

Joint PhD Programs

Factsheet

The University of Sydney supports a small number of Joint PhD programs with key partners, which are governed by the [Dual and Joint Degree Policy 2019](#). Joint PhD programs require a Principal Agreement to be in place with the partner institution and a subordinate Student Agreement to be in place for the individual candidate.

What is a Joint PhD?

Joint PhD programs were previously called 'Cotutelles'. A Joint PhD refers to a Doctor of Philosophy degree program that shares candidature between the University of Sydney and a partner institution. The candidate produces a single thesis, undertakes one examination, and receives one PhD, which is jointly awarded by the University of Sydney and the partner institution.

The program is administered on an exchange basis and is fee-waiver (tuition waived by host institution). Candidates spend time at both institutions (with a minimum 30% at the University of Sydney).

Setting up a Joint PhD Principal and Student Agreement

Going forward, Joint PhD programs will only be established with the University's [key international partners](#), where there are strong prospects for university-wide engagement and a sustainable two-way flow of Joint PhD candidates.

Joint PhD programs are not set-up to support individual candidates. Inbound candidates interested in an international experience at USYD are encouraged to apply for the [Visiting Researcher Program](#) (VRP).

Current partners

Current Joint PhD partnerships are listed in the table below.

Partner	Location	Scope of Agreement	Faculties currently participating
The Group of Eight	Australia-wide	Multi-Faculty	Science
Aix-Marseille University	France	Multi-Faculty	Science
Ca' Foscari University of Venice	Italy	Single Faculty	Science

Grenoble Alpes	France	Multi-Faculty	Engineering and Science
University of Copenhagen**	Denmark	Multi-Faculty	Science and FASS
Sorbonne University	France	Multi-Faculty	Science
University of Glasgow	Scotland	Multi-Faculty	FASS, Science
University Paris Est*	France	Multi-Faculty	Engineering and Science
University of Bordeaux*	France	Multi-Faculty	Engineering and Science
Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Arts et Métiers*	France	Multi-Faculty	Engineering
Ecole Centrale de Lyon*	France	Multi-Faculty	Engineering and Science

Please note that participation in a Joint PhD program is subject to approval by individual Schools/Faculties. There are no current opportunities within the Faculty of Medicine and Health or School of Law.

*This Joint PhD program is being launched in 2023 under the Australia-France Network of Doctoral Excellence (AUFRADE) Program, however applications outside the AUFRADE Program will be welcome.

** Admission to this Joint PhD Program requires the applicant to hold a Master's degree or equivalent.

Fees and tuition

The Joint PhD program operates on an exchange basis. Fees are waived at the host institution. Both domestic and international candidates are encouraged to apply.

Applying for a Joint PhD Program

If you're interested in a Joint PhD program with one of the partners listed in the table above, you will need to follow application steps 1 to 3 as outlined on the [Doctor of Philosophy \(PhD\)](#) webpage. In addition to these steps, your proposed supervisor will need to complete a 'Proposal to Negotiate (PTN) a Joint PhD Student Agreement' form. If your PTN is accepted, you will be required to sign an individual student agreement. After this agreement is finalized you will then be sent detailed application instructions from the University of Sydney Admissions team, for the Joint PhD program.

Additional requirements

Please also refer to the relevant faculty for additional admission requirements, or variations in the application process, which may apply:

- [Architecture, design and planning](#)
- [Arts and social science](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Engineering and computer science](#)
- [Law](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Science](#)

Please refer to the University's [Dual and Joint Degree Policy](#) for full policy details. For more information, please email the Dual Degree and Joint PhD Coordinator: dual-degrees-joint-phds@sydney.edu.au.