FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION TO A
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREE
Information for Domestic Students Only

WHO THIS IS FOR?
This is general admissions information for domestic students only (an Australian citizen, or a New Zealand citizen, or a dual citizen of any country with Australia or New Zealand, or a permanent resident of Australia) who wish to apply for admission to a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) course at the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Admissions information for international students is available at sydney.edu.au/future-students/international/postgraduate/research/apply

The two research degrees offered at the Faculty of Health Sciences are:
Master of Applied Science (MApplSc)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

HOW TO APPLY
These are the steps you need to take to be considered for admission to candidature for a HDR in the Faculty of Health Sciences. Please read the steps carefully before submitting the online application.

Step 1: Make Your Own Assessment of Your Qualifications for Admission

Academic requirements
The minimum admission requirements to the Master of Applied Science degree are:
- A relevant bachelor's degree from the University of Sydney or other Australian university or from an overseas institution of higher education, equivalent to an Australian bachelor's degree; or
- Present such evidence of general or academic qualifications as will satisfy the faculty to be equivalent to an Australian bachelor's degree.

The minimum admission requirements to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree are:
- An equivalent of an Australian bachelor degree with first- or second-class honours, Division 1; or
- A master's by research; or
- A master's by coursework with a significant thesis component.

Please note: for PhD applicants who do not meet the minimum requirements stated above, the Dean may recommend you to enrol in a master's by research degree (if you meet the admission requirements), with the possibility of an upgrade to the PhD after completion of at least 1 year full time equivalent study and demonstrated satisfactory progress in the master's degree.

Step 2: Prepare Your Research Proposal and Secure a Supervisor
Ensure that you have a clear idea of what topic area you want to research during your candidature.

Prepare a 500-word research proposal to submit with your application for admission to candidature. Your research proposal should include the following information:
- Title: Working title for the thesis.
- Academic staff contact: Name(s) of the supervisor or other academic staff with whom you have discussed your proposal and/or candidature.
- Synopsis: Issues, research question and hypothesis to be investigated.
- Background: Description of the context and background reading leading to your interest in this research question.
- Significance: Brief explanation why the research question is significant.
- Methodology: Research methodology of approach to be used.
- Resources: Identify resources required to complete your research.
- Work plan: An initial plan for completion with annual milestones.

Search for a supervisor under your preferred research area through the Research Supervisor Connect at sydney.edu.au/research/opportunities. The system will allow you to submit an enquiry and provide contact details for potential supervisors to discuss your research.

Please note that admission to a research degree is competitive and consideration of your research proposal will form part of the assessment of your application.

Step 3: Consider Your Attendance Pattern and the Location of Your Candidature
Attendance pattern: You may carry out your candidature on a full-time or part-time basis. In general if you plan to devote a minimum of 35-40 hours a week to candidature, this would be considered full-time. Part-time candidature requires a commitment of at least 15-20 hours a week, and provides a longer period of time in which to complete your degree, but it is worth noting that it also has an impact on your ability to obtain concessions and many scholarships.
Location: You may either pursue your research:

- On-campus (for candidates residing within the Sydney metropolitan area including Wollongong and Newcastle); or

- Off-campus (within and outside Australia) in an approved institution/professional environment with adequate facilities, subject to the approval of the Dean. You may not be in regular physical attendance at the University, but there must be a mutually agreed arrangement for supervision. Please discuss this carefully with your potential supervisor.

If you wish to pursue your candidature off-campus, you are required to provide a written off-campus plan that includes the following:

1. Timetable of research for 1st year.
2. Statement of how often and when you are going to meet with your supervisors.
3. When you plan to be on campus.

Please note if you wish to pursue your candidature off-campus (within or outside Australia), you must complete an equivalent of at least two semesters of candidature for PhD, and one semester for a master’s by research within the University prior to submitting your thesis for examination. This period may be taken at any time during the candidature either continuously or in non-consecutive periods.

Step 4: Submitting Your Application

Once you have secured a supervisor and finalized your research proposal, you’re ready to submit your application. All applications for higher degrees by research should be lodged online:

Doctor of Philosophy
sydney.edu.au/courses/Doctor-of-Philosophy-Health-Sciences

Master of Applied Science
sydney.edu.au/courses/Master-of-Applied-Science-Research

Domestic Students - Scholarships

Candidates who wish to be considered for an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) or an University of Sydney Postgraduate Award (UPA) must submit separate scholarship application to the Scholarships Office. Scholarship application closing dates are listed on the above Scholarships Office website.
Application Checklist for Domestic Applicants

Please ensure you have fulfilled this checklist prior to submitting an application. Your application will not be processed unless all of the following documents are included. Please note late or incomplete applications will delay processing of your application, and may not be completed in time for your proposed start date.

☐ Residential status: Provide evidence of Australian/New Zealand citizenship or Australian permanent residency status (e.g. a Justice of the Peace certified copy of your valid Australian Passport).

☐ Off-campus plan: If you wish to pursue your candidature off-campus, you are required to provide a written off-campus plan as detailed in step 3 above.

☐ Academic qualifications: Supply certified copies of documentary evidence for all tertiary studies except for studies completed at the University of Sydney, e.g. academic transcripts, degree certificates, and grading system. If you have overseas transcripts in a foreign language, you must provide copies of both the original and a certified English translation.

☐ English proficiency: Proof that you have satisfied the Postgraduate English Language requirements through one of the following methods:
  1. A record of satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies in which the language of the institution and of instruction, examination and assessment was English. The tertiary studies must have been undertaken no more than a maximum of 5 years prior to the application.
  2. Successful completion of the course “English for Academic Purposes” at the University’s Centre for English Teaching. The course shall have been completed no more than 2 years prior to the application.
  3. An internationally recognised English language test meeting the University and Faculty minimum requirements:
    - International English Language Testing Scheme (IELTS): minimum overall band score of 6.5 (with minimum of 6.0 in each band).
    - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): 577 minimum and 4.5+ in the Test of Written English (TWE).

Note that English language test scores must be less than 2 years old at the date of apply to the University of Sydney.

☐ Curriculum vitae: A complete curriculum vitae or resume which includes:
  - Details of your professional experience (current and previous), including names of employers, dates of service and nature of duties in each position held.
  - Research experience; details of any publications, original research or papers presented at conferences.
  - Other qualifications; details of membership of professional bodies and any relevant continuing professional education courses, including course duration and year undertaken, or other qualifications.
  - Contact details (name, telephone and fax numbers, email address) of two academic referees who have agreed to support your application. Academic referees should be academics who are familiar with your most recent university studies, and are qualified to comment on your previous academic achievements and your capacity to undertake a research program.

☐ Research proposal: A 500-word research proposal as detailed in step 2 above.

☐ Agreement of supervisor: Provide evidence of communication with an academic contact/potential supervisor e.g. print out of an email stating willingness to supervise your project.

☐ Change of name: Provide documentary evidence of the change of name with the application, if the name you provide on the application differs from the one on any of the attached documentation (e.g. academic transcripts, residency), or from your previous study at the University of Sydney.

Enquiries:
Please direct any enquiries concerning your research application to the Research and Innovation Office on +61 2 9351 9355 or email fhs.resadmissions@sydney.edu.au