



This document is to be read in conjunction with your offer and the candidature information for research degree students.

Definitions

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| DET | Department of Education and Training |
| DIBP | Department of Immigration and Border Protection |
| RTP | Research Training Program is a scholarship scheme administered by individual universities on behalf of the Department of Education and Training |
| RTPi Stipend | Research Training Program International (RTPi) is a living allowance awarded to an international HDR student in receipt of a University of South Australia International HDR Fee Offset. The RTPi is funded by the Australian Commonwealth Government to assist with general living costs |
| UniSA International HDR Fee Offset | A type of tuition scholarship funded by the University to assist international research degree students, in receipt of an RTPi stipend with course fees that would otherwise be payable by the research degree student |
| UPS | University of South Australia President's Scholarship is funded by the University and covers tuition fees, living allowance and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) |
| OSHC | Overseas Student Health Cover |

When information below refers to a policy, it is the **Policy AB-59 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships** unless otherwise stated: <https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/academic/ab-59/>

Scholarship benefits

| Scholarship | RTPi | UPS |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Tuition fees | Covered by University of South Australia | Covered by University of South Australia |
| OSHC | Covered* | Single cover only* |
| Living Allowance | \$27,082 per annum (2018 rate) | \$27,082 per annum (2018 rate) |
| Thesis Allowance | Up to AUD\$840 (Doctoral degree) Up to AUD\$420 (Masters by Research degree) | No provision |
| Recreation Leave | Research degree students are entitled to receive up to 20 working days paid recreation leave for each year of the stipend. This paid recreation leave may be accrued over the life of the stipend but will be forfeited when the stipend is terminated. A student's maximum period of support is not increased as a result of this leave. | |
| Sick Leave | Research degree students are entitled to receive up to 10 days paid sick leave for each year of the stipend. This paid sick leave may be accrued over the life of the stipend but will be forfeited when the stipend is terminated Research degree students may also receive additional paid sick leave up to a total of 60 working days over the life of their stipend where the research student has insufficient sick leave entitlements available, provided that a medical certificate has been provided by the research degree student. The maximum period of support for a research degree student receiving a stipend is increased where this leave is utilised. | |
| Carer's leave | Sick leave entitlements (including additional paid sick leave) may be used to cover leave for research degree students with family caring responsibilities. | |



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| Parental leave | Research degree students who have completed 12 months of their stipend will be entitled to 10 working days paid parental leave at the time of birth or adoption. The maximum period of support for a research degree student receiving a stipend is increased where this leave is utilised. |
| Maternity leave | Research degree students who have completed 12 months of their stipend will be entitled to 60 working days paid maternity leave during the stipend period. Paid leave may also be approved if the research degree student has adopted a child. The maximum period of support for a research degree student receiving a stipend is increased where this leave is utilised. |

Note: No travel expenses from home country to Australia are provided

* Only valid for students studying in Australia on a Student Visa

OSHC – All international scholarship holders studying in Australia on a Student Visa will be covered by OSHC for the duration of their visa. A standard OSHC policy covers the costs of medical and hospital care in Australia and most prescription drugs and emergency ambulance transport. The family rate of OSHC is available to international research degree students accompanied by dependants; however, the additional cost of family cover may not be covered by the scholarship.

International research degree students may wish to purchase extra OSHC if they require cover for ancillary services such as dental, optical or physiotherapy.

The University's preferred health care provider is Bupa Australia: <http://oshc.bupa.com.au/>

Length of Tuition Fee and Stipend Scholarship – The length of scholarship differs from the length of candidacy. Scholarships generally are payable for less time than the length of the program and/or visa expiry date.

Research degree students need to plan their program of research to enable them to complete in the required timeframe, normally between 3 to 3.5 years (full-time equivalent) for a Doctoral degree or 2 years (full-time equivalent) for a Masters degree. The maximum period for a research degree scholarship will be up to three years for a Doctoral program or a maximum of two years for a Masters by Research. Periods of study towards the research degree within three years prior to commencement will be deducted from the period of the scholarship (Procedure: section C.10).

The letter of offer will detail the duration of the scholarship. The scholarship (tuition fees – where applicable – and stipend) will cease:

- If the student ceases to meet the conditions of the scholarship in the Policy AB-59 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships or any additional conditions included in the offer of scholarship.
- When the thesis is approved for examination by the Associate Dean Research Education (or equivalent) or when the maximum period of the scholarship expires, whichever is earlier. The stipend ceases from the date that the thesis is approved for examination.
- If the course of study is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the offer of candidature, and no suitable alternative arrangements can be made for continuation of the postgraduate degree
- If the research degree student does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of leave of absence or does not make arrangements to extend that period of leave of absence
- on the death, incapacity, resignation or withdrawal of the research degree student
- If the research degree student takes up full-time employment
- If the research degree student is receiving an equivalent award, scholarship or salary providing a benefit greater than 75% of the RTPi or UPS stipend rate to undertake a higher degree by research, or
- If granted Permanent Residency and a new scholarship is awarded.



