

Higher Degree by Research

Scholarships

Advice for Applicants

Graduate Research School
The University of Western Australia
CRICOS Code: 00126G

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Introduction

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is committed to providing postgraduate research scholarships that support the training of domestic and overseas students to undertake a Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) and to deliver graduates with the skills required to build careers in both academic and non-academic employment.

The allocation of scholarship is the outcome of a competitive selection process in which applications are ranked according to academic achievement and research potential, on the basis of evidence provided.

UWA usually holds two postgraduate research scholarship rounds per year:

- The International round is typically open in July/August, with offers in mid-October
- The Domestic and UWA International UWA graduates round is typically open in September/October, with offers in mid-December

Current scholarship round

The currently open scholarship round is:

- The International Postgraduate Research Scholarship Round for 2021

This round of scholarships is for international applicants only.

Applications open from 1 July 2020 until 31 August 2020 for commencement in the first half of 2021.

A full list of scholarships available in this round, is located in Appendix 2.

Key dates

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| Wednesday 1 July 2020 | Online applications open for University International Fee Scholarships, University Postgraduate Awards (living allowance scholarships), and other UWA postgraduate research scholarships. |
| 11.59pm WST Monday 31 August 2020 | Online applications close. |
| 17:00 WST Friday 4 September 2020 | Deadline for applicants to submit the Scholarship Application Confirmation, supporting documents and English test results. |
| 17:00 WST Friday 18 September 2020 | Deadline for referee reports. |
| By Friday 16 October 2020 | Graduate Research School will notify successful and unsuccessful applicants. |
| 30 June 2021 | Deadline for recipients to start their HDR, unless a later start date is approved. Offers will lapse if not taken up before 30 June 2021. |

Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- meet the requirements for entry to the nominated degree including satisfying the requirements of the UWA's [Policy on Adequate Research Preparation](#) and [English language requirement](#);
- be eligible to enrol or be enrolled in a HDR with at least 66% research component, at UWA;
- not expect to receive another equivalent award or scholarship to undertake the proposed study which is greater than 75% of the stipend rate; and
- be available to take up the scholarship if offered, by the advertised date. Special approval may be granted on written application, for a later commencement date for those candidates with unavoidable commitments. However any award or scholarship offered will lapse, if not taken up before the advertised date (see Key dates).

English language requirement:

All applicants to the HDR program, including Australian applicants, must satisfy the requirements for English language competence set down by the Board of the Graduate Research School.

Scholarship applicants need to meet the English language requirement by the scholarship document deadline.

UWA does not accept statements of English proficiency from employers, other tertiary institutions or GRE tests as evidence in meeting the above requirements. UWA does not accept TOEFL "MyBest" scores.

Degrees where the language of instruction is in English are not typically accepted as meeting the English requirement (unless that degree was taken in Australia, United Kingdom, New Zealand or the United States of America).

Selection criteria

Scholarships are awarded by the UWA Higher Degree by Research Scholarships Committee to eligible applicants after a competitive selection process on the basis of:

- a) academic achievement as evidenced by their academic record; and
- b) research potential as evidenced by relevant research experience, research output, other research-related achievements and publications, if applicable.

In the competitive selection process, priority may be given to students who are enrolling as internal students in an HDR for the first time, and students who have not:

- a) previously completed a Research Doctorate or equivalent;
- b) previously completed a Research Masters degree or equivalent, unless intending to undertake a Research Doctorate;
- c) previously held an Australian Postgraduate Award, Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) or an Australian Government-funded Postgraduate Research Award (excluding an IPRS and International RTP) previously, unless it was terminated within six months of the commencement of benefits;

d) previously been awarded, or currently be in receipt of, a current scholarship stipend; a UWA International Fee Scholarship (UIFS); a Scholarship for International Research Fees (SIRF) or other scholarship designed to offset HDR fees.

Scholarships are usually awarded to applicants who intend to enrol as full-time internal students based on a campus of UWA, for most or all of their candidature and scholarship tenure. Approval may be given for a part-time award (domestic students only), where an applicant is able to demonstrate compelling social reasons, such as a medical condition or primary care commitments, which would prevent full-time study.

