

(YOU)^{us}

Macquarie
University Research
Fellowship (MQRF)
Webinar

2024

https://www.mq.edu.au/research/research-funding-and-grant-opportunities/fellowship-and-grant-opportunities/internal_funding/mq-research-fellowships



MACQUARIE
University
SYDNEY • AUSTRALIA

Macquarie University Research Fellowship



SCHEME OBJECTIVES

The Macquarie University Research Fellowships (MQRF) Scheme has three main objectives:

- To provide support to researchers ***within three years of the conferral of their PhD*** who have an ***outstanding track record (relative to opportunity)*** and/or who show evidence of excellent research potential.
- To provide ***an incubation research period for early career researchers, allowing them to increase their competitive edge in securing research funding from non-University sources.***
- To enhance the research capabilities of existing and emerging areas of research strength at Macquarie University. To ***contribute to one or more of the University's five Future-Shaping Research Priorities.***

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants are eligible only if their PhD has been **conferred on or after 1 March 2021**; or their **thesis was submitted on or before 31 December 2023**. **The Fellowship cannot commence until the PhD has been conferred, which must be by 30 June 2025.**
- Applicants whose PhD was awarded before 1 March 2021 must make a convincing case for early career researcher status in their application. Circumstances **establishing early career status could include career interruptions due to non-research employment, debilitating illness, childbirth, international relocation, disaster management, unemployment, misadventure or carer responsibilities.**
- Each period **of career interruption must be significant, extending for a period of greater than 60 calendar days, and not overlapping.**
- Applicants **who were/are PhD candidates at Macquarie University, or who have had full-time, part-time, or casual employment at Macquarie University since the beginning of 2021** must make a case (in Section 5 of the Application Form) for **why it is appropriate for them to continue or recommence their research career at Macquarie University.**
- Applicants may be subject to review under the Autonomous Sanctions Act 2011 (Cth). This Act **restricts Australian organisations (including Macquarie University) from interacting with people or organisations associated with countries** on the sanctions list.
- Applicants for any Macquarie University internal grant scheme **must not have any overdue reports for internal grants on which they are a current or past lead investigator.**

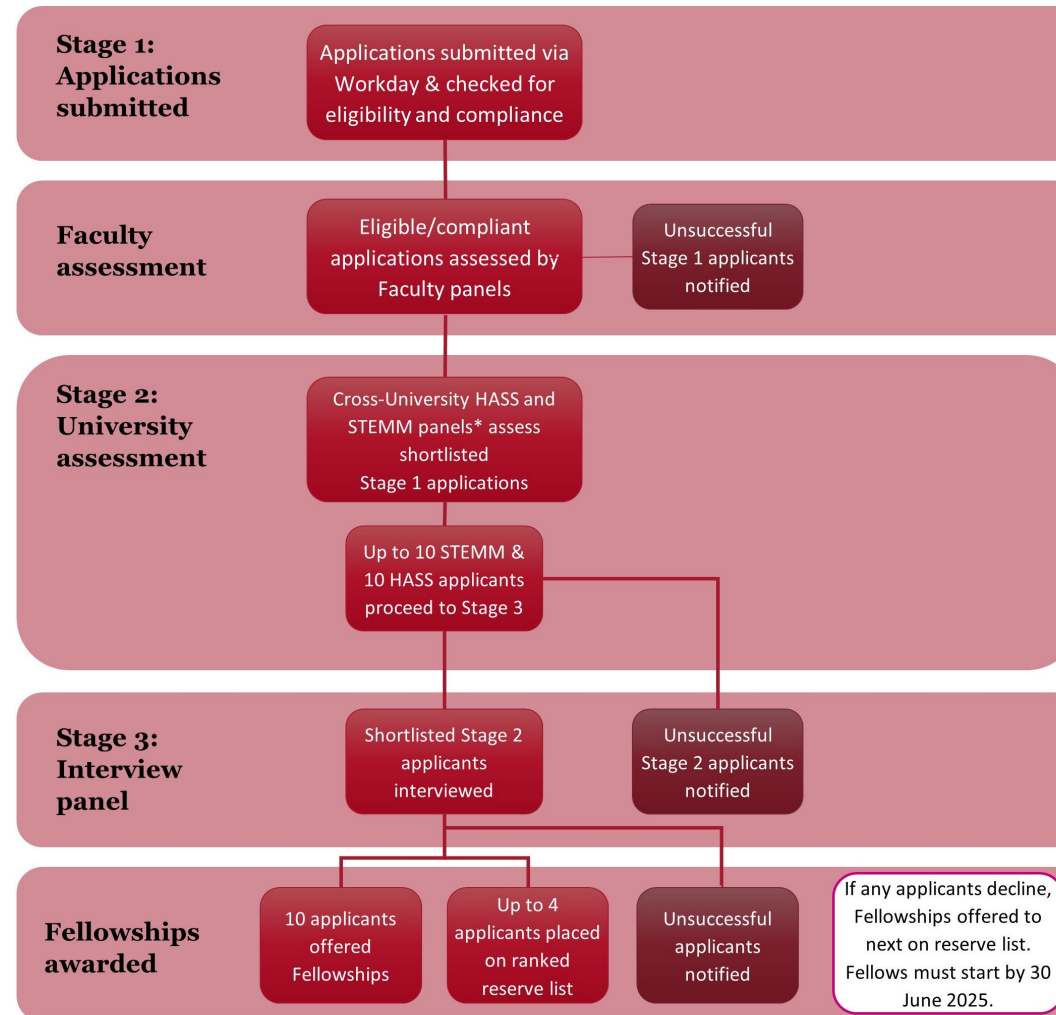
Macquarie University Research Fellowship

