LR & B A Browne Scholarships in Civil Engineering

Terms and Conditions

1. **Background**

   a. Funded by the Estate of Betty Anne Browne, the L R & B A Scholarships in Civil Engineering was established to support students who are residents in the State of New South Wales enrolled in or proceeding to a degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Sydney.

2. **Eligibility**

   a. The Scholarship is offered subject to the applicant having an unconditional offer of admission in the field of Civil Engineering to study full-time PhD or full-time enrolment in a Master’s by Research program with the intent to transfer to PhD after satisfactory completion of the first Progress Review interview within the School of Civil Engineering at the University of Sydney.

   b. Applicants must apply for the Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship to be considered for the scholarship.

   c. The scholarship recipient must remain residents of New South Wales during their tenure of the scholarship.

3. **Selection Criteria**

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

      I. academic merit,
      II. curriculum vitae,
      III. area of study and/or research proposal in Civil Engineering, and
      IV. if applicable, demonstrate financial need.

   b. Preference would be given to applicants who have demonstrated financial disadvantage.

   c. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship on the nomination of the Head of Civil Engineering School or their nominated delegate(s).

4. **Value**

   a. The Scholarship will provide a stipend allowance equivalent to the minimum Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend rate (indexed on 1 January each year) for up to three years, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

   b. The recipient may apply for an extension of the stipend allowance for up to six months.

   c. Academic course fees and the Student Services Amenities fee (SSAF) are also provided for a successful international applicant, for up to twelve research periods, subject to satisfactory academic performance.
d. The recipient may apply for an extension of the academic course fees and SSAF for up to two research periods.

e. 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.

f. Recipients can defer the Scholarship for up to three research periods subject to the approval of their Supervisor and Head of School, or their nominee. Deferment of scholarship for more than three research periods is considered on a case-by-case basis by the Associate Dean (Research), or their nominee.

g. The Scholarship cannot be transferred to another area of research outside the School of Civil Engineering at the University of Sydney.

h. No other amount is payable.

i. 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 carer’s leave on presentation of medical certificate(s). Students taking sick leave must inform their supervisor as soon as practicable.

7. Research Overseas

a. The Scholarship recipient may not normally conduct research overseas within the first six months of award.

b. The Scholarship holder may conduct up to 12 months of their research outside Australia. Approval must be sought from the student’s supervisor, Head of School and the Faculty via application to the Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC), and will only be granted if the research is essential for completion of the degree. All periods of overseas research are cumulative and will be counted towards a student’s candidature. Students must
L R & B A Browne Scholarships in Civil Engineering

remain enrolled full-time at the University and receive approval to count time away.

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 of the Scholarship for any reason during the tenure of the Scholarship. Periods of Scholarship suspension are cumulative and failure to resume study after suspension will result in the award being terminated. Approval must be sought from the student’s supervisor, Head of School and the Faculty via application to the Higher Degree by Research Administration Centre (HDRAC). 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 and/or tuition fees.

10. Termination

a. The Scholarship will terminate:

I. on resignation or withdrawal of the student from their research degree,
II. upon submission of the thesis or at the end of the award,
III. 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,
IV. upon the student having completed the maximum candidature for their degree as per the University of Sydney (Higher Degree by Research) Rule 2011 Policy,
V. if the recipient receives an alternative primary stipend and/or tuition fee scholarship. In such circumstances this Scholarship will be terminated in favour of the alternative stipend and/or tuition fee 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.
L R & B A Browne Scholarships in Civil Engineering

c. The Scholarship will be suspended throughout the duration of any enquiry/appeal process.

d. Once the Scholarship has been terminated, it will not be reinstated unless due to University error.

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 provided, the University may require the student to repay payments made 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 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.