Scholarships

Higher degree research candidates are an integral part of our research community and Macquarie University provides a wide range of prestigious scholarships to support students with a proven capacity for research.

In addition to the scholarships listed in these pages, there are usually many other internally and externally funded scholarships offered across the year. Scholarships vary and may include a stipend to assist with living costs, tuition fee costs, overseas health cover or travel allowances as indicated in their conditions of award.

For current information on HDR scholarships available at Macquarie, including application forms, visit www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships

You are also encouraged to contact the HDR staff in your faculty to enquire about the availability of scholarships specific to the faculty, department or discipline.

Eligibility requirements

Each scholarship scheme specifies some eligibility requirements, for example, being of specified citizenship, meeting minimum English language proficiency levels, enrolment in a specific program, demonstrating an outstanding academic background and a proven capacity for research. Where HDR scholarships require an Australian Honours degree awarded in the First or upper Second-Class, they will usually also consider equivalent research qualifications/experience such as a masters degree with a substantial research training component.

Key requirements are given for the schemes listed in the following pages. For more information visit www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships

Macquarie rates applicants on academic merit, peer-reviewed research activity, relevant work or relevant professional experience. For more information about Macquarie’s rating guidelines visit www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships/scholarship_requirements

Government-funded scholarships

These awards aim to attract exceptional postgraduate candidates to undertake research in areas of research strength at Australian higher education institutions. These highly competitive scholarships attract many applicants and the number available varies from year to year.

International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS)

Key Requirements:
- Academic: Australian First Class Honours or equivalent and a strong academic record
- Citizenship: International citizens (except New Zealand citizens and Australian permanent residents)
- Applying for degree: PhD or MPhil and not holding a previous degree at the equivalent level

The maximum tenure of award is two years full-time for a masters and three years full-time for a PhD. Candidates enrolled in a PhD program may apply for a six-month extension on the basis of research-related delays.

The IPRS scholarship includes tuition fees and basic medical insurance. Macquarie University will normally provide an additional living allowance stipend equivalent to the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) for PhD recipients. Holders are subject to satisfactory progress requirements.

Closing date: 31 August

Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)

Key Requirements:
- Academic: Australian First Class Honours or equivalent and a strong academic record
- Citizenship: Australian/New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents
- Applying for degree: PhD or MPhil and not holding a previous degree at the equivalent level

The maximum tenure of award is two years full-time for a masters and three years full-time for a PhD. Candidates enrolled in a PhD program may apply for a six-month extension on the basis of research-related delays.

The APA scholarship includes a living allowance stipend, tuition fees, and allowances for relocation and thesis costs. In 2011 the full-time stipend was $22,860 per annum, currently tax exempt; and (with special approval) part-time was $12,388 per annum taxable. The stipends increase annually. Holders are subject to satisfactory progress requirements.

Closing date: 31 October

Australian Postgraduate Award Industry (APAI)

These awards are made available through a research grant awarded to the University with an industry partner for a project in an area of common research interest. Candidates are encouraged to contact academic staff in their area of research interest to enquire about the availability of APAs.

Key Requirements:
- Academic: Australian Second Class Division I Honours or equivalent and a strong academic record
- Citizenship: Open
- Applying for degree: PhD or MPhil and not holding a previous degree at the equivalent level

The maximum tenure of award is two years full-time for a masters and three years full-time for a PhD. Candidates enrolled in a PhD program may, with industry partner support, apply for a six-month extension on the basis of research-related delays.

The APAI scholarship includes a living allowance stipend, domestic tuition fees, and allowances for relocation and thesis costs. In 2011 the full-time stipend for new projects was $27,651 per annum, currently tax exempt; and (with special approval) part-time was $15,102 per annum taxable.

Closing date varies by project. For more information visit www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships
Macquarie University HDR scholarships

Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES) and International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (iMQRES)

The Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship scheme was introduced in 2006 to attract high quality domestic and international research candidates to undertake research at a doctoral level primarily in the University’s identified Concentrations of Research Excellence, as well as the broader University community. For more information on the identified CORE visit www.research.mq.edu.au/about/research@_macquarie/cores

These scholarships may be allocated to specific projects which are then advertised on the scholarships website. Some general MQRES or iMQRES may be offered at other times of the year, usually in conjunction with the APA or IPRS scholarship rounds, or as part of a special campaign.

Key Requirements:
- Academic: Australian First Class Honours or equivalent and a strong academic record
- Citizenship: Open
- Applying for degree: PhD and not holding a previous degree at the equivalent level

The maximum tenure of award is 3.5 years full-time.

These scholarships are packaged on an individual basis and may include a stipend to assist with living costs, tuition fees, and an allowance for relocation. Holders are subject to satisfactory progress requirements.

Closing dates and availability of MQRES or iMQRES: Individual project scholarships and major scholarship rounds are advertised year round, along with their closing date/s at www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships

Faculty and departmental scholarships

Faculty scholarships are displayed regularly on the HDRo website www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships and/or may be displayed on faculty HDR web pages.

Faculties may provide additional information on opportunities relevant to that discipline; refer to faculty websites for details. Eligibility is usually at least Australian Second Class Division I Honours or equivalent and a strong academic record with applications considered using the Macquarie University rating guidelines.

Other financial support

Faculty-funded support

Faculty funding to support enrolled research candidates varies according to the faculty/department. You may apply for financial assistance for travel costs for conferences, field work and basic research needs. Faculties have an allowance for consumables and minor equipment including printing, chemicals, photocopying costs and specific software.

Postgraduate Research Fund (PGRF)

In addition to funding provided through your faculty, the Postgraduate Research Fund (PGRF) is the main additional source of central funding for enrolled research candidates. The primary goals of the PGRF are:
- to add value to the research thesis
- to provide the University’s higher degree research candidates with the means to enhance their research experience
- to gain first hand experience of the grant writing process
- to receive feedback from assessors during the interview, which is part of the Fund’s assessment process

Application is coordinated biannually within your faculty, and you are considered on a competitive basis taking into account individual merit and need. You will be required to attend an interview as part of the application process.

Key Requirements:
- enrolled in full or part-time HDR in the initial candidature period at Macquarie University (including staff but excluding candidates enrolled beyond 3.5 full-time/equivalent years for PhD or 1.5 years for MPhil, or eligible for re-examination), and
- in the third or later second year of doctoral enrolment, or early second year of MPhil enrolment, with significant research results achieved by the time of application

The maximum value of a PGRF grant is A$5000 over a one to two year period. You may normally hold only one PGRF award during the life of your research candidature.

For full details and forms visit www.hdr.mq.edu.au/information_for/current_candidates/financial_support. Additional information on the scheme is available from faculty HDR staff.

Closing date for applications: April and September each year