

**RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP (RTP DOMESTIC)
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY POSTGRADUATE AWARDS (UPA)
RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP (RTP INTERNATIONAL)**

APPLICANT INFORMATION PACK

This document is available at: <https://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/domestic/postgraduate-research/australian-government-research-training-program.html>

BACKGROUND:

These Scholarships are awarded to students of exceptional research potential to undertake a higher degree by research at the University of Sydney. Eligible applicants will be automatically considered for these scholarships.

The University awards these scholarships as per the information on our [website](#). Applications should be submitted as per the information given on our website to guarantee a decision on the scholarship prior to commencement.

Other postgraduate research scholarships (for domestic students only) offered in conjunction with the RTP scholarship process are listed in Section 3 below. University and some faculty/school supplementary scholarships are listed in Section 4 below. Eligible applicants may also be considered for these awards. Separate application is not required.

1. RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM (RTP) SCHOLARSHIP – DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL

The RTP scholarship is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training. The following information is based on the Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2018 for the Research Training Program and may be subject to change. The scheme operates in accordance with relevant government legislation and legislative instruments and the University's [Research Training Program Scholarships Policy 2018](#).

1.1 Eligibility	To be eligible, applicants must fulfil eligibility as stated in the Research Training Program Scholarships Policy 2018.
1.2 Tenure and Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A full-time Scholarship may be held for up to 3.5 years for Research Doctorate studies, or up to 1.75 years for Research Masters studies. b) No extensions are allowable.. c) The maximum Scholarship tenure will be reduced by any periods of study undertaken, i.e. advance standing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. towards the degree prior to the commencement of the Scholarship; ii. during suspension of the Scholarship (when candidature has not been simultaneously suspended); and/or iii. during the tenure of a previous Australian Postgraduate Coursework Award or Scholarship. d) A part-time award holder is expected to progress at half the rate of a full-time award holder. e) Each award is renewed annually subject to satisfactory annual progress review in accordance with Progress Policy. f) Students who wish to transfer to another institution may continue to receive their Scholarship only if their new institution agrees to its continuation (see also Section 6 below). g) Students may conduct up to 12 months (18 months for students of anthropology and other special cases) of their research outside Australia. The



	<p>request must be approved by the supervisor and the student must remain enrolled at The University of Sydney.</p> <p>h) Suspension of the Scholarship is generally not allowed within the first 6 months of the scholarship.</p> <p>i) After the first six months of award, students may be granted up to 12 months suspension within the duration of their award. A suspension, or accumulated periods of suspension of more than 12 months, will only be considered if there are exceptional circumstances beyond the student’s control.</p>
<p>1.3 Benefits</p>	<p>a) Full-time award holders receive a stipend of \$35,629 p.a. (awards first commence from January 2021 only). Part-time award holders receive a stipend of \$17,814 p.a. The stipend rate is indexed annually on 1 January.</p> <p>b) Domestic students relocating their place of residence to take up the Scholarship may be eligible for the relocation allowance in accordance with the University’s Scholarship relocation allowance guideline.</p> <p>c) RTP International students may be eligible for up to \$2,500 reimbursement. Refer to terms and conditions for details.</p> <p>d) Reimbursement of up to \$420 for Masters candidates and up to \$840 for Doctoral candidates (rate at the time of publication) will be made for eligible claims for direct costs of producing a thesis in accordance with the University’s thesis allowance guidelines. The allowance must be claimed within one year of submission of the thesis and no more than two years after termination of the Scholarship.</p> <p>e) Scholarship holders may take up to 10 working days sick leave and 20 working days recreation leave each year as part of the award. Recreation leave does not attract a leave loading. These leave entitlements will be forfeited on termination of the Scholarship.</p> <p>f) Scholarship holders may receive additional paid sick leave of up to a total of twelve weeks for medically substantiated periods of illness lasting longer than ten days. This period of leave is in addition to the tenure of the award.</p> <p>g) After Scholarship holders have completed twelve months of their award, female students who gives birth to a newborn are entitled to a maximum of twelve weeks paid maternity leave during the tenure of the award. Periods of paid maternity leave are in addition to the duration of the Scholarship. Unpaid maternity leave may be accessed through the suspension provisions.</p> <p>h) The Commonwealth government funds the cost of tuition fees directly to University under the Research Training Program Fee Offset Scholarship for up to four years for domestic doctoral students, and 2 years for masters students</p> <p>i) The Commonwealth government funds RTP International Scholarship holders’ tuition fees for up to 3.5 year for doctoral students, and up to 2 years for masters students.</p>
<p>2. UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY POSTGRADUATE AWARDS (UPA)</p>	
<p>Eligible applicants will automatically be considered for UPA. A separate application is not required. The eligibility criteria, tenure and conditions are similar with the RTP’s (refer to Section 1 above). The UPA is tenable only at The University of Sydney and is not transferable to another institution. The University retains its discretion to award a RTP Scholarship or UPA, to successful applicants.</p>	
<p>2.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</p>	<p>Special considerations will be given to maximum three suitable Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants per year. To be considered, applicants must provide confirmation that they are of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background. The confirmation</p>

	must be in accordance with Confirmation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identity Policy .
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3. OTHER POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

The University also offers other postgraduate research scholarships and supplementary scholarships. Eligible applicants may also be considered for these awards where funding is available.

3.1 A.E. and F.A.Q. Stephens Scholarship	This scholarship is funded by the assets of the estates of both Francis Stephens and his wife Alice. It will be awarded to the highest ranked RTP Domestic applicant who is not awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Research Scholarships. A separate application for this award is not required. The scholarship is tenable in any faculty at The University of Sydney. Please visit our website for the current value and benefit of the scholarship.
3.2 Faculty scholarships	Faculties offer various PG scholarships. Please refer to faculty's website for details.
3.3 Other PG scholarship opportunities	Scholarship opportunities are advertised on: http://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/research

4. SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOLARSHIPS – FOR DOMESTIC STUDENTS ONLY

4.1 Faculty/School/Department specific awards	<p>Val Street Scholarship</p> <p>Established in 2011 from the estate of the late Valerie Ruth Street. The scholarship will be awarded as a supplementary scholarship to the highest ranked female applicant who will commence full-time research doctorate studies. The recipient must have attained First Class Honours in the Arts, Sciences, or Business School of the University of Sydney.</p> <p>A separate application for the Val Street Scholarship is not required and eligible highly ranked domestic applicants will be automatically considered.</p> <p>Other Supplementary Scholarships</p> <p>Some faculties, schools or departments offer supplementary scholarships to successful applicants. In most cases, applicants will be automatically considered for these scholarships. Only successful applicants will be notified separately.</p>
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5. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is based on academic merit and research experience. Applications are initially assessed by the Scholarships Office and reviewed by relevant faculties. The Higher Degree by Research Scholarship Sub-Committee, appointed by the Academic Board, will consider all eligible applicants and determine the number of offers to be made. Applicants who are undertaking their first PhD degree will be the first priority to be considered for these Research Scholarships.

Applicants are assessed based on a combination of, if applicable:

- Undergraduate degree, i.e. UG WAM,
- First class honours result (Honours 1 or H1)
- First class honours equivalent degree (H1E)
- Master by Research Degree
- The world rankings of the institution that conferred the qualification above, and
- Research experience

5.1 UG WAM and First class Honours (H1) Mark	The undergraduate weighted average mark (average mark, weighted according to the relative credit point value of the individual units of study) is obtained by averaging the marks the applicant obtained in all units of study in the relevant degree. Some faculties
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	<p>will also calculate the WAM according to the year-levels (2 for second year, 3 for third year) of the units of study.</p> <p>The UG WAM of combined degrees will normally be calculated from all units except those in the first year and the honours subjects.</p> <p>H1 is the mark achieved in the First Class Honours (or equivalent) degree. The criteria for assessing Honours 1 equivalent qualifications are detailed in section 5.2 below.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of applicants to provide numerical marks of their academic results wherever possible. If the mark is not available or is unobtainable, the result will be entered at the respective mid-point for the equivalent Pass (i.e. 57) and Credit (i.e. 69.5) grades at the University of Sydney. A mark at the lowest one-third (i.e. 78.33) will be entered for the equivalent Distinction and the lowest mark (i.e. 85) for High Distinction grades. If the results are ungraded, applicants should provide information on the overall position in the class and/or thesis examiners reports if available.</p> <p>It is important to provide the grading system showing the range of marks or the minimum mark required for each grade and different levels of Honours. Grading system information is generally available on the back of an academic transcript. Scaling of marks will be made to account for a) a pass mark other than 50, and b) H1 cut off is other than 80.</p>
<p>5.2 Honours 1 Equivalence</p>	<p>Where applicants do not have an Honours 1 degree, they can be ranked as having an Honours 1 equivalent degree on the basis of an additional qualification under the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) A completed Master of Philosophy (or equivalent) by thesis. The H1E Mark will be 85 unless a higher thesis mark has been recorded on the transcript. b) Overseas qualifications that are considered as equivalent to an Australian Honours 1 degree. The H1E WAM (average mark, weighted according to the relative credit point value of the individual units of study) is obtained by averaging the marks obtained in all second and third year units of study in the relevant degree. c) A completed Masters by coursework with a weighted average mark of at least 80 and a research component (requiring the completion of a dissertation, treatise, long essay or major report) of at least 12 credit points (where 48 credit points denotes a one-year full time course) of an equivalent full-time course. In this case, the weighted average mark in all units of study, including the dissertation, will be the H1E mark. d) A completed Masters by coursework with a weighted average mark of at least 80 and a research treatise of $\geq 25,000$ words as a requirement of the course. In this case, the weighted average mark in all units of study, including the treatise, will be the H1E mark. e) A completed Masters by coursework with a weighted average mark of at least 80 and a research component verified by the Faculty Research Committee to be academically demanding and a relevant foundation in research training for the proposed PhD project. In this case, the weighted average mark in all units of study, including the treatise, will be the H1E mark. f) A completed Masters Preliminary or Graduate Diploma with a research component (as per (c) above) of at least 25% of an EFSTL, requirements and assessment equivalent to Fourth Year Honours at Honours 1 standard (a minimum mark of 80). In this case, the weighted average mark in all units of study, including the treatise, will be the H1E mark. g) Graduates who did not have an Honours 1 result but have attained membership or fellowship of prestigious learned professional organisations by advanced study, examination and professional practice may be eligible for H1E. The relevant Faculty will be required to demonstrate an appropriate level of academic rigor. In all such cases, the H1E mark will be 80. In assessing whether