ELIGIBILITY – CONDITIONS OF AWARD (SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS)

- Macquarie University Research Fellows ***must be in full-time attendance at Macquarie University*** except for approved field work and travel
- The ***appointments will carry University-standard academic appointment*** benefits and restrictions.
Generally appointed at an Academic Salary Level A6
- ***Fellowships must commence by 30 June 2025***
- Successful candidates who have not been awarded their PhD at the time of MQRF application submission ***cannot take up the Fellowship until formal advice that their PhD has been awarded.***
- It is a condition of award that ***MQRF recipients will apply during the second year of their MQRF tenure to the ARC, NHMRC or any other external agency for a Research Fellowship to be based at Macquarie University.***
- Successful applicants are expected to ***manage their research project funds to completion within the grant allocation period, therefore funds must be fully expended within the funded period.***
- ***Must complete all reporting requirements*** (eg progress reports and final report)

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

APPLICATION PROCESS AND STAGES



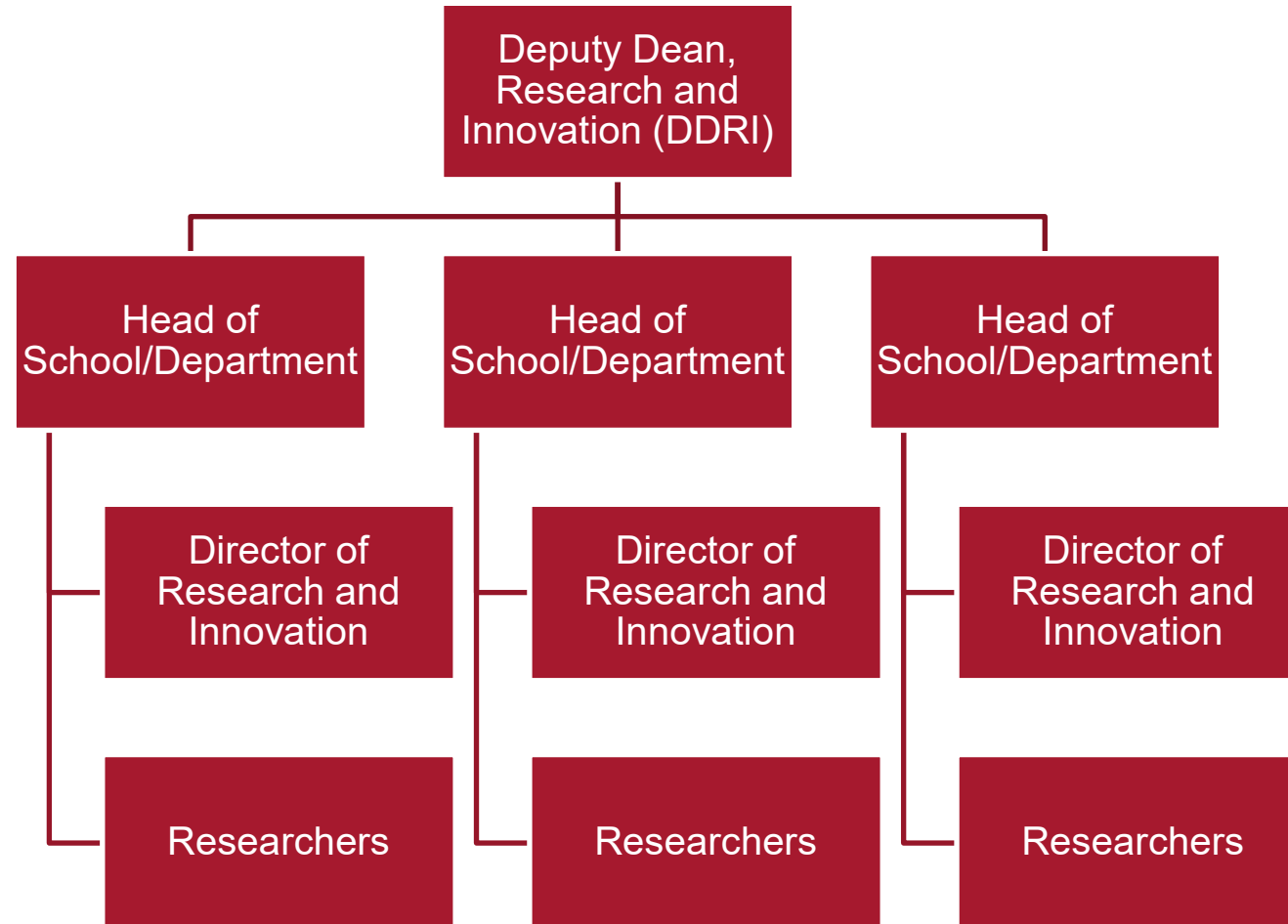
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APPLICANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- You must have read the guidelines, fact sheets, FAQs, discipline norms and attended a webinar. If you have a question after consulting with all materials you can email mqrf@mq.edu.au
- Ensure you are eligible to submit an MQRF application
- Identify and secure the support of an appropriate sponsor (*see section 5.2 of the funding guidelines*)
 - You must make contact with the sponsor to seek their endorsement
 - You must consult with the sponsor and seek input during the application process
 - Your sponsor must complete and submit a Sponsor and Head of Department/School Statement (without your input) if you are shortlisted to Stage 2
- Ensure Macquarie University has the required equipment, infrastructure and expertise for your research (in consultation with your sponsor)
- Apply through Workday by submitting the application forms and all required attachments by the submission deadline

