



**RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM TUITION FEE OFFSET INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP
TERMS AND CONDITIONS 2019**

Eligibilities

1. Applicants must be an international student at the time of award.
2. Research Training Program (RTP) Tuition Fee Offset International Scholarship ('the Scholarship') holders are expected to enrol in a full-time postgraduate research degree. The University may approve a part-time Scholarship where a student is able to demonstrate significant carer commitments or a medical condition which limits the capacity to undertake full-time study.

Tenure

3. The Scholarship may be held for 12 research periods (full time) for Research Doctorate studies, or for 7 research periods for Research Masters studies. A Research Doctorate student may apply for a maximum extension of up to 2 research periods subject to satisfactory progress, provided the grounds are related to study (not of a personal nature), and are beyond the control of the student. No extensions are possible for Research Masters students. Periods of study already undertaken towards the degree prior to the commencement of the award will be deducted from the maximum tenure of the award.
4. A student is expected to commence the Scholarship by the census date of their commencing intake, and during the year the Scholarship is awarded. If a student has commenced their studies, the scholarship may commence no earlier than the day it is awarded. Deferment of scholarship is considered on a case-by-case basis by the Head of Scholarships.

Benefits

5. Full tuition fees as set by the University of Sydney.
6. Nil (student) Visa Application Charge (VAC) for the Scholarship holders and their dependants. To be eligible for a nil VAC, holders of the scholarship must provide the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) with evidence of their scholarship (e.g. your scholarship email offer) when lodging their student visa application. For further information about visa application charges, refer to the DIBP website at: <http://www.border.gov.au>.
7. The cost of a standard Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the student and their dependants. The policy duration will be for the course duration at the time of award, and it will be organised by the University. Policy purchased by the student will not be reimbursed.
8. Holders of the Scholarship may not concurrently hold another scholarship that provides support for tuition fees.

Commencement of Studies/Deferral of Commencement

9. Recipients of the Scholarship must enrol in their offered course and commence research at the University by the census date of their course intake. Request to defer the Scholarship for personal reasons will not be considered and the University reserves the right to withdraw the Scholarship offer if the recipient fails to gain an appropriate student visa or is unable to enrol and commence research at the University by the deadline.

Research Overseas

10. Holders of the Scholarship may not normally conduct research overseas within the first 6 months of an award.

11. Holders of the Scholarship may conduct up to 12 months (18 months for students of Anthropology and other special cases) of their research outside Australia. Approval must be sought from the student's supervisor, and Head of department/School, 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 remain enrolled at the University and receive approval to Count Time Away.

Conversion between Research Masters and Research Doctorate degrees

12. Holders of the Scholarship may convert from a Research Masters degree to a Research Doctorate degree or vice-versa provided such change in candidature is approved by the Faculty/University School. The maximum duration of a converted Scholarship becomes that for the new candidature.

Transfer

13. The Scholarships are allocated to universities based on their research performance. Students who change from one university to another may continue to receive their scholarship only if their new university agrees to its continuation and subject to the new university having scholarship grant amounts available.

Suspension

14. Subject to relevant VISA conditions, holders of the Scholarship cannot suspend their award within the first six months.

15. Subject to relevant VISA conditions, holders of the Scholarship may apply for up to 4 research periods suspension for any reason during the tenure of their award. 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 the Head of the Department/School concerned. Periods of study towards the degree during suspension of the Scholarship will be deducted from the maximum tenure of the Scholarship.

16. Subject to relevant VISA conditions, female holders of the Scholarship are entitled to up to an additional 4 research periods suspension (less any period of paid maternity leave) following each birth. The Scholarship holder should apply for the suspension within four weeks of the expected date of confinement.

Whenever a student suspends his/her studies the university MUST report the suspension to immigration authorities and the student may be obliged to return to their home country for the duration of the suspension. Therefore, if a student wishes to remain in Australia during a period of suspension of studies, they must contact the closest Australian immigration office within 28 days of the approval notice to seek approval to remain in Australia during the suspension.

Changes in Enrolment

17. Holders of the Scholarship must notify HDRAC 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. Students who obtain Australian Permanent Residence status during the course of their enrolment at the University of Sydney (or prior to enrolment at the University) MUST notify the HDRAC immediately when their Australian Permanent Resident visa is issued. In this case, students must bring their passport to the Student Centre as soon as possible so that the University can adjust their residency status.

Termination

18. The Scholarships will be terminated on resignation or withdrawal of the student, upon submission of the thesis or at the end of the award, scholarship holder becomes an Australian Permanent Resident whichever occurs first. The Scholarships will be terminated before this time if after due enquiry the University concludes that a student has not carried out the course of study with competence and diligence or in accordance with the offer of the Scholarship, or fails to maintain satisfactory progress, or has committed serious misconduct. Stipend payment will be suspended throughout the duration of the enquiry/appeal process.

False or Misleading Information

19. The University of Sydney reserves the right to reassess a student's scholarship entitlements if it believes the student has provided false or misleading information to the university in relation to their application for admission or the scholarship award.

Appeal

20. The University recognises the right of any student to appeal to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) against any decision affecting the award or tenure of the Scholarship.