

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

16 March 2020 (Updated in relation to domestic travel 10 Sept 2021)

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. In view of the current lockdown, PRSS cannot be used to support any travel (domestic or international) in the remainder of 2021 (including travel to conferences overseas, travel to domestic conferences or fieldwork-related travel costs) but access to specialist services, specialist references, software or equipment, registration for virtual conferences, and limited thesis production costs can still be awarded as direct research costs.

Students who commenced from July 2020 onwards who have not yet passed probation by the time the round has closed will need to provide evidence that they have completed preliminary appraisal activities. This must be an email/letter from the Lead Supervisor attesting that all activities required in preliminary appraisal have been completed.

For students that commenced from January 2021 onwards, the preliminary appraisal milestone may be completed in RECS. In this case a printout of this milestone completion (with approval from supervisor) will be sufficient in place of a formal letter/email. If you can not progress your RECS milestone completion, a formal letter/email from your the Lead Supervisor attesting that all activities required in preliminary appraisal have been completed is required.

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

FACULTY PRSS RANKING GUIDELINESPrinciples:

- 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 criteriaFaculty of Science criteria:

1. If an APR has been completed, last APR must have an outcome of 'meets or exceeds objectives'.
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

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

Veterinary Science

No additional criteria