

Media Release

The Hon Marlene Kairouz MP
Minister for Consumer Affairs, Gaming
and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Monday, 4 June, 2018

MORE RESEARCH FUNDING TO REDUCE GAMBLING HARM

The Andrews Labor Government will provide a further \$300,000 in grants for early career researchers to study Victoria's gambling behaviours and ways to reduce harm.

Minister for Gaming and Liquor Regulation Marlene Kairouz today launched the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation's (VRGF) grants program and Research Agenda 2018-2022 at the Footscray Community Arts Centre.

This year's funding round will provide grants to up to six projects that broaden and deepen our understanding of how the Victorian community is affected by gambling.

Research into emerging gambling markets such as fantasy sports and eSports, and gambling harm in LGBTIQ and regional communities will be among the program priorities.

The research will play a vital role in developing strategies to prevent and reduce gambling harm, create more effective support services and improve the evidence base for Government policy.

The VRGF worked closely with more than 230 metropolitan and regional Victorian stakeholders to develop the Research Agenda. The process involved consulting people with personal experiences of gambling harm, as well as members of LGBTIQ, Aboriginal, and culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Applications for early career researcher grants close at 2:00pm on Monday, 16 July 2018. For more information, visit responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/research/research-agenda.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Gaming and Liquor Regulation Marlene Kairouz

"Fantasy sports and eSports are growing markets for gambling in Victoria and we need to understand them better."

"These grants will support our researchers to delve into these fields and help us protect Victorians from gambling harm."

Quote attributable to Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation acting CEO Tanya Fletcher

"The research the foundation funds underpins our public health approach to gambling harm. It is vital that we continue to support our early career researchers, who will contribute significantly to building Victoria's gambling research capacity and expertise."