POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT SCHEME FACULTY RANKING CRITERIA

PRSS
The Postgraduate Research Support Scheme (PRSS) provides University funding to HDR students to support a range of travel, services or products, essential to the student’s research but not normally provided during candidature. Funding may be requested for direct research costs including travel to conferences overseas, travel to domestic conferences or fieldwork-related travel costs, specialist services, specialist references, software or equipment, registration for virtual conferences, and limited thesis production costs.

If you have not yet passed probation, you need to provide evidence that you have completed all required preliminary appraisal activities. If you commenced your candidature from January 2021 onwards, the preliminary appraisal milestone must be completed in RECS. A printout of this milestone completion (with approval from your lead supervisor) will be sufficient. For students who commenced their candidature from July 2020 and have not had the opportunity to complete their probation (e.g. if they have been suspended), a formal letter / email from your Lead Supervisor will be required to confirm you have completed the preliminary appraisal activities.

As per the PRSS procedures, students more advanced in their candidature must have had a PEM prior to their application, and this evaluation must have received at least a satisfactory outcome (students with marginal and unsatisfactory outcomes will be considered ineligible).

As per the PRSS procedures, students under suspension are eligible to apply in the research period immediately prior to their return to candidature and can receive funding if enrolment is recommenced prior to the allocation of funding.

FACULTY PRSS RANKING GUIDELINES

Principles:
- Consistency across the Schools is aspirational, recognizing that each school is likely to have some differences in their needs and priorities.
- Schools can use School funding for any gaps created by the PRSS policy, but the terms of this funding will need to be managed separately to the PRSS guidelines.
- School guidelines will be approved by the Faculty Committee that includes student representation.
- Schools to have 2 weeks to submit any additional selection criteria.

Allocation criteria
Faculty of Science criteria:

1. If a PEM has been completed, last PEM must have an outcome of ‘satisfactory or excellent progress’.
2. Research activities must be scheduled to take place before 3.5 FTE years of a PhD candidature and before 1.75 years of an MPhil candidature.
3. Applications can be retrospective but must be for expenditure within the same calendar year as the application.
4. Application must clarify the relevance of the activity for which funding is sought to the candidate's research.
5. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
6. School Panels must have a minimum of 2 people with no joint supervision of a single student by the whole panel.
7. Supervisors will not decide on their own student applications.
8. The Faculty will adopt HDRAC processes for expenditure rules and accounting requirements.
9. Students will be awarded funding only once per calendar year.
10. Schools may determine funding priorities for application categories.
11. Students can apply to up to 2 categories only, unless otherwise specified by the School, and should indicate their priority.
12. Funding will be allocated across the different categories according to the number of applications received and the total amount of funding available. It is unlikely that requests will be funded in full (historically the total amount of funding requested has significantly exceeded the amount of funding available).

Additional School Criteria:

Chemistry
1. Students may apply in more than 2 categories

Geosciences
No additional criteria

History and Philosophy of Science
No additional criteria

Life and Environmental Sciences
1. Students will get the highest proportion of what they asked for (up to max entitled for the category of request) the first time they ask.
2. Students get a lower proportion for later requests (only 2/3 for the second time, 1/3 for the third time).
3. We have two rounds of the scheme, 70% of total fund allocated to the first round, 30% or the remaining funds if higher to a later round.

Mathematics and Statistics
No additional criteria

**Physics**

1. Students may apply in more than 2 categories

**Psychology**

No additional criteria

**Veterinary Science**

No additional criteria