



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**

**Science**

# Postgraduate research at UWA

## PhD and MPhil

**The University of Western Australia (UWA) is one of Australia's most prestigious research-intensive universities. Located on the beautiful Swan River in Perth, Western Australia, UWA is recognised internationally as a leading university, ranked in the top 100 in the world (ARWU 2018).**

UWA is globally ranked 14th in Agriculture, 18th in Environmental Science and Engineering and 46th in Biological Sciences (ARWU 2018)

### The Faculty of Science's research themes

As a leading Australian research-intensive university, UWA's Faculty of Science is at the forefront of discovery. Our global vision focuses on research that addresses challenges facing humanity over the next 50 years.

- Feeding the world
- Preventing, diagnosing and treating disease
- Furthering human knowledge and serving humanity
- Harnessing resources and energy for a sustainable future
- Restoring and maintaining balance in our natural environment
- Optimising physical and mental performance

### PhD and MPhil

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil) are independent, supervised research programs assessed by thesis, and may be taken in any discipline where appropriate supervision and resourcing are available.

At UWA, the eligibility criteria and application process are the same for both degrees, with the PhD typically taking up to four years and the MPhil taking two.

### Postgraduate research and employment

Postgraduate research degrees are research-intensive. You will extend your understanding of a subject area and develop advanced analytical and project-management skills as well as the ability to work independently.

Successful completion of a research degree indicates to employers that you have excellent project- and personal-management skills, and that you can think independently and critically, solve problems and communicate effectively.

### Postgraduate research scholarships

UWA offers more than 150 postgraduate scholarships each year to students aiming to undertake a PhD or an MPhil.

International scholarships can provide full or partial cover of tuition

fees, living allowances and, in some cases, Overseas Student Health Cover. Domestic scholarships provide living allowances, as the Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) already provides Fee Offset Scholarships to students who have been successful in obtaining an offer to commence a PhD or an MPhil.

The Graduate Research School opens international and domestic scholarship applications regularly. Check its website for opening dates and application procedures, including access to the online application form:

**[scholarships.uwa.edu.au/futurestudents/postgrad](https://scholarships.uwa.edu.au/futurestudents/postgrad)**



## The application process

The first step in applying for a PhD/MPhil at UWA is to find a supervisor for your project. To help us do that, complete the online enquiry form:

**[science.uwa.edu.au/research/help-enquiry](https://science.uwa.edu.au/research/help-enquiry)**

When submitting your form you will also need to provide the following documents:

- a brief statement of your proposed area of study (maximum 250 words)
- all academic transcripts and certificates
- a PDF copy of your thesis, if available
- a list of your journal publications
- proof that you satisfy English language competence requirements
- a copy of the photo page of your passport
- your Curriculum Vitae

View a list of current research projects carried out within the Faculty to identify a potential supervisor:

**[science.uwa.edu.au/research/opportunities](https://science.uwa.edu.au/research/opportunities)**

## Showing adequate research preparation

The documents requested in the application process (see above) will be used to determine whether or not you have met UWA's research preparation requirements. This can be demonstrated via one of the following:

- A supervised research thesis completed as a program undertaken either after a three-year or during a four-year bachelor's degree, carrying the equivalent credit of at least 25 per cent of an annual full-time load in the final year of study, and awarded an assessed result of distinction level or above
- Scholarly papers as sole or primary author, appearing in recognised academic journals or in volumes published by recognised academic publishers
- Published research reports prepared for industry, government or business, which adhere to the broad conventions of academic publishing (i.e. contain an up-to-date review of relevant literature, a description of relevant research methods and an evaluation of results, and so on) and that identify the applicant as the sole or primary author
- Completion of a UWA Higher Degree by Research Preliminary, awarded an assessed result of distinction level or above

## English language competence

Anyone seeking to commence postgraduate study at UWA will need to meet the English language competence (ELC) requirements. For applicants who may need to demonstrate ELC, note that graduates from UWA are automatically considered to have

met the ELC requirements. Graduates from other universities, Australian or international, are not automatically assumed to have met this requirement, even though they may have studied some or all of their courses in English. Each application is considered individually – in most cases, a formal English qualification is required. Applicants who wish to seek exemption from undertaking an English test must request this explicitly.

The ELC requirements for both domestic and international applicants are described on the website below.

**[study.uwa.edu.au/PG-lang-req](https://study.uwa.edu.au/PG-lang-req)**

## Postgraduate tuition fees

A list of fees is available at **[fees.uwa.edu.au](https://fees.uwa.edu.au)** All fees are listed in Australian currency (AUD).

Tuition fees are NOT applicable to Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens commencing a PhD or an MPhil, as all successful candidates will be provided with a Domestic RTP Fees Offset Scholarship.

## Cost of living

From 1 February 2018 the 12 month living cost is estimated at:

- You - \$20,290
- Partner or spouse - \$7,100
- Child - \$3,040

All costs are per year in Australian dollars. To convert to your own currency, visit **[xe.com](https://www.xe.com)**

**Higher Degree by Research Support Team (Pre-Candidature), Faculty of Science**

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