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

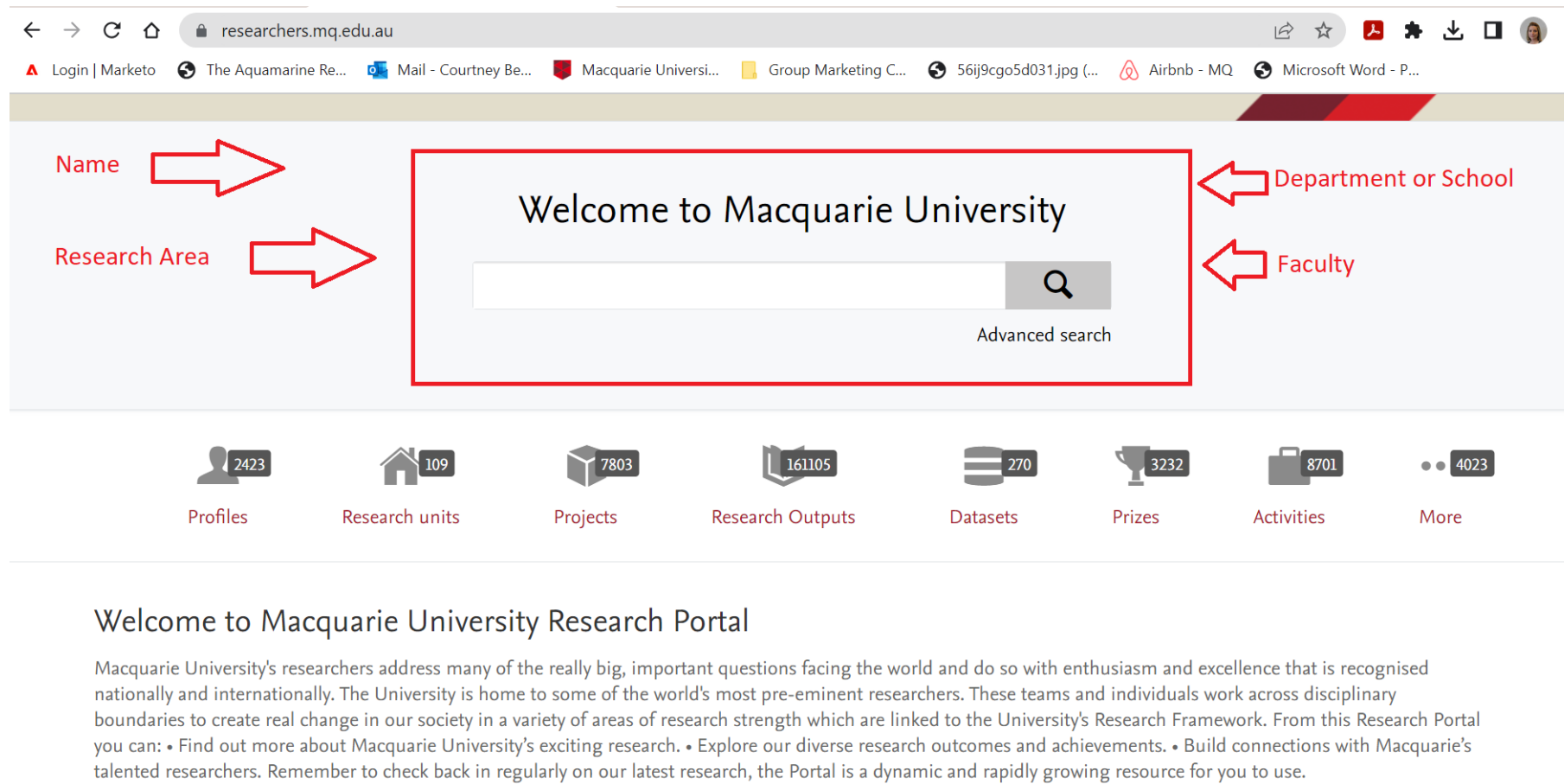
SIMPLIFIED FACULTY RESEARCH STRUCTURE



Macquarie University Research Fellowship

FINDING A SPONSOR

<https://researchers.mq.edu.au/>



The screenshot shows the Macquarie University Research Portal homepage. The browser address bar displays researchers.mq.edu.au. The page features a search bar with the text "Welcome to Macquarie University" and a search icon. Red arrows point to the search bar from the labels "Name", "Research Area", "Department or School", and "Faculty". Below the search bar is a link to "Advanced search". The page also displays a navigation bar with icons and counts for various categories: Profiles (2423), Research units (109), Projects (7803), Research Outputs (161105), Datasets (270), Prizes (3232), Activities (8701), and More (4023). The main content area includes a heading "Welcome to Macquarie University Research Portal" and a paragraph describing the portal's purpose and features.

Name

Research Area

Department or School

Faculty

Welcome to Macquarie University

Advanced search

Profiles 2423

Research units 109

Projects 7803

Research Outputs 161105

Datasets 270

Prizes 3232

Activities 8701

More 4023

Welcome to Macquarie University Research Portal

Macquarie University's researchers address many of the really big, important questions facing the world and do so with enthusiasm and excellence that is recognised nationally and internationally. The University is home to some of the world's most pre-eminent researchers. These teams and individuals work across disciplinary boundaries to create real change in our society in a variety of areas of research strength which are linked to the University's Research Framework. From this Research Portal you can:

- Find out more about Macquarie University's exciting research.
- Explore our diverse research outcomes and achievements.
- Build connections with Macquarie's talented researchers.

Remember to check back in regularly on our latest research, the Portal is a dynamic and rapidly growing resource for you to use.

