Section 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Popular Awards

The International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) program was established to maintain and develop international research linkages, and aims to attract top quality postgraduate students to areas of research strength in the Australian higher education sector, and support Australia’s research efforts. This Government funded scholarship covers the tuition fees and compulsory health cover for international postgraduate students of exceptional research promise, for two years for a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) degree or three years for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

The number of IPRS places funded varies between institutions and from year to year. In addition to the tuition fees covered under the IPRS program, Macquarie University generously offers IPRS awardees a living allowance stipend, and usually supplements the places on offer via its own scholarship scheme.

The Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES) scheme is a Doctoral (PhD) scholarship program that aims to support exceptional research students enrolled in research priority areas aligned with the University’s Strategic Research Framework 2015 to 2024 World - Leading Research with World - Changing Impact, as well as the broader University.

Macquarie offers a limited number of scholarships to international Master of Research (MRes) candidates applying for an MRes/PhD ‘bundle’ (i.e. MRes Year 2 and 3-year PhD) through the competitive IPRS round each year. For these successful awardees, the MRes Year 2 scholarship is funded by the University (International Research Training Pathway scheme (iRTP)). Candidates will be awarded a provisional PhD offer, and they will be considered for a 3 year PhD scholarship funded by the University on a competitive basis upon successful completion of their MRes Year 2. (Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES)).

Selection Process and Timing

Macquarie University offers available awards to eligible candidates on the basis of academic merit, and according to the Department of Education guidelines. From 2014, the admission and scholarship criteria at Macquarie University have been revised due to the introduction of the new Master of Research pathway program being the preferred pathway to PhD research. Most scholarships require applicants to have strong academic performance and references and strong evidence of research capability and achievement.
IPRS/iMQRES Round: first round offers are generally advised in mid-October with candidates expected to commence their scholarship in first semester of the following year. Special approval is required for deferral. Unsuccessful first round applicants may be put on a scholarship reserve list and while it is anticipated additional scholarship funding will be available it cannot be guaranteed.

Section 2: HOW TO APPLY

The Higher Degree Research Office at Macquarie University uses a single online application to apply for both candidature and scholarship.

To apply:

1. go to the How to Apply webpage: [http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply](http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply) and follow the steps to complete an application. This includes uploading electronic copies of: original or certified copies of all academic transcripts. An official translation into English must be included if documents are not in English;
2. a certified copy of your birth or citizenship certificate, or your ID card, or the identity page of your passport
3. an original or certified copy of documents providing evidence of any name change
4. a project proposal outline with reference list (general guidelines are provided on the How to Apply webpage. Please check with Faculty/Department of interest for length)
5. TWO academic referees: If one is your proposed supervisor, then please obtain a third reference. A referee report form should be forwarded to your nominated referees. Your referee does not have to fill in information they cannot comment on, and may attach a letter if they have additional comments for the selection committee. A standard referee report form is available from [http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply/forms](http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply/forms)

Each referee should complete and return the form directly to the University no later than 12 August 2016. Due to the number of applications and reports we receive we would ask you to please check directly with your referee if you wish to confirm if these reports were sent. If time permits, we will send you an email if we have not received your referee’s reports.

Applicants may not be considered if all required documentation has not been received

Application instructions and the link to the application form is available at: [http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply](http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply)

Section 3: GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

This information provides a general overview. Applicants should always review the terms of their individual award offer and conditions in their letter of offer of scholarship.

All successful IPRS PhD applicants will receive 3 years of tuition fee and compulsory health cover support. Successful MPhil candidates receive IPRS funding for 2 years. Additionally, successful IPRS applicants will receive a matching Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship stipend at the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) stipend rate, currently $26,288 pa, tax exempt (2016).

Applicants for admission to PhD, who are (counter) offered entry to MRes Year 2 with a provisional 3-year PhD and who rank competitively for IPRS scholarship, may be offered a scholarship to cover their MRes Year 2 tuition fees and a living stipend.
The fully internally funded iMQRES, available for PhD candidates only, offers the same stipend plus tuition fees for up to 3 years for students enrolling in 2017. Applicants who are offered an iMQRES or MRes Year 2 need to pay for their overseas health cover upfront for the duration of their visa, as required by visa regulations. Successful IPRS PhD candidates will be asked to pay for their compulsory health cover for the additional visa period upfront. Neither the IPRS nor the iMQRES nor MRes/PhD ‘bundle’ cover relocation costs, establishment allowances or thesis allowances.

