just being established I currently hold no research grants from the government or any other source. In addition, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the higher education sector is under enormous financial stress. As such, there are no funds available from the University to cover the cost of my attendance in this program. I have limited personal funds as the COVID19 crisis has resulted in loss of contract work for my husband and we have many personal expenses as one of my children is disabled.

Part B:

I was employed at RMIT in October 2017 and as such my research group is only just being established. Although this establishment of an independent research group is greater than 2 years, ethics approval to commence research was only granted in December 2017 and the COVID19 pandemic has meant I have not had access to the research facilities since March this year. I am also the primary carer of a dependent child with a disability.

Thank you for your consideration,
Sincerely,



Kylie Boyce