Scholarship Benefits and Conditions

International Research Degree Students

Extension to Scholarship – research degree students receiving an RTPi or UPS and undertaking Doctoral degrees may apply to the University to extend their scholarship for up to six months. The University must be satisfied that the grounds for extension are beyond the control of the research degree student and are related to their studies rather than of a personal nature such as illness. Extensions are not automatically granted. There are no extensions for Masters by Research scholarships.

The Associate Dean: Research Education (or equivalent), on application from the research degree student and supported by the Principal Supervisor and Research Degree Coordinator (or equivalent), may grant a research degree student an extension to the scholarship funding for a period normally not exceeding six months (Procedure: section C.11).

Work commitments cannot be accepted as grounds for an extension of the scholarship.

Residency of Scholarship Holders – Research degree students normally reside in South Australia from the date of their commencement and for the duration of the scholarship, except for periods where permission has been given to travel overseas or interstate for research purposes. Scholarship holders will be normally enrolled as an internal student.

Eligibility – Each research degree student must continue to meet the eligibility requirements set out in this document, the Policy AB-59 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships and Conditions of Candidature set out in the offer.

Thesis allowance (RTPi stipend only) – The thesis allowance is payable to assist with the costs associated with the production and preparation of the thesis. Receipts are required for the reimbursement of costs involved in the thesis preparation and production.

The maximum allowance is AUD\$420 for a Master's thesis and AUD\$840 for a Doctoral thesis. After submission of your thesis for examination, you will need to lodge a claim with Student and Academic Services within 6 months of the final thesis submission and within 24 months of termination or expiry of your scholarship.

Additional conditions – Scholarship recipients may apply to vary their candidacy in accordance with the Policy AB-59 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships and the University's established scholarship conditions or, where applicable, those applying to the named scholarship (Procedure: section E.28).

If the research degree student is in receipt of a named scholarship, they may have additional or different conditions. Where different, the conditions set out by the named scholarship normally override the general conditions stated above.

Acknowledgement – The Commonwealth contribution is to be acknowledged when, at any time during or after completion of their research degree, the recipient of the RTP scholarship publishes or produces materials such as their thesis, books, articles, newsletters or other literary or artistic works which relate to the research project carried out by the recipient of the RTP scholarship.

Permanent Residency in Australia – An international research degree student, who is granted permanent resident status in Australia, after accepting the offer of a scholarship, may be liable to pay tuition fees.

Permanent resident status is recognised from the date stamped on the research degree student's passport, not the date on which the application for permanent resident status was lodged.

Research degree students who obtain permanent resident status after the relevant Research Period census date will be classified as an international research degree student for the remainder of that Research Period, and the University may charge international tuition fees applying to the research degree student for that Research Period. From the following Research Period, the research degree student will be classified as a permanent resident and may apply for a Research Training Program domestic (RTPd) stipend or University of South Australia Postgraduate Award (USAPA) scholarship and/or may be considered for a Research Training Program domestic (RTPd) fee offset place.



University of
South Australia

Scholarship Benefits and Conditions

International Research Degree Students

School Education for Dependants – Research degree students on an Australian Government Scholarship, a South Australian Government Scholarship or a South Australian University Scholarship may be eligible for a tuition fee waiver for any of their children attending government primary and secondary schools in Australia.

Please refer to: <http://www.internationalstudents.sa.edu.au/children-of-international-tertiary-students>

Legal advice – All students are strongly urged to seek their own independent legal advice regarding Intellectual Property and other contractual arrangements, both with the University and any external parties.

Taxation – The stipend is paid for educational purposes. Under section 51-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 scholarships paid to full-time students for educational purposes are treated as exempt income.

Relinquished scholarships – A research degree student who relinquishes either a RTPi or UPS scholarship may have it reinstated, subject to approvals and funding being available (Procedure: section E.31).

Transfers of scholarship – Scholarships are not transferable to another Higher Education Provider, unless specified in specific agreement governing the scholarship.

Further information

Policy AB-59 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships:

<https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/academic/ab-59/>

Procedure AB-59 P1 Research Degrees and Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships:

<https://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/university-policies/academic/ab-59/ab-59-p1>