How to apply

Step 1: Contact

Contact the HDR Pre-candidature Support Team in the relevant Faculty, to confirm your eligibility and that appropriate supervision, facilities, and resources are available for your research. Applicants intending to undertake specialist degrees may be required to fulfil additional admission requirements.

- Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: hdr-fable@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences: hdr-ems@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences: hdr-hms@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Science: hdr-science@uwa.edu.au

Step 2: Apply

Scholarship applications at UWA are submitted via the University's online portal - [iAthena](#).

Detailed system instructions and application requirements are located in Appendix 1.

Once the application is submitted, it is not possible for the applicant to make changes or upload additional documents and your application will be considered on the evidence provided.

Step 3: Sign Scholarship Application Confirmation form

When the application is submitted, the iAthena portal will automatically generate a confirmation document. This document "Scholarship Application Confirmation" must be signed by the applicant. By signing this document, the applicant is agreeing to the declarations outlined in the application. This document needs to be scanned and emailed to the UWA Graduate Research School with electronic copies of supporting documents that have not already been uploaded in the application.

Step 4: Email Application Confirmation form and supporting documents

Your application is not complete and will not be considered until you email your signed Scholarship Application Confirmation and electronic copies of supporting documents that have not already been uploaded in your application to the Graduate Research School:

- Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: hdr-fable@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences: hdr-ems@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences: hdr-hms@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Science: hdr-science@uwa.edu.au

Please refer to the website for scanned document requirements:

https://www.ask.uwa.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1494/~/scanned-document-requirements-when-applying-for-a-course-online

Note: Hard-copy original transcripts and degree certificates from previous studies may be requested at any time as part of the process of verifying the authenticity of any documents provided with your application.

The deadline for Scholarship Application Confirmation Forms and supporting documents that have not already been uploaded for the International Round for 2021 is 04/09/2020.

Step 5: Check

Applicants can access iAthena to check the status of their application, via the “**Application status from previous rounds**” field.

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| SUBMITTED | Application has been submitted; documents not yet received |
| EVIDENCE RECEIVED | Scholarship Application Confirmation and supporting documents received |
| CHECKED | Application and supporting documents have been checked by GRS |
| REFEREE REPORT | Once a referee report is received, the date of receipt is recorded. If there is no date recorded, this means that the referee has not yet submitted their report. |

Step 6: Results

Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified at the email address provided (see Key dates).

Successful scholarship applicants will receive an offer for scholarship and candidature. A separate application for candidature is not necessary.

Scholarship applications are applicable at UWA only and remain the property of UWA. Applicants who wish to apply at other Australian universities should seek information from the university concerned.

Scholarships awarded at UWA cannot be taken up at another university.

Contact and further information

Email:

- Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: hdr-fable@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences: hdr-ems@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences: hdr-hms@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Science: hdr-science@uwa.edu.au
- International Scholarships: internationalscholarships@uwa.edu.au
- Domestic Scholarships: researchschols@uwa.edu.au

Web:

- English language requirement: study.uwa.edu.au/PG-lang-req
- Adequate research preparation: governance.uwa.edu.au/policy/UP11/25
- iAthena: iathena.grs.uwa.edu.au
- UWA International Education Agent: uwa.edu.au/study/International-students/find-an-international-agent
- Referee report for scholarship applicants: [word version](#) / [fillable pdf version](#)

Address:

Graduate Research School
The University of Western Australia
Room G13, Hackett Hall
35 Stirling Highway
Perth WA 6009 Australia

iAthena system instructions

1. User registration

If you are currently enrolled at UWA, select **Current UWA Students** and enter your UWA Student Number and UWA Pheme Password.

If you are not currently enrolled at UWA, select **Non-UWA Students and Former UWA Students**. Enter a valid email address. All future correspondence will be sent to this email address.

2. System requirement

It is recommended to use either Chrome, Firefox, or Safari web-browsers. Do not use Internet Explorer.

Do not copy and paste directly from Word, either type directly into the space or paste from a text editor, such as Notepad.

3. Transfer from a previous round

An application from a previous round can be transferred into the current round. Request this via email to your Faculty HDR Support Team. The transferred application will include all uploaded documents and referee reports. The application is then available to edit and re-submit. If the required supporting documents have been received, there is no need to resend these documents again, however you will be required to submit a revised Application Confirmation.

