

**Higher Degree Research Office  
Scholarships for International HDR Candidates  
Information for Applicants**

**2019 iRTP/iMQRES ROUND**

**Applications close: 31 JULY 2018**

International Research Training Program Scholarships and (iRTP)  
additional International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (iMQRES)

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this leaflet as at May 2018 guidelines for these awards may be subject to change.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Popular Awards

The Research Training Program (RTP) scheme is administered by individual universities on behalf of the Department of Education and Training. Applications for a RTP Scholarships need to be made directly to participating universities. Macquarie University has its own application and selection process, as outlined in the [Macquarie University Research Training Program Scholarship Guidelines](#). The number of international candidate places funded through the RTP (International Research Training Program Scholarships, iRTP) varies from year to year.

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 also offers a limited number of scholarships to international Master of Research (MRes) candidates. They must be applying for an 'MRes/PhD 1+3 bundle' (i.e. MRes Year 2 and 3 year PhD) through this competitive iRTP round. Successful candidates will be awarded a provisional PhD offer, and they will be considered for a 3 year PhD scholarship on a competitive basis upon successful completion of MRes Year 2.

### Selection Process

Macquarie University offers available awards to eligible candidates in accordance with the [MQ Research Training Program Scholarship Guidelines](#), and the [Macquarie University HDR Scholarship Rating Criteria](#).

**iRTP/iMQRES Round:** offers are generally advised in mid-October with candidates expected to commence their scholarship in first semester of the following year (Session 1 2019). Special approval is required for deferral to the second half of the year.

## HOW TO APPLY

### New Applicants to Macquarie University

For new\* applicants, the Higher Degree Research Office at Macquarie University uses a single online application to apply for both candidature and scholarship. The application process is as follows for new\* applicants:

- Go to the [How to Apply Entry Requirements webpage](#) and follow the steps to complete an application. This includes uploading electronic original or certified copies of:
  - Academic transcripts and Degree testamur/graduation certificate confirming eligibility for the award. An official English translation must be included if documents are not in English
  - The qualification's grading scale
  - A certified copy of your proof of identity, such as personal details page(s) of your passport
  - An original or certified copy of documents providing evidence of any name change (if applicable)
  - Evidence of meeting the English language proficiency requirements
  - A research proposal outline with reference list (general guidelines are provided on the How to Apply Entry Requirements webpage. Please check with Faculty/Department of interest for length)
  - Other relevant documentation, if applicable (such as research output)
- In the eApplication portal, you must indicate iRTP/iMQRES in the scholarship question
- Applicants must request their referees to send the Academic Referee Reports directly to [hdrschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdrschol@mq.edu.au).

\*Current MQ HDR Candidates and applicants that have previously received a valid Macquarie University letter of offer for a Higher Degree Research program within the last 12 months need to refer to the application process for 'Other applicants'.

**'Other applicants'** - Current MQ HDR Candidates and applicants that have previously received a valid Macquarie University letter of offer

**Applicants who are current MQ HDR Candidates:**

- Complete and submit a [HDR Application for Scholarship Only](#) and include supporting documentation, such as:
  - any additional information or research output since original application and commencement
  - updated CV
  - letter of offer and/or research student profile
- Indicate iRTP/iMQRES under the scholarship details question
- Must email the application to [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au) in ONE pdf document and MUST indicate in the subject line the MQ ID, full name and 'Scholarship Application for iRTP/iMQRES International Main Scholarship Round'
- Must request their referees to send the Academic Referee Reports directly to [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au).

While current candidates are eligible to apply, any consumed prior enrolment will be counted as advanced standing and will reduce the maximum scholarship duration offered.