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

SPONSOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Must ensure they are only accepting sponsorship of 1 applicant per year. This limit applies to both Primary Sponsors and Co-Sponsors (i.e. it is not possible to be a Sponsor on one application and a co-sponsor on another)
- Must consult and support applicant through the application process
- Sponsors contract should cover the whole period of the Fellowship (2025-2027)
- Advocate for and facilitate the applicant's negotiations with their Department/School. The sponsor is responsible for consulting early with their HoD/HoS on:
 - the resources, systems, facilities (including animal facilities) and core infrastructure the applicant requires
 - the Level/Step the applicant is to be appointed at (if higher than Academic Salary Level A6)
 - appointment to a 75% research/25% teaching Fellowship over 4 years (if requested).
- If the applicant is shortlisted by the Faculty to proceed to full panel assessment (Stage 2), you are responsible for:
 - Helping the applicant to obtain written confirmation from the HoD/HoS of a starting salary higher than Academic Salary Level A6 (and, if applicable, the approval of the Faculty Executive Dean if a case can be made for a salary above Academic Salary Level A8) and/or a 4-year teaching and research appointment.
 - Preparing and submitting a Sponsor/HoD Statement (form will be provided).

Macquarie University Research Fellowship



SELECTION CRITERIA

- Applicant (40%)
- Project (60%)
 - Significance (15%)
 - Approach and Methods (15%)
 - Feasibility (15%)
 - Sponsor Relationship, Environment and Benefit to Macquarie University (15%)

See guidelines for further details regarding each criterion.

Macquarie University Research Fellowship



WORKDAY KEY INFORMATION

- The application consists of the following three documents:
 - Completed MQRF 2025 Application Form and Project Description (combined as a single PDF)
 - Completed CV and Research Opportunity Form
 - Evidence of PhD conferral (if awarded) or thesis submission date.

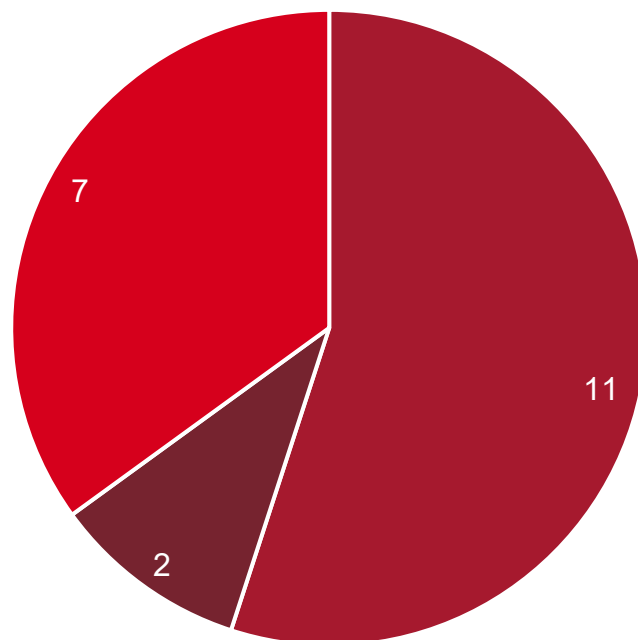
Applications, including all requested forms, must be submitted electronically in the Macquarie University HR portal, Workday, into the '**Resume and Cover letter**' section. **Note that there is no additional resume or cover letter required**; only the three documents listed below should be uploaded. Applications not submitted through Workday or missing any of the three above documents will be deemed ineligible.

Note that in Workday you will be asked to complete some of the same information as is contained in the CV and Research Opportunity Form. This is to pre-populate data in the Macquarie HR system that will be retained if you are appointed as an MQRF, or if you apply to Macquarie University in the future for other appointments.

Allocation at Stage 2

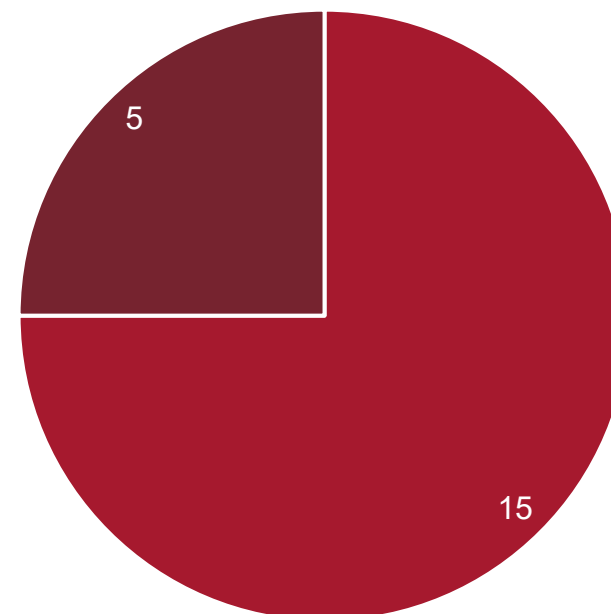
STEMM AND HASS

HASS



■ Arts ■ MQBS ■ FMHHS

STEMM



■ FSE ■ FMHHS

STAGE 2 PROCESSES

Stage Two Assessment, if shortlisted for consideration by the Faculty-based panel (stage one), applications will be assessed by either a HASS (Arts, Business and Human Sciences) or STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine) University panel, which will shortlist applicants for interview. At this stage, the following documentation will be required:

- i) you will need to provide evidence to support career interruptions claimed in your application (if applicable)
- ii) with support of your Sponsor, you will need to provide HoD/HoS approval for appointment to a 4-year Fellowship and/or above Level A Step 6, or of HoD/HoS and Faculty Executive Dean if above Level A Step 8 (if applicable).
- iii) Sponsors will be required to submit Sponsor and Head of Department/School Statements of support.

Allocation at Stage 3 (Interview)

STEMM AND HASS

10 HASS Applicants
(shortlisted at stage 2) invited
to interview



5 HASS Applicants offered an
MQRF position

10 STEMM Applicants
(shortlisted at stage 2) invited
to interview



5 STEMM Applicants offered
an MQRF position

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

TIMELINES

Stage 1: Scheme opens	Monday 4 March 2024
Scheme closes	Monday 8 April 2024, 11.59pm (AEST)
Stage 2: (University assessment) announced	mid May 2024
Stage 3: Invitations to interview announced	mid June 2024
Interview period	1-5 July 2024
PhD Award Date for Eligibility	1 March 2021
PhD Submission date if PhD not yet awarded	31 December 2023
Notification of results (pending DVCR approval)	July 2024

Macquarie University Research Fellowship

APPLICATION SUPPORT

- *Funding Guidelines*
- *Applicant Guide*
- *Sponsor Guide*
- *MQRF Full Application Form*
- *MQRF CV Template*
- *Career Disruption Calculator*
- *FAQs*
- *Discipline Norms*
- *Webinar Slides*
- *Webinar Recording*

https://www.mq.edu.au/research/research-funding-and-grant-opportunities/fellowship-and-grant-opportunities/internal_funding/mq-research-fellowships

What does success look like

NUMBER SUBMITTED VS NUMBER FUNDED (NOTING A NEW PROCESS FOR 2024)

Last seven rounds			
Year	Number submitted	Number funded after full application (5 x HASS; 5 x STEMM)	Success Rate from Application to Funded
2017	143	10	7.0%
2018	140	10	7.1%
2019	147	10	6.8%
2020	105	10	9.5%
2021	129	10	7.8%
2022*	88	10	11.4%
2023*	67	10	14.9%
TOTAL	820	70	8.5%

** Visa restrictions in place*

Examples/Guides of what success looks
like per discipline

See Discipline Norms for further
information

SUCCESSFUL AWARDESS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATH AND MEDICINE

There is extremely intense competition for MQRFs each year with a success rate less than that of nationally-competitive funding opportunities, such as the ARC DECRA scheme and the NHMRC Investigator Grant scheme. On average, successful applicants:

- Had PhD award dates between the range of the three years
- Average 25 publications, with an average of 11 as first author, in high-quality (and often exceptional) journals.
- The publications attracted on average 400 citations, resulting in an average h-index of 11.
- Average of 25 conference presentations
- Awarded an average of \$900,000 in competitive grants
- Received up to 9 external and internal prizes or awards.

SUCCESSFUL AWARDEES IN HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

There is extremely intense competition for MQRFs each year with a success rate less than that of nationally-competitive funding opportunities, such as the ARC DECRA scheme and the NHMRC Investigator Grant scheme. On average, successful applicants:

- Had PhD award dates between the range of the three years
- Average 17 publications, with an average of 9 as first author, in high-quality journals or with high-quality publishers.
- Average of 21 conference presentations
- Awarded an average of over \$450,000 in competitive grants
- Received up to 8 external and internal prizes or awards.



EMPOWERING
(YOU) *us*

TO ACHIEVE YOUR
RESEARCH GOALS
WITH INTEGRITY

EXCELLENCE. QUALITY. INTEGRITY.



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