UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY WORLD SCHOLARS
APPLICATION INFORMATION – SEMESTERS 1 & 2, 2013

Introduction

The University of Sydney World Scholars awards provide opportunities for academically gifted PhD candidates who have developed innovative research projects to undertake a PhD degree at the University of Sydney with financial support. This prestigious award will attract high-quality research candidates from a broad range of countries and disciplines. Candidates will engage in progressive research whilst facilitating the development of strong bilateral research linkages between Australia and the rest of the world.

General Information

World Scholars awards support the full cost of academic tuition fees plus a living allowance for a maximum period of three (3) years on the terms set out in the Application Information. The scholarship will also fund a travel contribution towards the cost of a return international airfare (as set out in the ‘Air Travel’ section of the Scholarship Conditions, below).

Applications are invited from international students who are citizens of the following countries (“Participating Countries”):

- **Asia:** Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam
- **Europe:** France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom
- **Americas:** Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, United States
- **Africa:** Botswana, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda

Candidates will be required to take up the scholarship in the semester for which it is offered. Deferral of the scholarship will not be permitted.

Selection for World Scholars is highly competitive. Applicants will be chosen on the basis of academic excellence and demonstrated research capability (see Supplementary Information for Scholarship Applicants on pp. 13–14 of the Postgraduate Research Application Form). It is important that applicants clearly address these selection criteria in their PhD application documentation.

Scholarship Benefits

A University of Sydney World Scholars award covers the following costs for a World Scholar awardee:

- full academic tuition fee costs for approved PhD study at the University of Sydney for a maximum period of three (3) years (subject to the conditions under the heading ‘Completion’ below); and
- a living allowance of AUD $10,000 per annum, to be paid in fortnightly instalments for a maximum period of three (3) years; and
- a travel contribution of up to AUD $1,250 each way towards the cost of a return air fare from the awardee’s identified country of citizenship to Sydney, Australia.

Applicants should note that a World Scholars award does not include Overseas Student Health Cover, visa application costs, compulsory subscription fees, student union/association membership/activity fees, or any other costs other than those specifically outlined above. It is important to note that all costs not covered must be met by the student. Applicants should not apply for World Scholars unless they know – at the time of application – that they are able to meet all costs not covered by this award.
Eligibility Criteria

Scholarships are available for new international students enrolling in a PhD at the University of Sydney, who hold citizenship of a Participating Country, and who meet all academic and English-language proficiency criteria required for admission to a PhD. In order to be considered for a World Scholars award, applicants must:

- be a citizen of a Participating Country;
- not be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia;
- not have applied for Australian permanent residency;
- be a newly commencing PhD student, and not currently enrolled in any programme at the University of Sydney;
- meet all academic and English-language proficiency criteria for admission to their chosen PhD;
- not already hold a doctoral degree from the University of Sydney or any other university or academic institution; and
- have a Firm Offer of Admission to a Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Sydney commencing in either Semester 1 or Semester 2 2013. Firm Offers of Admission must be issued on or before 14 September 2012 (for Semester 1), or 1 March 2013 (for Semester 2). Applicants with a Conditional Offer of Admission will not be considered.

Currently enrolled students of the University of Sydney and any person who has previously been awarded a doctoral degree at any academic institution are not eligible to apply for a World Scholars award. Please also note the further restrictions outlined in the ‘Scholarship Conditions’ section of these Guidelines.

How to Apply

Applying for a World Scholars award is a two-stage process. Applicants must complete both stages, in order, as follows:

**Stage 1: PhD application and admission**

Candidates must lodge an application for a PhD degree, and obtain a Firm Offer of Admission, prior to lodging a World Scholars application.

Before lodging a PhD application, candidates are required to make contact with a potential academic supervisor and discuss their proposed research project. PhD candidates may search for a potential academic supervisor using the Research Supervisor Connect tool on the University of Sydney website: [http://sydney.edu.au/research/opportunities](http://sydney.edu.au/research/opportunities)

Once candidates have made contact with a potential academic supervisor and prepared a research proposal, they should submit a Postgraduate Research Application Form. This form can be downloaded from: [http://sydney.edu.au/internationaloffice/forms/pgformresearch.pdf](http://sydney.edu.au/internationaloffice/forms/pgformresearch.pdf)

Further information about the PhD application process can be found online: [http://sydney.edu.au/future_students/international_postgraduate_research/admissions/index.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/future_students/international_postgraduate_research/admissions/index.shtml)

The average processing time for PhD applications, once received at the University of Sydney, is six to eight weeks. Some applications may take longer to process, particularly where insufficient documentation has been provided.

PhD applications must be lodged no later than the PhD Application Deadline for the appropriate semester:

- **Commencing in Semester 1, 2013:** Submit PhD application by 31 July 2012
- **Commencing in Semester 2, 2013:** Submit PhD application by 31 December 2012

The University cannot guarantee that PhD applications lodged after these dates will be assessed and issued with a Firm Offer of Admission in time for World Scholars consideration.
Stage 2: World Scholars application

Applicants must have a Firm Offer of Admission to their PhD before proceeding to State 2. The Firm Offer letter must be issued on or before the World Scholars Application Deadline for the appropriate semester.

A Conditional Offer of Admission is not sufficient to apply for World Scholars.

Once a Firm Offer of Admission has been received, applicants should complete the World Scholars online application form:

http://sydney.edu.au/international/resources/USWS_OnlineForm.php

Applications must be received by the World Scholars Application Deadline for the appropriate semester:

Commencing in Semester 1, 2013: Submit World Scholars application by 14 September 2012
Commending in Semester 2, 2013: Submit World Scholars application by 1 March 2013

Applications will close at 5.00 pm AEST (7.00 am UTC).

