



# Macquarie University Research Training Program (MQRTP) Scholarship Scheme 2017

## Summary

This document outlines the Macquarie University Research Training Program Scholarship (MQRTP) Scheme for 2017. It is consistent with the World-Leading Research World-Changing Impact Strategic Research Framework 2015-2024.

Macquarie University funds up to 200 Higher Degree Research (HDR) PhD and Master of Research (MRes)/PhD bundle scholarships each year through the Macquarie Research Training Program Scholarship Scheme (MQRTP).

The goal of this scheme is to ensure that excellent researchers have the required support to expand their research and research training activities. In addition to new strategic research based appointments the scheme enables academic staff in other areas of the University to access research scholarship funding, for example as Competitive Research Grant awardees or international strategic HDR program participants.

## Details

Subject to funding availability, allocations are made on the basis of the four funding categories outlined below to support both domestic and international Master of Research (MRes)/PhD bundle offer candidates and PhD candidates. To be considered for a scholarship, MQRTP applicants must meet a minimum level 3 PhD scholarship rating according to the University's approved rating guidelines. Additional criteria may be required for MRes/PhD bundle scholarships that will be advertised as required.

Faculties are encouraged to use their own funding or seek external funding opportunities and strategic partnerships to provide additional HDR scholarships to support academically qualified research students in areas of research excellence. These areas include those where MQRTP allocations have already been made. Faculties are also encouraged to provide supplementary funding where possible to support scholarship holders.

Externally funded scholarships, such as Commonwealth funded Research Training Program scholarships for international and domestic candidates continue to be available and, along with other externally funded scholarship opportunities, are advertised on the HDRO webpages: <http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/scholarships>

The MQRTP Allocation Model for 2017 is as follows:

### **Cat. 1. Macquarie University strategic research based appointments - new staff**

Minimum 2 domestic MQRTP per new Strategy research based appointment level B+ staff on commencement, normally to be filled in the first year of appointment.

### **Cat. 2. Competitive Research Grant awardees**

#### *2.1 Australian Competitive Grant awardees*

One domestic MQRTP or one international tuition fee only MQRTP where it has been possible to list a MQRTP PhD or MQRTP MRes/PhD bundle project as part of the grant application for a successful ARC Discovery, ARC Linkage or other grant listed on the Australian Competitive Grant Register <https://education.gov.au/australian-competitive-grants-register>, and a minimum of \$60,000 per annum is awarded to Macquarie for at least 3 years. The allocation is to be subsequently affirmed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Research (DVCR) on confirmation of approved budget. If less than \$50,000 per year is awarded the scholarship will be withdrawn.

The CI must nominate the calendar year in which the scholarship position will be filled.

Failure of meeting the following deadlines will result in forfeiture of the scholarship:

PhD applicants must apply, have their application assessed and be enrolled and start their scholarship by 15 December of the nominated calendar year

Master of Research Year 2 applicant must apply and then be successfully offered and receive their scholarship through the structured main rounds of applications.

Structured Master of Research application due dates 2017/18 are advertised on the HDRO webpages: <http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/research-training>

If Macquarie is not the lead partner, or it was not possible to list a MQRTP PhD project with associated scholarship as part of the submission, one domestic MQRTP PhD or MRes/PhD bundle or one international tuition fee only MQRTP PhD or MRes/PhD bundle may be allocated on the basis of a minimum of \$60,000 per annum being paid to Macquarie for at least 3 years. Lesser amounts or other circumstances may be considered for an allocation by way of a special case application. For a full international MQRTP PhD or MRes/PhD bundle allocation to be awarded a minimum of \$80,000 per annum for at least 3 years must be awarded to Macquarie. Allocations are confirmed by the DVCR.

Post-grant awarded scholarship requests and variation requests to the DVCR are to be submitted via the Higher Degree Research Office office on [hdschol@mq.edu.au](mailto:hdschol@mq.edu.au)

*2.2 Future Fellows:* a minimum of 3 domestic MQRTP PhD or MRes/PHD bundles within 3 years (limit 2 pa).

*2.3 Other nationally funded Research Centres:* MQRTP PhD or MRes/PhD bundle as approved by DVCR.

### **Cat. 3. International strategic HDR programs**

For HDR collaboration with international partners to expand our collaborative research profile.

*3.1 International HDR awardees and applicants* – IPRS stipend reserve list and exceptional opportunities.

*3.2 International HDR agreements* – eg. Cotutelle PhD, joint degree, CSC cofunded, cohort research MOU

### **Cat. 4. Competitive Domestic HDR applications**

APA reserve list and other exceptional opportunities.

### **MQRTP Scholarship Administration**

MQRTP allocations are administered by Higher Degree Research Office (HDRO) on behalf of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) (DVCR) and Higher Degree Research Committee. The HDRO office requires all the details on the **Macquarie University Research Training Program Scholarship Funding Request Coversheet (the coversheet) for the DVCR to consider and approve or confirm MQRTP scholarship requests. This coversheet is also used for any variations to existing allocations.**

MQRTP scholarships pre-allocated under the model are notified to designated strategic research based staff or the Chief Investigator/staff member following confirmation of allocation by the DVCR. Scholarships will normally be allocated for a limited term of between 6-12 months. If not filled and/or offered, the scholarship will lapse unless a case (supported by a written request) for an extension to the deadline is approved by the Director HDRO.

Unless otherwise specified at the time of allocation or, in the case of competitive research grant awardees, unless specified in the grant application and subsequently approved, MQRTP are to be used to recruit suitably qualified domestic candidates. Awardees may seek a variation to this by way of a special case, written as a request to the Director, HDRO for consideration by the DVCR which will be presented to the DVCR using the coversheet.

Designated academic staff may either nominate an eligible applicant to be considered for the award of an allocated MQRTP PhD or Master of Research/PhD bundle scholarship, or alternatively request HDRO to advertise their PhD project. **All Cat 2 allocations should be advertised.** An advertising template will be sent by the HDRO to academics who are allocated scholarships, advising their allocation number/s. Advertisements are displayed on the HDRO website.

All applications for admission and scholarships are assessed in the usual manner through the Higher Degree Research Office, and nominations for scholarships are subject to review by the HDRC delegate to ensure the applicant meets current eligibility requirements (eg. a minimum 3 scholarship rating on the University's current rating guidelines for PhD applications and all applicants must meet the University's English language requirements). HDRO is responsible for officially notifying scholarship outcomes.

**Important:** Please note that any informal notification to an applicant does not commit the University to making a scholarship offer.

The DVCR reserves the right to amend the MQRTP Allocation Scheme and MQRTP Conditions of Award.

#### Related Plans/Resources/Documents

Macquarie University Strategic Research Framework 2015-2024

[http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/how\\_mq\\_works/executive/deputy\\_vice-chancellor\\_research/world-leadingresearch/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/how_mq_works/executive/deputy_vice-chancellor_research/world-leadingresearch/)

Australian Competitive Grant Register <https://education.gov.au/australian-competitive-grants-register>

Cotutelle and Joint PhD Programs: <http://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/explore-research-degrees/cotutelle-and-joint-phd>

MQRTP Conditions of Award 2017

<b>Contact Officer</b>	Director, Higher Degree Research Office
<b>Date Approved</b>	28 October 2016
<b>Approval Authority</b>	Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research)
<b>Date of Commencement</b>	1 January 2017
<b>Amendment Dates</b>	
<b>Date for Next Review</b>	July 2017
<b>Keywords</b>	MQRTP, research excellence, scholarship, HDR, scholarship allocation