



Version	Approved by	Approval date	Effective date
2.1	Vice-Chancellor and President	12 December 2023	12 December 2023
Policy Statement			
Purpose	To outline the principles under which Australian Government Research Training Program scholarships (RTP) and UNSW Higher Degree Research (HDR) scholarships are awarded and administered.		
Scope	This policy applies to all HDR scholarships that provide a living allowance stipend, tuition fee support, and/or a top-up scholarship to HDR candidates enrolled at the University.		
Policy Provisions			

1. Principles

- a. HDR scholarships support suitably qualified candidates to undertake research training programs at UNSW.
- b. HDR scholarships are used to support the research excellence, research capacity and equity and diversity goals of the University.
- c. The purpose of a HDR scholarship is to provide financial support to the recipient so they can enrol at UNSW to carry out their research for their higher degree. Such support includes tuition fee support and/or a living allowance stipend.
- d. Scholarship providers must conduct a competitive process for selecting scholarship recipients that is equitable and fair. Applicants must meet the conditions and application requirements for HDR admission, which can be found in the [Admission to Higher Degree Research Programs Procedure](#).
- e. Funding for HDR scholarships can come from several sources including but not limited to:
 - the Commonwealth and other government sources
 - Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) scholarships
 - UNSW (Divisions, Faculties, Institutes, Schools and Centres)
 - individual and corporate donors
 - international and regional organisations, and
 - other organisations.
- f. A scholarship is for educational purposes and does not make the recipient an employee of the scholarship provider or the University, nor does it require the recipient to render services to the scholarship provider or the University as a condition of receiving the scholarship.
- g. Scholarships must be appropriately funded for the standard duration of candidature.
- h. All scholarship providers at UNSW must comply with the terms and conditions outlined in the [Higher Degree Research Scholarships Procedure](#).
- i. The Graduate Research School is responsible for administering all HDR scholarships.

Accountabilities				
Responsible Officer		Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Training and Dean of Graduate Research		
Contact Officer		Director, Graduate Research School		
Supporting Information				
Legislative Compliance		This Policy supports the University's compliance with the following legislation: Higher Education Support Act 2003 (Cth) Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 (Cth) Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW) Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth) Disability Standards for Education (2005) Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017		
Supporting Documents		Higher Degree Research Scholarships Procedure Higher Degree Research Supervision Procedure Higher Degree Research Supervision Guidelines Admissions Policy Admission to Higher Degree Research Programs Procedure		
Related Documents		Facilities and Resources to Support Higher Degree Research Candidates Guideline Progress Review and Confirmation of Research Candidatures Procedure Register of Delegations Research Code of Conduct		
Superseded Documents		Higher Degree Research Scholarships Policy, v 2.0		
File Number		2017/15227		
Definitions and Acronyms				
HDR		Higher Degree by Research		
RTP		Research Training Program		
Standard duration		The standard duration for a Masters scholarship holder is 2 years and for a Research Doctorate scholarship holder it is 3.5 years.		
Revision History				
Version	Approved by	Approval date	Effective date	Sections modified
1.0	President and Vice-Chancellor	23 June 2017	23 June 2017	New Policy
1.1	Director of Governance	7 July 2017	7 July 2017	Administrative update to sections 2c and Legislative Compliance
2.0	President and Vice-Chancellor	17 August 2021	17 August 2021	Full review
2.1	Vice-Chancellor and President	12 December 2023	12 December 2023	Administrative update to Responsible Officer title and weblinks