

Research Training Program Scholarship Policy

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Research Training Program Scholarship Policy (the Policy) outlines UTS arrangements under the Commonwealth Research Training Program (CRTP).
- 1.2 The CRTP replaces three funding programs for higher education providers (HEPs):
 - Australian Government Research Training Scheme (RTS)
 - Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA)
 - International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (IPRS).

2. Scope

- 2.1 This Policy applies to domestic and international graduate research students (doctoral or masters by research) who receive CRTP block funding. Transition arrangements for students on existing scholarships are provided in [appendix A](#).
- 2.2 The Policy also applies to anyone involved in the supervision, training, management and administration of these students.

3. Principles

- 3.1 The principles outlined in the [Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#) apply for the governance and management of this Policy.

4. Policy statements

- 4.1 UTS provides the following Commonwealth-funded Research Training Program (RTP) scholarships to eligible graduate research students:
 - RTP Fees Offset — domestic and international
 - RTP Stipend
 - RTP Allowances.

RTP Fees Offset (domestic)

- 4.2 Under an RTP Fees Offset, UTS pays tuition fees for a maximum period of four years for domestic full-time doctoral students or two years for domestic full-time masters by research students, or the equivalent part-time study load. The value of tuition fees varies depending on the course/subject (see [tuition fees search](#)).
- 4.3 Students eligible under 4.2 are not required to pay any tuition fees in relation to their course for the maximum duration of the offer, however these students are required to pay the University's standard [student services and amenities fees \(SSAF\)](#).
- 4.4 Graduate research students are assessed for eligibility at the point of application. If eligible, graduate research students will be awarded RTP Fees Offset (domestic) scholarship for the maximum period of candidature; the conditions of this scholarship

will be in accordance with the rights and responsibilities outlined in the Student Rules ([section 11](#)) and the [Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#).

- 4.5 The application process is outlined on the [future researchers website](#) (see [applying to UTS](#)), and confirmation of eligibility is communicated to the applicant by the Graduate Research School.

RTP Fees Offset (international)

- 4.6 UTS offers a limited number of International Research Training Program (IRTP) Scholarships.

- 4.7 Under an IRTP Scholarship, UTS pays:

- tuition fees of varying value dependent on the course/subject (see [tuition fee search](#))
- a living stipend at the minimum RTP Stipend rate, and
- an overseas health care allowance.

- 4.8 The [conditions of IRTP Scholarships](#) provide detailed information for students about stipend/scholarship duration, leave of absence, suspension, termination and additional work provisions. These are published on the [future researchers website](#) (see [applying to UTS](#)), and are in addition to the Student Rules ([section 11](#)) and the [Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#).

- 4.9 International graduate research students are assessed for eligibility via a competitive application process through the IRTP program.

- 4.10 The application process (see [international research scholarships](#)), confirmation of eligibility and application outcome are communicated to the applicant by the Graduate Research School.

- 4.11 IRTP scholarships are not automatically extended for students who have been granted an extension of candidature. Any extension exceeding the maximum time will be subject to the maximum fee for the relevant course (see [tuition fees search](#)).

RTP Offset and IRTP transfers from other higher education providers (HEPs)

- 4.12 RTP Fees Offset or IRTP Scholarship students who wish to transfer to UTS from another HEP will, when determined eligible, receive RTP Fees Offset/IRTP Scholarship for the remainder of the maximum candidature period at UTS. Incoming transfer students must apply for candidature to UTS and, once issued with an offer from UTS, must formally withdraw from their current HEP prior to accepting the UTS offer.

- 4.13 UTS students wishing to transfer to another HEP will be required to formally withdraw from their study at UTS upon approval for candidature at another HEP.

- 4.14 The UTS RTP Fees Offset/IRTP Scholarship will cease upon withdrawal from a UTS program. It is incumbent upon transferring students to ensure that they have appropriate scholarship to continue their studies at another institution.

RTP Fees Offset overtime and special consideration (domestic students only)

- 4.15 To ensure that appropriate support to completion can be identified, students who are unable or unlikely to complete their studies in the standard period, or supervisors of these students, should contact the Graduate Research School as soon as possible.
- 4.16 Students commencing their graduate research candidature from the Autumn 2018 session who do not complete their studies within the standard period (outlined in the letter of offer) are liable for candidature over time fees. Overtime candidature fees are \$2000 per session for full-time study and \$1000 per session for part-time study.
- 4.17 Extension of candidature is subject to the conditions outlined in the Student Rules ([Rule 11.8](#)). Extension of candidature does not guarantee continuation of RTP Fees Offset/IRTP Scholarship. For students commencing from the Autumn 2018 session, any extension of candidature will be subject to candidature overtime fee.
- 4.18 Students commencing from Autumn 2018 onwards can apply for a UTS Domestic Postgraduate Tuition Scholarship if they are unable to complete their studies in the standard period due to legitimate extenuating circumstances. This tuition scholarship is prescribed, managed and published by the Graduate Research School ([contact for further information](#)).
- 4.19 The UTS Domestic Postgraduate Tuition Scholarship is granted at the discretion of the Dean, Graduate Research School.

Domestic RTP Stipends

- 4.20 RTP Stipends provide domestic graduate research students with funding for living expenses.
- 4.21 RTP Stipends are available on a competitive application process and are advertised via the [future researchers website](#) (see [applying to UTS](#)).
- 4.22 All RTP Stipend application processes will be open twice-yearly, in conjunction with the application process for graduate research study.
- 4.23 RTP Stipend conditions are published by the Graduate Research School (see [domestic research scholarships](#)) and include detailed information about stipend/ scholarship value, duration, leaves of absence, termination and additional work provisions.
- 4.24 Table 4.24 outlines the RTP Stipend/Scholarships available at UTS.

