Postgraduate Research Scholarship in Mental Health, Technology, Industry and Innovation

Terms and Conditions
December 2017

1. Background

a. A unique opportunity is available for an outstanding Research Masters or PhD scholar in the areas of Mental Health, Technology, Industry and Innovation.

b. The Scholarship is co-funded between the Faculty of Health Sciences and Project Synergy Research and Development Group.

2. Eligibility

a. Applicants must have an unconditional offer of admission or be currently enrolled for full-time studies in a Research Masters or PhD within the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney, and be willing to undertake research in the fields of Mental Health, Technology, Industry and Innovation.

b. Applicants must also hold an Honours degree (First Class or equivalent) or have completed a four year degree with an outstanding record of professional and/or research achievements since graduation.

c. Applicants must be Australian Citizens, Australian Permanent Residents or New Zealand Citizens.

3. Selection Criteria

a. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship on the basis of:

   I. academic merit,
   II. area of study and research proposal,
   III. curriculum vitae, and
   IV. a letter of support from their research supervisor.

b. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship by the Faculty of Health Sciences, on the recommendation of a selection committee chaired by the Associate Dean (Research Education) with a representative from the Project Synergy Research and Development Group.

4. Value

a. The Scholarship will provide an annual stipend allowance of $30,000 per annum for up to two years for a successful Research Masters applicants, and up to three years for a successful PhD applicant, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

b. A successful PhD recipient may apply for an extension of up to 6 months.

c. If a successful applicant converts from a Research Masters to a PhD or vice-versa, the maximum duration of the scholarship becomes that of the new candidature.
Postgraduate Research Scholarship in Mental Health, Technology, Industry and Innovation

d. Periods of study already undertaken towards the degree prior to the commencement of the Scholarship, will be deducted from the maximum duration of the Scholarship excluding the potential extension period.

e. The Scholarship is for commencement in Research Period 1, 2018 and cannot be deferred or transferred to another area of research, Faculty or University.

f. The Scholarship holder may receive concurrent award, scholarship or salary to undertake their research degree, provided such funding does not exceed 75% of the primary Scholarship. Salary for work unrelated to the recipient’s research is not subject to this limit.

g. No other amount is payable.

h. The Scholarship will be offered subject to the availability of funding.

5. Eligibility for Progression

a. Progression is subject to passing the annual progress review.

6. Leave Arrangements

a. The Scholarship recipient receives up to 20 working days recreation leave each year of the Scholarship and this may be accrued. However, the student will forfeit any unused leave remaining when the Scholarship is terminated or complete. Recreation leave does not attract a leave loading and the supervisor’s agreement must be obtained before leave is taken.

b. The Scholarship recipient may take up to 10 working days sick leave each year of the Scholarship and this may be accrued over the tenure of the Scholarship. Students with family responsibilities, caring for sick children or relatives, or experiencing domestic violence, may convert up to five days of their annual sick leave entitlement to carers leave on presentation of medical certificate(s). Students taking sick leave must inform their supervisor as soon as practicable.

7. Research Overseas

a. This Scholarship does not cover research undertaken overseas.

8. Suspension

a. The Scholarship recipient cannot suspend their award within their first six months of study, unless a legislative provision applies.

b. The Scholarship recipient may apply for up to 12 months suspension for any reason during the tenure of their Scholarship. Periods of suspension are cumulative and failure to resume study after suspension will result in the award being terminated. Approval to suspend must be given by both HDRAC and the head of the department concerned. Periods of study towards the degree during suspension of the Scholarship will be deducted from the maximum tenure of the Scholarship.
9. Changes in Enrolment

a. The Scholarship recipient must notify HDRAC and their supervisor promptly of any planned changes to their enrolment including but not limited to: attendance pattern, suspension, leave of absence, withdrawal, course transfer, and candidature upgrade or downgrade. If the award holder does not provide notice of the changes identified above, the University may require repayment of any overpaid stipend.

10. Termination

a. Unless terminated earlier under this paragraph, the Scholarship will terminate:

   I. on resignation or withdrawal of the student from their Research Masters or PhD,
   II. upon the student having completed 4 years equivalent full-time study for a PhD, or 2 years equivalent full time study for a Masters by Research,
   III. upon submission of the thesis or at the end of the award,
   IV. if the student ceases to be a full-time student and prior approval has not been obtained to hold the Scholarship on a part-time basis,
   V. if the recipient receives an alternative primary scholarship. In such circumstances this Scholarship will be terminated in favour of the alternative scholarship where it is of higher value,
   VI. does not resume study at the end of a period of approved leave, or
   VII. if the student ceases to meet the eligibility requirements specified for this Scholarship, (other than during a period in which the Scholarship has been suspended or during a period of approved leave).

b. The Scholarship may also be terminated by the University before this time if, in the opinion of the University:

   I. the course of study is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the terms of this offer,
   II. the student fails to maintain satisfactory progress, or
   III. the student has committed misconduct or other inappropriate conduct.

c. Stipend payments will be suspended throughout the duration of any enquiry/appeal process.

d. Once the Scholarship has been terminated, it will not be reinstated.

11. Misconduct

a. Where during the Scholarship a student engages in misconduct, or other inappropriate conduct (either during the Scholarship or in connection with the student’s application and eligibility for the Scholarship), which in the opinion of the University warrants recovery of funds paid to the student, the University may require the student to repay stipend amounts and any other payments made to the student in connection with the Scholarship. Examples of such conduct include and without limitation; academic dishonesty, research misconduct within the meaning of the Research Code of Conduct (for example, plagiarism in proposing, carrying out or reporting the results of research, or failure to declare or manage a serious
Postgraduate Research Scholarship in Mental Health, Technology, Industry and Innovation

conflict of interests), breach of the Code of Conduct for Students and misrepresentation in the application materials or other documentation associated with the Scholarship.

b. The University may require such repayment at any time during or after the Scholarship period. In addition, by accepting this Scholarship, the student consents to all aspects of any investigation into misconduct in connection with this Scholarship being disclosed by the University to the funding body and/or any relevant professional body.