Candidates undertaking postgraduate research award courses at the University of Sydney are required to lodge a copy of the thesis in the University library. However, the University recognises that there are certain circumstances where deferment of the public availability of the thesis is appropriate.

If a candidate believes their interests are at risk by making the production available, the candidate may apply for deferment of availability of the thesis for a specified period of time.

If it is determined that it is necessary to protect the interests of the candidate by not making the thesis immediately available, the Dean of the Faculty may authorise a delay in the lodgement for a period not exceeding 6 months from the date of the award of the degree.

The Dean may also recommend to the Research & Research Training Committee of the Academic Board (for approval by the Chair of the Research & Research Training Committee) that a longer period of deferment be approved. Such periods shall not exceed 12 months (in addition to the time approved by the Dean), except in exceptional circumstances.

Where a candidate is associated with a project in collaboration with industry, an application for deferment of public availability of the thesis must be resolved at the commencement of candidature.

Applications for deferment of public availability of a thesis should be completed by the candidate and the supervisor and submitted to the appropriate faculty office. To complete the application:

1. clearly state the length of deferment requested and reason for the deferment; and
2. attach any supporting documentation

Applications are considered in accordance with Part 10, Division 5, section 92 of the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 as amended.
Section 1: To be completed by the Candidate and forwarded to the Supervisor

I wish to defer the public availability of my thesis for ........................................ for the following reasons:

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Signed: Date:

Section 2: To be completed by the Supervisor and forwarded to the Faculty Office

I support / do not support the deferment of public availability of this candidate's thesis for ........................................ for the following reasons:

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Signed: Date:

Section 3: To be completed by the Dean

I approve / do not approve the deferment of public availability of this candidate’s thesis for ........................................ for the following reasons: Note: Maximum period of time is 6 months.

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Signed: Date:

Section 4: To be completed by the Dean, where the Dean wishes to recommend a longer period of deferment and forwarded to the Research & Research Training Committee (applications should be sent to Research & Research Training Committee, Secretariat, A14)

I recommend that the Chair of the Research & Research Training Committee approve deferment of public availability of this candidate’s thesis for an additional ........................................ for the following reasons:

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Signed: Date:

Section 5: To be completed by the Chair of the Research & Research Training Committee

I approve / do not approve the deferment of public availability of this candidate’s thesis for an additional ........................................ for the following reasons:

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Signed: Date: