Faculty of Science
Postgraduate Coursework Commonwealth Supported Places

Science Merit Places – Information 2012

The Faculty of Science is pleased to announce that a *limited* number of Merit places will be available for semester 1, 2012, for students commencing their first postgraduate coursework (Masters) degree within the Faculty of Science.

**THERE IS NO FORMAL APPLICATION PROCESS**

To be considered for a Merit Place candidates must:

- have lodged a completed an on time application for admission before the published closing date *(31 October 2010)*
- have supplied academic transcripts supporting of all completed tertiary studies
- have a firm offer of admission before **31 January 2012**
- **be enrolled** no later than **5 March 2012**

If you have not already provided original or certified copies of original academic transcripts in support of your application for admission, these documents must be supplied before **31 January 2012**, unless this tertiary study was attempted at the main campus of the University of Sydney. If your documents are not in English you must also provide an approved translation.

Merit Places are based on academic merit and recipients must satisfy the following conditions:

- Accept the Merit place in the semester of offer: **no deferral will be permitted** and;
- Satisfy the progression rules each semester for the degree in which they have been offered a place
- Eligible candidates must have lodged an on time application for admission before 31 October 2011, have received a firm offer of admission into a postgraduate course in one of the degrees listed below before **31 January 2012** and be enrolled no later than **4 March 2012**. No late applications will be considered.
A limited number of Merit places will be available to eligible students commencing in semester 1, 2012 in the following degrees:

- Master of Science in Environmental Science
- Master of Science in Health Psychology
- Master of Science in Microscopy and Microanalysis
- Master of Science in Molecular Biotechnology
- Master of Science in Coaching Psychology
- Master of Science in Wildlife Health and Population Management
- Master of Environmental Science and Law
- Master of Medical Physics
- Master of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Master of Science in Spatial Information Science
- Master of Photonics and Optical Science
- Master of Sustainability

Students must supply their grading system with their application for admission

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Recipients must be eligible for a Commonwealth Supported place i.e. be an Australian citizen, a permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen.

Students who hold a Commonwealth Supported Merit place are not required to pay full fees for their course. Instead, these students will be charged a Student contribution amount, and, if eligible for HECS-HELP assistance, will be able to pay "up front" with a discount, or to defer payment to the tax system - until taxable income reaches the HECS repayment income threshold. The level of contribution will depend on the discipline group of units of study: if you undertake units of study from more than one discipline group your Student contribution amount will be adjusted accordingly.

More information is available in the Information for Commonwealth Supported Students 2012 booklet or online at: [http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/](http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/)

Permanent Residents and New Zealand Citizens and Commonwealth Support

New Zealand citizens and some people who are in Australia on permanent resident visas must pay their Student contribution amount up-front each semester/session. They are not eligible for the
upfront discount and cannot defer their Student contribution amount to the tax system. More information is available in the Information for Commonwealth Supported Students 2012 booklet or online at: http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/

Continuation of the Merit Place will be dependent on an annual review of progress.

Commonwealth support and HECS-HELP Assistance Payment Options

All Commonwealth supported students must fill in a ‘Request for Commonwealth support and HECS-HELP form’. This form must be lodged as soon as practicable and before the Census Date – 31st March, 2012. No student can be enrolled as a Commonwealth supported student unless s/he lodges a valid ‘Request for Commonwealth support and HECS-HELP form’. If eligible, a Commonwealth supported student can choose from the following payment options:

(1) Up-front with the discount option

If you are eligible for HECS-HELP assistance, you may choose to pay your Student contribution amount upfront with a discount that will be applied to your Student contribution amount.

(2) Deferring option

Eligible Commonwealth supported students may defer their Student contribution amount and pay it through the tax system when their income reaches the minimum level. No discount is given where the Student contribution amount is deferred. Please see the Information for Commonwealth Supported Students 2012 booklet or online at: http://www.goingtouni.gov.au/