Incomplete applications, applications without a Firm Offer of Admission, and applications submitted after the World Scholars Application Deadline will not be accepted.

Selection Process

Selection for a World Scholars award is a merit-based and highly competitive process. Candidates will be selected in accordance with the following criteria:

- demonstrated academic excellence through previous studies; and
- demonstrated high quality, innovative research capacity.

Applications will be reviewed and final selections decided by a committee comprising senior University of Sydney academic staff, and may include international representatives.

The final selection of World Scholars candidates will be completed in October 2012 (for Semester 1) and April 2013 (for Semester 2). Offer letters will be issued to successful applicants shortly thereafter.

Scholarship Conditions

Applicants should be aware of the following Scholarship Conditions, which shall apply to all World Scholars awardees:

- **Supplementary Funds**
  The World Scholars awards do not cover Overseas Student Health Cover, visa application fees, costs of text books, or any other costs other than those specifically outlined under ‘Scholarship Benefits’, above. World Scholars awardees must ensure that they have sufficient personal or other funds to meet all costs not covered. Any benefits payable under other scholarships should not be factored in when calculating available funds, unless you know that your other scholarship application has been successful. **You should not submit a World Scholars application unless you know – at the time of application – that you can meet all costs not covered.**

- **Visas**
  World Scholars awardees shall be responsible for ensuring that they obtain the appropriate student visa for study in Australia. Awardees must allow sufficient time to obtain a visa and arrive in Australia in time to commence studies at the start of the semester for which the World Scholars award is offered.

- **Air Travel**
  The World Scholars awards will provide a travel contribution towards a return international air fare from the student’s identified country of citizenship to Sydney, of up to AUD $1,250 each way. The
contribution shall be paid into an Australian bank account nominated by the student, upon commencement of studies (for flight to Australia) and after successful completion of studies (for flight from Australia). World Scholars awardees can claim their travel contribution from the International Student Office, upon presentation of original receipts and a copy of the airline ticket or e-ticket receipt. The travel contribution will not be paid prior to arrival in Australia, or prior to commencement of studies. Claims should be submitted to the International Office within six (6) months of commencement of studies, and within six (6) months of submission of thesis. Claims made outside this period may not be reimbursed.

- **Commencement and Deferral**
The World Scholars award will be offered for commencement in either Semester 1 or Semester 2 2013, and will commence upon the student’s enrolment in his or her first semester of PhD studies at the University of Sydney. World Scholars awardees who defer commencement of their PhD studies must notify the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) immediately. Deferral of a World Scholars award will be at the discretion of both the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and the faculty. Should a candidate not be able to commence or defer PhD studies at the University of Sydney, or should a candidate withdraw acceptance of a PhD offer, the offer of a World Scholars award shall lapse.

- **Completion**
The World Scholars award will meet the cost of academic tuition fees for the approved PhD study of the World Scholars awardee at the University of Sydney, plus a living allowance of AUD $10,000 per annum, for a maximum period of three (3) years. Please note that in exceptional circumstances, the University of Sydney may consider (at its sole discretion), tuition fee funding for an additional period of six (6) months upon application for an extension by a World Scholars awardee. Approval may be granted by both the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and the relevant Faculty or in accordance with the relevant University delegations of authority rules at the time when approval may be sought by the World Scholar awardee; however, living costs during any extension period (up to a maximum of (6) months) must be met by the World Scholars awardee. Tuition fees and living costs for any additional extension period beyond (6) six months must be met by the World Scholars awardee.

- **Enrolment**
World Scholars awardees must be enrolled full-time in their approved PhD programme at all times for the term of their award.

- **Additional Scholarships**
Students may not hold an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS), a University of Sydney International Scholarship (USydIS) or any other award that covers tuition fee costs concurrently with a World Scholars award. Other scholarships may be held concurrently with a World Scholars award, provided that the concurrent scholarship does not cover the same costs as the World Scholars award (except to supplement the awardee’s stipend). World Scholars awardees must advise the University of any other scholarships held at any time concurrently with a World Scholars award.

- **Permanent Residency**
A World Scholars award will be terminated in the event that the awardee obtains permanent residency in Australia at any stage throughout the term of his or her scholarship.

- **Amendments to these Guidelines**
World Scholars awardees agree that the University of Sydney reserves the right to amend any part of these Guidelines, including the Scholarship Conditions, at any time during at its sole discretion. World Scholars awardees will be notified in writing of any amendments to the Guidelines and the Scholarship Conditions. The amended terms will be effective immediately upon written notification to the awardee.
Further Information

*Potential Academic Supervisor*
To identify a potential academic supervisor, please refer to the relevant Faculty or School website, which will provide details of academic staff, their areas of research interest and current work, and contact details.


Alternatively, applicants can refer to the Faculty contacts list provided on the Postgraduate Research Application Form, and contact the postgraduate enquiry service for the relevant Faculty to enquire about appropriate members of the academic staff.

**University of Sydney Postgraduate Research Applications**
Please contact:  International Student Office
Tel.  +61 2 9351 4079  Email:  io.info@sydney.edu.au

**University of Sydney World Scholars Applications**
Please contact:  David Boyd
Tel.  +61 2 9114 0525  Email:  david.boyd@sydney.edu.au

**TIMELINE FOR WORLD SCHOLARS APPLICANTS**

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**University of Sydney World Scholars Online Application Form:**