Co-funded University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards: Method of Award

Approved by: Academic Board on 9 June 2004
Amended by: Academic Board on 30 May 2007
Date of effect: 31 May 2007

1. Policy

The University of Sydney offers a number of co-funded University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards (UPAs) with the annual APA/UPA round and in second semester each year. These scholarships are only available to commencing students whose department/school and/or faculty will co-fund them with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) on a 50:50 basis. The number of scholarships offered will be determined by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), who will determine each round if they are open only to commencing students or to all students otherwise eligible to apply for UPAs.

For the purposes of this policy, commencing students do not include:

1.1 students who withdraw from a postgraduate research course and resume study in the same course or another research course at the same level in less than three years; and

1.2 students who upgrade from a master's by research to a doctorate by research.

2. Background

In 2003, Second Semester co-funded UPAs were introduced on a trial basis. The initial allocation to Colleges was based on the same completion data as for the main round in First Semester of the same year. Scholarships may also be re-allocated between Colleges of the advice of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) with the agreement of the College Pro Vice-Chancellors.

To maintain parity between overall standards of award in first and second semester, second semester co-funded UPAs will not be awarded to any candidates with a final mark more than five points below the highest of the three College cut-offs from the first semester round. If there are insufficient applicants that meet this requirement within a College, scholarships initially allocated to that College shall be re-allocated to other Colleges.

From the 2007 Second Semester round, the allocation of co-funded UPAs to the former Colleges based on enrolment and completions will be replaced by the use of a single merit list.

3. Coverage

This policy covers co-funded UPA applications for every round.

4. Procedures

The following procedures govern the allocation of awards and ranking procedures:

4.1 Ranking Procedures

The ranking procedure for the co-funded UPAs will be the same as that used for the award of APAs and UPAs (refer to Academic Board policy *Australian Postgraduate Awards (APAs) and University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards (UPAs): Method of Award*).

4.2 Funding arrangements

The University will offer co-funded UPAs only to students whose department/school and/or faculty co-funds them with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) on a 50:50 basis.

Fortnightly scholarship payments and thesis allowances will be made from two accounts, half from the central scholarship account and the other half from an account nominated by the participating department/school or faculty.

4.3 Restrictions

Recipients of the co-funded UPAs must enrol in the postgraduate research degree and commence their award by the census date of the semester in which the offer is made. No deferment of the scholarship will be allowed.

A recipient of a co-funded UPA may apply for an APA or regular UPA in the next subsequent first semester round if eligible. If successful, the co-funding arrangement for the student will cease on 1 January of the subsequent year. However, the department/school or faculty is expected to continue their financial commitment by making the scholarship available to future APA/UPA applicants who miss out on a first round offer.

4.4 Responsibility

The Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee of the Graduate Studies Committee will be responsible for decisions about the offer of co-funded UPAs. In this way, flexibility will be maintained so that the University can best utilise the funding available through the UPA scheme.

5. Authority

5.1 Development/consultation

This policy was developed by the Postgraduate Awards Sub-Committee of the Graduate Studies Committee and approved by the Academic Board.

5.2 Management responsibility

The Manager (Research Scholarships), Research Office shall have overall management responsibility for the policy.

5.3 Implementation and monitoring

The Manager (Research Scholarships), Research Office shall have responsibility for implementing and monitoring the policy.

5.4 Review

The Manager (Research Scholarships), Research Office shall initiate a review process if required.

5.5 Communication

The Manager (Research Scholarships), Research Office shall be responsible for communicating the policy.

5.6 Contact

Inquiries should be directed to:
Manager, Research Scholarships
Research Office
A14
Phone: 9351 4466
E-mail: carmen.ng@sydney.edu.au

6. Related information

6.1 Related University legislation, resolutions, policies and procedures include:

6.1.1 Australian Postgraduate Awards (APAs) and University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards (UPAs): Method of Award

6.1.2 Australian Postgraduate Awards: Transfer Guidelines

6.2 University policies superseded or replaced by this policy:

6.2.1 Co-funded University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards: Method of Award (Second Semester 2003)