Section 4: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Awards will only be available to applicants who:

• are citizens of countries other than Australian/New Zealand, and not Australian Permanent Residents.
• have already completed, or expect to complete in 2016 a research master’s degree
• are enrolling as full-time students
• will undertake a Masters of Philosophy or Doctorate (only PhD candidates are eligible for an iMQRES) in 2016/17.

Additionally:

• IPRS applicants must be commencing full-time enrolment for the first time in a higher degree research program in Australia
• IPRS applicants who commenced a higher degree research degree and terminated that enrolment within 6 months of commencement may still be eligible for scholarship
• scholarship holders must be resident in Australia during their award tenure, unless on approved overseas research leave.

Awards will not be available to those who:

• are receiving another equivalent or major award, scholarship or salary to undertake the proposed program
• have already completed a research Doctoral degree or its equivalent
• have already completed a higher degree in research at the same level or at a higher level than the proposed candidature
• have previously held an iMQRES or APAI for more than 6 months (for candidates being considered for an iMQRES)
• Additionally for IPRS consideration: have been previously enrolled in an Australian Higher Degree Research program for more than 6 months; have held an AUSAID scholarship in the last 2 years; are receiving tuition via another Australian Government-funded scholarship scheme; have already commenced their degree candidature and had the opportunity to apply to the 2016 IPRS round (closed 31 August 2015)
• provide false or misleading information to the University. Where there is reason to believe this condition has not been upheld, the University reserves the right to reassess the student’s entitlement to the award.

Award-holders may:

• be in receipt of minor awards, allowances or other earnings which are supplementary to an IPRS or iMQRES, or derived from part-time work undertaken within the guidelines set by the Higher Degree Research Committee
• receive stipend top-up funding from industry or other sources to a maximum equivalent to 75% of the basic Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) stipend rate
• be in receipt of additional funds for field work, equipment and other such expenses not covered by the award.
Selection Criteria

Macquarie University ranks applicants on the basis of academic merit, relevant research output and experience and/or potential and the University's Strategic Research Framework 2015 to 2024 World - Leading Research with World - Changing Impact.

You must satisfy all the criteria for admission to Macquarie University.

If you are seeking to establish eligibility for a scholarship you are encouraged to provide full documentation of your achievements to assist in the assessment of your qualifications. Other relevant research qualifications which may be considered include:

- Completion of a research master’s degree or equivalent e.g. a coursework Masters with a substantial research component (you will be asked to provide information on your thesis abstract, length, grade, examination process and the percentage of research component in the course).
- Published research (preferably in refereed publications: journals, books, book chapters etc)
- Conference presentations (preferably refereed)
- Highly relevant and substantial work-related research experience

Section 5: ASSESSMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS GAINED OVERSEAS

In order to rank all applicants against a common standard of assessment, the University refers to the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) Country Education Profiles for the assessment of qualifications gained at overseas institutions. These guidelines provide a comparison of the overseas qualification against the Australian system of education. Please note that failure to provide adequate documentation such as full transcripts of all tertiary studies (and an official English certified translation if the original is not in English) may jeopardise your application.

You may include other documentation of your achievements as appropriate, to assist in the assessment of your application. It is recommended that you also discuss your qualifications and application with an academic staff member in your proposed area of study.

More information is available at the Australian Government’s Study in Australia web resource: http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS

Information about currently available HDR scholarship opportunities is published on the Higher Degree Research Office website (web address below).

For enquiries regarding conditions of award, or the scholarship application process contact:

Higher Degree Research Office – Scholarships (02) 9850 9782
Building C5C, Level 3 East or (02) 9850 1893
Macquarie University NSW 2109 Fax (02) 9850 6198
Australia Email: hdrschol@mq.edu.au

WEBSITE: HTTP://WWW.MQ.EDU.AU/RESEARCH/PHD-AND-RESEARCH-DEGREES/SCHOLARSHIPS

APPEAL PROCEDURES

If you consider that your application has been incorrectly assessed in the application process, then you may appeal in writing to the Director, Higher Degree Research Office on hdrmanagement@mq.edu.au within 4 weeks of the notified outcome.