



# MQ Research Fellowship (MQRF) 2025

## Sponsor information

The aims of the MQRF are to support researchers within three years of the award of their PhD who have an outstanding track record (relative to opportunity) and/or who show evidence of excellent research potential; provide an incubation period to allow them to increase their competitive edge in securing external research funding; and to enhance existing and emerging areas of research strength at Faculty and University level.

Sponsors have a pivotal role in supporting applicants through the development of their application, the application process itself and in fostering their talent and research career throughout the Fellowship.

### Important dates

Stage 1: Scheme opens	4 March 2024
Applications close	8 April 2024
Stage 2: shortlist announced	mid May 2024
Sponsor/HoD statements due	late May 2024
Stage 3: shortlist announced	mid June 2024
Interview dates	1-5 July 2024
Outcomes announced	July 2024
Commencement	Between 1 January and 30 June 2025

### KEY FELLOWSHIP INFORMATION

Ten MQRF positions are offered each year. They can be undertaken as 100% research over 5 years or, at the discretion of the relevant Head of Department/School, as 75% research/25% teaching over 4 years.

Fellows are appointed at Level A Step 6, 7 or 8, commensurate with experience. A higher level may be negotiated with the relevant Head of Department/School and Faculty Executive Dean, but cannot be guaranteed.

Fellows receive \$50,000 over three years (up to \$20,000 in any one year) for direct research costs.

### SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY

- Sponsors may only be named on one Fellowship application per round. This applies to both primary and co-sponsors (i.e. it is not possible to be a primary sponsor for one applicant and co-sponsor for another.)
- Sponsors must have an employment contract covering the whole period of the Fellowship.

### SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Ensure you (and the co-sponsor, if applicable) are a good fit with the applicant and project, and you have the requisite expertise to support all aspects the Fellowship.

Support the applicant through the application process, including but not limited to reviewing the application prior to submission and preparing for interview if the applicant is shortlisted. Unlike previous years, there is no EOI application, so the quality and completeness of the submitted application (Stage 1) is paramount.

Advocate for and facilitate the applicant's negotiations with your Department/School. You and the applicant should consult early with your 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 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 A6 (and, if applicable, the approval of the Faculty Executive Dean if a case can be made for a salary above A8) and/or a 4-year teaching and research appointment.
- Preparing and submitting a Sponsor/HoD Statement (form will be provided).

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Full guidelines, forms, FAQs and information webinars can be found on the [MQRF web page](#).

Please email [mqrf@mq.edu.au](mailto:mqrf@mq.edu.au) if you have any questions.

### RESEARCH SERVICES

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