



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) whom wish to apply for admission to a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) at the Faculty of Health Sciences, the University of Sydney.

Admissions information for **international students** is available at sydney.edu.au/future_students/international_postgraduate_research/admissions/index.shtml

The two research degrees offered at the Faculty of Health Sciences are:
[SC108 Master of Applied Science](#)
[SB019 Doctor of Philosophy](#)

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 form.

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

Academic requirements

The minimum admission requirement to the **Master of Applied Science degree** is:

- 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 requirement to the **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree** is:

- 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 requirement stated above, the Dean may recommend you to enrol in a master's by research degree (if you meet the requirements), with the possibility of an upgrade to 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 or 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 speak with 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 hours a week to candidature, this would be considered full-time. Part-time candidature 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



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- 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:

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 finalised your research proposal, you're ready to submit your application. All applications for higher degrees by research should be lodged online by the following closing dates at:

Doctor of Philosophy
sydney.edu.au/courses/?detail=1&course_sef_id=Doctor_of_Philosophy_800

Master of Applied Science
sydney.edu.au/courses/?detail=1&course_sef_id=Master_of_Applied_Science_842

Admission Application closing dates

Domestic Students

Semester 1: 31 December of the previous year*
Semester 2: 30 April*

*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 different to those listed above and are listed on the Scholarships Office website at sydney.edu.au/scholarships/research/postgraduate_awards.shtml

International Students

Semester 1: 31 October of the previous year**
Semester 2: 30 April**

**Candidates who wish to be considered for either an [International Postgraduate Research Scholarships \(IPRS\)](#) or a [University of Sydney International Scholarship \(USydis\)](#) must submit their research admission application by below dates:

Semester 1: 31 July of the previous year (successful candidates will be notified in late October/early November)
Semester 2: 31 December of the previous year (successful candidates will be notified in April).

Important Online Application Checklist for Domestic Applicants

Please ensure you have fulfilled this checklist **prior to submitting and 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: Applicants for whom English is not their first language must provide evidence of minimum English language proficiency 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).
 - Computer-based TOEFL: 233 and 4.5+ in the Essay Rating.

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 curriculum vitae 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.
- Provide 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.

Change of name: If the name you provide on this 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, provide documentary evidence of the change of name with this application.

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

Please note domestic students deferment of the commencement of HDR course is not normally permitted.