4. Completing the online application

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| Q. 1 | <p>Scholarship selection</p> <p>Select one of the following:</p> <p>Scholarships & Enrolment in a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) - if you are not already enrolled in a HDR and you want to apply for enrolment and scholarships.</p> <p>Scholarships Only (current UWA Doctoral and Masters students only) - if you are already enrolled and want to apply for scholarships.</p> |
| Q. 2 | <p>Personal details</p> <p>Enter your UWA student number if you are a current or former UWA student, or you have previously received an offer but not enrolled.</p> <p>Applicants who have completed a degree with a previous name must provide documentary evidence of their change of name.</p> |
| Q. 3 | <p>Address</p> <p>Enter your permanent home address, postal address and current residential address and indicate if you will need to move to Perth to take up the scholarship.</p> <p>Check if the following is required - If you do need to move to Perth from within Australia, you may be eligible for a Relocation Allowance, subject to proof of your move to Perth and on production of receipts for travel and removal expenses.</p> |

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| Q. 4 | <p>Course selection</p> <p>Select the course for which you are applying. HDR scholarships are only available for the research degrees listed.</p> <p>If applying to transfer candidature from a HDR at another university, you will need to upload a UWA Research Proposal and Coversheet. Refer to the web-page on partially completed HDR program.</p> |
| Q. 5 | <p>English proficiency</p> <p>Indicate how you have satisfied the requirements for English language competence.</p> <p>If you are seeking assessment on an individual basis, or a waiver, you will need to upload a statement explicitly requesting this.</p> <p>UWA does not accept statements of English proficiency from other universities or employers to meet this requirement. Previous study in English does not automatically meet this requirement, unless that study has been in Australia, New Zealand, United States of America or United Kingdom.</p> |
| Q. 6 | <p>Education history</p> <p>List all previous and current tertiary studies (completed and incomplete) and upload electronic copies of your official academic transcripts and degree certificates for each program. More details about electronic document requirements can be found at:</p> <p>https://www.ask.uwa.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/1494/~/scanned-document-requirements-when-applying-for-a-course-online</p> <p>Documents in a language other than English, must include an official electronic certified translated version.</p> <p>Note: Hard-copy original transcripts and degree certificates from previous studies may be requested at any time as part of the process of verifying the authenticity of any documents provided with an application.</p> <p>Current or former UWA students do not need to upload UWA academic transcripts.</p> |
| Q. 7 | <p>a) Proposed school and supervisor</p> <p>You should be aware which school the proposed research and supervisor belongs. You can confirm this by visiting the UWA Profiles and Research Repository web-site. A scholarship awarded in one faculty may not be transferable to another faculty.</p> <p>b) Proposed research topic</p> <p>Provide a title and 1 paragraph summary of your proposed research.</p> <p>Upload a PDF summary of no more than 2 pages of your proposed research. The summary should include background to the topic, aims of research, significance of the research, methodology you will use and a brief reference list.</p> <p>c) Research through employment</p> <p>Provide a summary of any research experience gained through employment or internship.</p> |
| Q. 8 | <p>a) Publications</p> <p>List any peer reviewed research articles published in academic journals, within the last five years. Include the paper's title, sequence of authors as shown in the paper, first and last page numbers, name, volume and date of journal. For papers accepted but not yet published, a copy of the notification of acceptance by the journal's editor is required.</p> <p>Upload the abstract or first page of each publication. If you are not the sole author, upload a brief</p> |