**Applicants who hold a Macquarie University candidature offer LESS than 12 months old:**

- Complete and submit a [HDR Application for Scholarship Only](#) and include supporting documentation, such as:
  - any additional information or research output since original application,
  - updated CV
  - letter of offer
- Must request and include with application approval from the Faculty to defer the candidature commencement to Session 1 2019
- Indicate iRTP/iMQRES under the scholarship details question
- Must email the application to [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au) in ONE pdf document and MUST indicate in the subject line the MQ Applicant ID, full name and 'Scholarship Application for iRTP/iMQRES International Main Scholarship Round'
- Must request their referees to send the Academic Referee Reports directly to [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au)

**Academic Referee Reports:**

All applying for the International Main Scholarship round must have Academic Referee Reports in support of their application. Eligibility for scholarship cannot be determined if referee reports are not received. A minimum of two referee reports is required, if one is your proposed supervisor, then additional referee reports are required per current/proposed supervisor.

You will need to complete the personal details section on the Academic Referee Report form, available from the [website HDR Forms](#), and forward this to your nominated referees. Each referee should complete and return the report directly to the University **no later than Wednesday 15 August 2018**. Your referee does not need to fill in information they cannot comment. Referee reports are confidential and if received from the candidate cannot be considered.

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 the referee reports.

Referee reports are checked for authenticity and referees may be contacted to verify details. Once completed, the reports should not be returned to the applicant. The referee is requested to email this report directly to the University at the email address provided on the report.

**English Language Requirements:**

Each applicant must provide evidence of their English language proficiency and the minimum criteria can be located on the [How to Apply – English Language Requirements](#). Eligibility for scholarship cannot be determined if applicants are unable to provide evidence that they meet the minimum criteria. Evidence of English language proficiency must be provided directly to the University **no later than Wednesday 15 August 2018**.

***Applications may not be considered if all required documentation has not been received***



## GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

This information provides a general overview, and should be read in conjunction with the [MQ Research Training Program Guidelines](#). Applicants should always review the terms of their individual award offer and conditions in their letter of offer of scholarship.

All successful iRTP applicants for a PhD will receive 3 years of tuition fee coverage and a travel allowance (applied to the OPAL travel card). Successful MPhil candidates receive funding for 2 years. Additionally, successful iRTP applicants will receive a stipend (living allowance), currently valued at \$27,082 pa, tax exempt (2018 rate). Applicants applying for admission to PhD, who are (counter) offered entry to MRes Year 2 with a provisional 3-year PhD and who rank competitively for scholarship, may be offered a scholarship to cover their MRes Year 2 program.

The fully internally funded iMQRES, offers the same stipend plus tuition fees for up to 3 years for students enrolling in 2019.

### Overseas Student Health Cover:

Please note that for eligible candidates that have been offered an iRTP or iMQRES scholarship will need to purchase overseas student health cover for the full visa period. Note that overseas student health cover must be purchased upfront at the time of acceptance as per Australian Government requirements. The student visa (subclass 500) requires students to purchase an additional 8 months OSHC after the course end date for research programs. Eligible candidates will have the overseas student health cover fee confirmed at the time of offer.

Overseas student health cover fees quoted here are based on 2017 as per Health Provider's fee schedule: 22 months single policy \$1,151 (MRes Year 2) and 45 months single policy \$2,633 (PhD). Dual family and Multi-family quotes are available upon request.

Neither the iRTP nor the iMQRES nor MRes/PhD 'bundle' cover relocation costs, establishment allowances or thesis allowances.

## 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 2018 a research master's degree
- are enrolling as full-time students
- will undertake a Masters of Philosophy or Doctorate in 2019.
- Scholarship holders must reside in Sydney, 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
- 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 iRTP or iMQRES, or derived from part-time work undertaken within the guidelines set by the relevant scholarship conditions
- receive stipend top-up funding from industry or other sources to a maximum equivalent to 75% of the basic Research Training Program (RTP) 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.

## 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 certified English 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.

## FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS

Information about currently available HDR scholarship opportunities is published on the Higher Degree Research Office website.

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

HDR Management Team (Scholarships)

Higher Degree Research Office

**Phone:** +61 2 9850 4740; +61 2 9850 1893; +61 2 9850 9782;

**Email:** [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au)

## APPEAL PROCEDURES

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