



SYDNEY LAW SCHOOL

REVISED: 9 March 2026

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME SCHOOL RANKING CRITERIA

PRSS Committee

Associate Professor Carolyn McKay (*Chair*)

Dr Nadia Hess

Professor Rita Shackel

Mr Dongkai Sui (*Student Representative*)

Ms Clio Huang (*Student Representative*)

Ms Sue Ng (*Secretariat*)

Eligibility

1. (a) At the closing date, the candidate:
 - i. must be a currently enrolled HDR student in the Sydney Law School; or
 - ii. expects to return from a suspension in the following research period and may receive PRSS funding if enrolment is recommenced prior to allocation of funding.

- (b) The candidate's enrolment cannot have exceeded the following full-time (or part-time equivalent) periods:
 - i. 3.5 years full time if you are a doctoral student
 - ii. 1.75 years full time if you are a master's by research student

the candidate will be deemed eligible.

In addition to the above eligibility criteria, the Law School PRSS Committee will also consider the following criteria:

- (i) clear evidence of progress towards timely thesis completion (evidence can come from progress evaluation reports or other evidence, your application must clearly indicate the total number of chapters your thesis will have and the number of chapters that you have already written and must attach your last progress evaluation meeting full report);
- (ii) research achievements, including publications and presentations since course commencement;
- (iii) demonstrated need for funding;
- (iv) active membership and participation in the Law School and University scholarly community (including in governance, events and activities);
- (v) scope for funding to contribute to building a network and create collaboration opportunities;
- (vi) contribution to the Law School's research and strategic priorities.

Each candidate will ordinarily receive one allocation in any PRSS round.

Doctorate students

If you meet the eligibility criteria, you are allowed three successful applications during your candidature (3.5 full time years).

Master's by research students

If you meet the eligibility criteria, you are allowed one successful application during your candidature (1.75 full time years). If you progress to a doctorate, the total number of successful PRSS applications allowed will increase to three for the period of your candidature. This will include any successful application during your master's degree.

The PRSS Committee will give preference to [funding categories](#) in the following order of priority:

| Funding Categories | Funding Support |
|--|---|
| Presentation at overseas conferences | Up to \$2500 (and up to \$3500 to support conferences held in Africa, Europe and North and South America) |
| Presentation at domestic conferences | Up to \$1200 |
| Field expenses | Up to \$1200 |
| Use of specialist services, visit to use specialist facilities or to learn specialist techniques | Up to \$1200 |
| Purchase of specialist books, periodicals or software | Up to \$1200 |
| Computers or other equipment | Up to \$1200 |
| Thesis production (including proofreading/editing services) expenses | Up to \$600 (doctoral thesis) and \$300 (master's thesis) |

Non-allowable expenses

The School will not fund "personal expenses" listed in Schedule One of [Non-allowable Expense Procedures 2025](#) or any items deemed to be personal expenses by the School.

Funding support

It is possible to seek funding for more than one category. However, funding is limited and it is unlikely that all claims can be funded.