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| | <p>statement from the publication's first author outlining your contribution to the paper. A template is available if required.</p> |
| | <p>b) Conference participation</p> <p>List any oral presentations delivered or conference papers accepted at academic conferences, within the last five years.</p> |
| Q. 9 | <p>Prizes, patents and grants</p> <p>If you been awarded any prestigious international or national prizes within the last five years, include them here.</p> <p>There is no need to include University or Erasmus scholarships.</p> |
| Q. 10 | <p>Formal professional qualifications</p> <p>List any professional qualifications obtained and upload evidence of membership with professional bodies, if applicable.</p> |
| Q. 11 | <p>Resume</p> <p>Upload a resume that details your educational qualifications (including any incomplete degrees) and full employment history.</p> <p>If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), upload a curriculum vitae that details your educational qualifications (including any incomplete degrees) and full employment history, summarising any occupational or practical experience of relevance to the program.</p> <p>Reference letters</p> <p>Upload reference letters from employers detailing the research undertaken and results achieved during the period of employment. Do not include references for non-research related employment.</p> |
| Q. 12 | <p>Personal statement</p> <p>If new to UWA, provide a statement (no more than 300 words) of your personal aims. Why do you want to come to UWA? What do you hope to achieve? How will the qualification gained at UWA help you?</p> <p>If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), provide a statement (no more than 300 words) outlining your reasons for applying for the program.</p> |
| Q. 13 | <p>Referees</p> <p>Applicants need to nominate two academic referees who are willing to provide a reference. Referees should have informed, personal, and professional knowledge of your academic ability and be able to exercise judgement of your research potential.</p> <p>If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), you must also ask two academic referees to provide reports using the Reference Request System administered by the Heads of Departments and Schools of Psychology Australia (HODSPA).</p> <p>When your application is submitted, an automated email request from the iAthena portal, will be sent</p> |

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| | <p>to the email address provided.</p> <p>It is the applicant's responsibility to follow up missing referee reports.</p> <p>If in the event, the referee does not receive the email request, a form can be downloaded from the GRS website (word / fillable pdf). Once complete, it needs to be emailed to the relevant Faculty HDR Pre-candidature Support Team.</p> |
| Q. 14 | <p>Prior education statistical details</p> <p>Provide details of all previous education program attempted and the final year of enrolment.</p> <p>We would like to know how you found the information about the available scholarships at UWA.</p> |
| Q. 15 | <p>Declarations and authorisation to access academic transcripts</p> <p>By submitting your application, you are agreeing to these declarations, be sure you read these carefully and seek advice if you do not understand the content.</p> <p>When you are ready to submit your online application, enter your UWA Student ID or email address and iAthena password and press the Submit button.</p> |
| | <p>Note:</p> <p>The Faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences requires a soft copy of the thesis from your qualifying degree, regardless of which language the thesis is written. Email this directly to the Faculty HDR Support Team, clearly identifying your name & marked iAthena application.</p> |

Scholarships available in the International Round for 2021

A full list of scholarships available in this round, is located within the iAthena application portal. New scholarship opportunities may be added during the round. The list includes a hyperlink to the UWA Scholarships database, where further details on each scholarship can be sourced.

- University International Fee Scholarships (UIFS)
This scholarship funded by UWA and covers for tuition fees and OSCHC for the awardee and any dependents.
- University Postgraduate Award (UPA)
This scholarship funded by UWA, includes a full-time stipend of \$30,000 per annum.
- Forrest Research Foundation Scholarship
Forrest Research Foundation Scholarships are available for commencing domestic and international PhD applicants at the five Western Australian universities. UWA Forrest Scholars receive a scholarship package comprising a Research Training Program (RTP), or equivalent stipend valued at \$30,000pa; an accommodation allowance valued at \$20,697pa (in 2019); and a relocation and research travel allowance of \$13,000. Overseas Student Health Cover and tuition fees are covered for international applicants. Applicants need to apply for PhD enrolment and scholarship through iAthena, and also complete the separate online application form on the [Forrest Research Foundation website](#).
- Dean's Excellence in FABLE PhD Scholarship
The Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education (FABLE) is offering a limited number of prestigious postgraduate research scholarships to academically outstanding international and domestic students wishing to undertake a research doctorate degree (PhD) in FABLE. All Dean's Excellence in FABLE PhD Scholars will receive a scholarship package which includes: a living allowance of \$33,000 per annum; overseas student single health cover (for international students) and tuition fees.

The following scholarships have specific eligibility criteria.

Scholarships for research in agriculture, biological and molecular sciences:

- Keiran McNamara World Heritage PhD Top-Up Scholarship

Other scholarships – various disciplines:

- Minerals Research Institute of Western Australian (MRIWA) Director Postgraduate Scholarship
- Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) Postgraduate Scholarships (Odwyn Jones Scholarship and MRIWA Research Scholarship (female applicants only)

Travel Scholarships – various disciplines:

- The University Club of Western Australia Research Travel Scholarship (1 available)
Available to commencing international applicants in any discipline
- UWA and Graduate Women WA Research Scholarship (1 available)
Available to commencing female applicants in any discipline