	<p>membership or fellowship of a learned body confers the H1E status, consideration will be taken of the level of additional skills and training required for membership, the length of training required, and the academic level and pass rate of the entrance examination.</p>
<p>5.3 Master by Research Degree</p>	<p>a) A completed Master of Philosophy (or equivalent) by thesis. The H1E Mark will be 85 unless a higher thesis mark has been recorded on the transcript.</p>
<p>5.4 The world rankings of the institution</p>	<p>a) World rankings currently used are, Academic Ranking of World Universities, Times Higher Education World University Rankings, and QS World University Rankings. The ranking lists used may change from time to time.</p>
<p>5.5 Research Experience</p>	<p>Research Experience may be recognised on the basis of demonstrated research performance, relevant professional and direct research experience as per the following criteria.</p> <p>a) Criteria</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Scholarly publications (must contain original work or substantial original analysis, be published or accepted for publication by a reputable publisher) in the relevant field of research within the last five years (at the time of scholarship application submission). Self-publishing, publications by vanity publisher or in publications which lack basic publishing standards will not be accepted. ii. Academic journals must either be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listed on Thomson Reuters’ Master Journal (ISI) list https://mjl.clarivate.com/home <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listed on the Scopus database (http://www.scopus.com/home.url) and then verified as peer-reviewed on Ulrichsweb: http://ulrichsweb.serialssolutions.com/ i.e. ‘Refereed – Yes’ iii. Conference publications must be in national and international conferences and not primarily arranged for research students and is listed on Scopus or ISI databases. If publication is not listed, applicant must provide a full copy of the paper and/or details of the conference for consideration. <p>Examples of scholarly publications are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A published book or chapter in an edited book (not conference proceedings) • A published research article in a refereed international journal • A published or refereed conference paper • A patent that has been granted by a government agency after an examination process <p>Publications that are accepted by a reputable publisher but yet to be published can also be considered. A confirmation issued by the publisher is required as evidence of acceptance.</p> <p>Do not include the following as they will not be recognised as Research Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications that are not research (e.g. newspaper or magazine articles) • Publications or outputs that are more than five years old • Publications that have been submitted or under consideration • Publications that have been considered but require revision before acceptance



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The same (or substantially the same) work being published/presented again in a book, journal or conference • Published book/literature review or a published research report/case study • Prizes <p>iv. Significant output in the art or music areas in the relevant field of research within the last five years (at the time of scholarship application submission). Examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An exhibition (with published catalogue) with multiple venues of international standard, or a series of performances of international standard, for which reviews in significant outlets are available • An exhibition in a Public Gallery or Museum with published catalogue (excluding regional galleries), or in a Private Gallery of standing in which the artist is asked to exhibit by invitation (subject to documentary evidence) • Visual work(s) held in significant National and/or International Collections or commissioned by Government Bodies and/or the Corporate Sector • A significant published musical composition or a significant commercially published CD of a musical performance • Visual documentation of performance, installation and electronic creative works in significant National and/or International Collections • Participation (as presenting author or equivalent) in significant National or International Festivals or professional conventions <p>v. Relevant professional or direct research experience since graduation and not in a training situation of at least 1.5 full-time (or part-time equivalent) years. This must be substantiated by a letter issued by the employer.</p> <p>vi. Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in moots such as the Jessop International Law moot at an international level <p>b) Details and evidence required</p> <p>i. It is the responsibility of the applicants to provide details and evidence of outputs or experience which meet the criteria in the form of an Appendix to their application. Please refer to Research Experience Information and Appendix Guide.</p>
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6. TRANSFER OF SCHOLARSHIP

Current RTP holders from another university and wish to continue their Scholarship at The University of Sydney must re-apply for the Scholarship at The University of Sydney in addition to their candidature transfer application. Their scholarship applications will be assessed with all applications received, thus transfer of Scholarship is not guaranteed.

7. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

To be considered for a scholarship, perspective students must select the check box to be considered for research scholarships when submitting their admission application. Scholarship applications will only be assessed when applicants have submitted all required documents for their higher degree by research course admission application. Current students can submit their application via the [Current Student Application Form](#).

- Information on how to apply for admission into a research degree is available from:
<http://sydney.edu.au/future-students/domestic/postgraduate/research/apply/>

Applicants may be offered a conditional Scholarship without having yet received admission offer but will only receive a firm scholarship offer once they have received an unconditional admission offer.

IMPORTANT: Submission of Scholarship Applications:

All supporting documents must be true and complete records. You should be prepared to provide original documents or certified copies of supporting documents upon request at any time. Detailed checking of supporting documents is an inherent element of our admissions and scholarship assessment processes and may involve contacting the original issuing authority or relevant tertiary admissions centre, or other organisation (whether education or otherwise), or individual, whether in Australia or overseas, to verify documents. A failure to provide documents on request, or the discovery of either fraudulent documents or a misrepresentation of true circumstances in association with your application, may lead to the rejection of your application for admission/scholarship, the withdrawal of your offer, or the cancellation of your enrolment.

Documents submitted in a language other than English must be accompanied by a complete English translation. The University only accepts translations to English made by an accredited translator with a government body, the Registrar of the issuing institution.

PERSONAL INFORMATION: Details will be verified against the Student Identification Number (SID).

SID: Current students must provide their Student Identification number (SID) on their Current Student application form.

CURRENT ENROLMENT: Applicants must provide information about their past, current, and proposed enrolment at the University of Sydney and/or any other tertiary institution. The tenure of an award will be reduced if a candidate is currently or has been previously enrolled in the postgraduate research degree for which the scholarship is sought.

TRANSCRIPTS: Applicants must provide details of completed tertiary qualifications and enclose copies of official transcripts including from The University of Sydney (past or currently enrolled students).

The transcripts must provide an explanation of grading (usually found on the reverse side). It is important to provide actual marks rather than grades where these are available (refer to section 5.1 – 5.3 above). For transcripts in languages other than English, translations to English made by an accredited translator must be included. Current Honours year students should provide copies of their results as soon as these become available. Please note that documents submitted with your application will not be returned.

Applicants with overseas qualifications are strongly advised to provide information on their degree(s). Where possible/available, applicants should request their institution to provide information on what percentage of students in a class/year receives a certain overall grade/level of Honours and the position of the applicant in the class/year, and/or how they compare with an Australian first class Honours degree.

SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS, SIGNIFICANT OUTPUT IN THE ART OR MUSIC FIELDS AND/OR RESEARCH

EXPERIENCE: It is the applicant's responsibility to check the criteria and follow the instructions given in section 5.5 Research Experience above and provide the required information and proof/evidence in the form of an Appendix using template provided. Refer to the format and examples in the separate Research Experience Information and Appendix Guide document.

CURRENT Scholarship: Students who are currently on a research scholarship with a value above 75% of the Scholarship rate for the proposed study will need to relinquish their current scholarship if they would like to accept the RTP/UPA/USYDIS Scholarship.

PREVIOUS HOLDER OF AUSTRALIAN AWARDS: Applicants who hold Australian Awards are only eligible to be considered if they have passed the exclusion period imposed by Australian Awards.

Applicants must provide true copy of documents and answer all questions truthfully. There are severe penalties for providing false or misleading information, including exclusion of the application and admission.



8. WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

**8.1 Email
Acknowledgment**

Scholarship application is processed upon all required documents for admission application have been provided. If required document for admission application is missing, the scholarship application cannot progress. An acknowledgment email will be sent after the application has been processed. If you do not receive the acknowledgement, please check the junk/spam folder.

**8.2 Notification of
Results**

Outcomes of application will be sent by email. Save our email address scholarships.office@sydney.edu.au in your email address book to ensure our correspondences reach the inbox promptly.

For Application and Award Timeline, please refer to our [website](#). The Scholarships Office greatly appreciates your patience during the application and assessment process.