Table 4.24: UTS RTP Stipend/Scholarships

Title	Eligible candidates	Value (AUD)
UTS Research Excellence Scholarships	Offered to the top-ranked, newly commencing doctoral students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and potential to succeed in a research career.	\$40,000 per annum
RTP Stipends	Offered to research students who demonstrate competitive academic achievement and research potential; to assist with general living costs.	Valued at the minimum Commonwealth RTP Stipend rate per annum

Title	Eligible candidates	Value (AUD)
RTP Stipend supporting UTS Indigenous strategies ¹	Offered to Indigenous Australian students who demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and research potential; to assist with general living costs.	Valued at the maximum Commonwealth RTP Stipend rate per annum

RTP allowances

4.25 UTS will pay eligible candidates a thesis allowance, relocation allowance and overseas health cover. Provisions will be outlined in the relevant scholarship conditions.

Additional rights and responsibilities for all students receiving RTP scholarship

4.26 Student Rules ([section 11](#)), [Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#) and [graduate research policies and guidelines](#) (Staff Connect) cover graduate research students' supervision and program of study, including details relating to:

- facilities
- course transfers and leaves of absence
- changes to fields of education
- transferring to and from another HEP
- converting from a Masters (Research) degree to a Research Doctoral degree
- converting from a Research Doctoral degree to a Masters (Research) degree
- progression and research student lifecycle
- expected workload and outside work
- termination of candidature
- withdrawal and suspension of study period
- grievance and review procedures, and
- graduate research student enrichment activities.

4.27 RTP Scholarships will be immediately suspended in the event of a discontinuation of candidature following candidature assessment (as outlined in [Rules 11.23 to 11.25](#)) or suspension due to student misconduct ([section 16, Student Rules](#)).

4.28 RTP Scholarships will be discontinued by UTS should a student become ineligible for the scholarship as specified in the application process.

4.29 Students receiving RTP Fees Offset who undertake an approved industry placement or research internship during their maximum candidature period will continue to receive RTP Fees Offset during their approved placement or internship.

4.30 Students receiving RTP stipends who undertake any industry placement or research internship, and receive a stipend as part of the placement or internship, will be required to suspend the RTP stipend for the duration of the placement or internship. The overall RTP stipend duration will be reduced by the equivalent time period.

¹ UTS will provide additional funding to support eligible students through the UTS Jumbunna Postgraduate Research Scholarship Program.

- 4.31 Domestic students receiving RTP Fees Offset may undertake work outside their graduate research program however, the duration of the RTP Fees Offset will not be extended beyond the period set out in section 4.2 (in this Policy).
- 4.32 Students receiving RTP Fees Offset may transfer from full time to part time study (or vice versa) with the permission of the [authorised delegate at UTS](#).
- 4.33 It is a legislative requirement that students, supervisors and other associated personnel acknowledge the support provided by Commonwealth RTP Scholarships in any published materials, including books, articles, newsletters or other literary or artistic works generated through the graduate research project.
- 4.34 Acknowledgements must specifically mention support through an ‘Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship’. UTS highly recommends using the following statement: ‘This research is supported by an Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship.’
- 4.35 Students or supervisors unsure of the need to include acknowledgement should seek assistance from the Graduate Research School. Failure to correctly acknowledge government funding could have direct implications for the allocation of future funding.

5. Policy ownership and support

- 5.1 **Policy owner:** The Dean, Graduate Research School is responsible for policy enforcement and compliance, and ensuring that the principles and statements are observed. The Dean is also responsible for approval of any associated university-level procedures.
- 5.2 **Policy contact:** The Director, Graduate Research School is responsible for the implementation of this policy, and acts as a primary point of contact for advice on implementing its provisions.

6. Definitions

The definitions outlined in the [Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#) and [Schedule 1, Student Rules](#) apply for this Policy.

Approval information

Policy contact	Director, Graduate Research School
Approval authority	Academic Board
Review year	2020
File number	UR17/2421
Superseded documents	None

Version history

Version	Approved by	Approval date	Effective date	Sections modified
1.0	Academic Board (AB/17-2/36)	07/06/2017	29/06/2017	New instrument.
1.1	Academic Board (AB/17-3/56)	09/08/2017	29/08/2017	Inclusion of guidance to students regarding entitlements when undertaking approved industry placement and/or internships.
1.2	Academic Board (by flying minute)	22/12/2017	01/02/2018	Inclusion of guidance relating to some candidature requirements, outside work and provision of scholarships.
1.3	Academic Board (AB/18-5/86)	31/10/2018	20/12/2018	Amendment made to scholarship details.

Web version

[Research Training Program Scholarship Policy](#)

References

[Future researchers website:](#)

- [applying to UTS](#)
- [scholarships](#) (for domestic and international research scholarships)

[Graduate Research and Supervision Policy](#)

[Student Rules:](#)

- [section 11](#)
- [Rule 11.8](#)
- [Rules 11.23 to 11.25](#)
- [Schedule 1](#)

[Student services and amenities fees \(SSAF\)](#)

[Tuition fees search](#)

Additional reading

[Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines \(Research\) 2017 \(Cwlt\)](#)

[Graduate research students](#) (Staff Connect)

Appendix A: Continuing students and transition arrangements

Commencing 1 January 2017, UTS has advised all current students receiving a Commonwealth Scholarship that the scholarship is now awarded as follows.

Commonwealth Scholarship	Now awarded under
Research Training Scheme placement	Research Training Program Fees Offset Scholarship
Australian Postgraduate Award	Research Training Program Stipend
International Postgraduate Research Scholarship	International Research Training Program Scholarship

Contact UTS Graduate Research School [via email](#) for further information.