
PROJECT- FOCUSSED POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STIPEND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDE

Project Title: Empowering Communities

Doctor of Philosophy OR Master
Research Degrees (domestic applicants
ONLY)

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Key Details

This guide is for applicants for a postgraduate research scholarship commencing in 2022 at Victoria University which is available for the pre-defined research project(s) listed in Table 2. Project Outline.

Eligibility: Domestic (Australian citizens, or for those who have been granted permanent resident status, including New Zealand citizens who are granted permanent residency status on arrival) applicants.

Projects: Project summaries are available during the application period at Victoria University's [graduate research scholarships website](#).

This scholarship is for the purpose of undertaking a graduate research degree related to the project outlined in Table 2. Project Outline (Project). The stipend value and included benefits are outlined in

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits, whose terms and duration are outlined below.

Applications will be considered on merit.

Table 1 – Application due date

a. Application Due Date	9 January 2022, 11.59pm AEST
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Table 2. Project Outline

Item	Detail	
a. Expected Commencement Date	Early 2022	
b. Project Title	Empowering Communities	
c. Funding Agency	Department of Justice	
d. Funding Agency ID	TBA	
e. Chief Investigator	Associate Professor Tim Corney	
f. Special Conditions	Intellectual Property Assignment Required	No
	Working with Children Check Required	Yes
	Police Check Required	Yes
	Other conditions	Not applicable

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits

Item	Detail
a. Value of stipend per annum	\$29,300 (2022 rate)
b. Fixed rate or incremented	Incremented

c. Fee offset included	RTP Fee Offset
d. Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)	NA
e. PhD and/or Master Research Degrees available	PhD or Masters
f. Part-Time Available	No

Domestic Applicants

Eligibility

To be eligible for this scholarship, applicants must:

- Be Australian citizens, **OR** have been granted permanent resident status (This includes New Zealand citizens who are granted permanent residency status on arrival)
- Meet the minimum academic entry and English language requirements for admission- click [here](#) for further details:

Desirable

Demonstrated experience with the communities in Melbourne's West and/or North

Priority for applications

- Priority will be given to applicants who have not already completed a degree at the same level as the proposed candidature or at a higher level

Domestic Conditions and Benefits

Successful applicants will receive a full guide to the conditions and benefits of the Scholarships at the time of offer. The following is a summary of the main benefits and conditions.

Scholarship Allowance

The annual value of the stipend is provided in Item (a) Value of Stipend per Annum in

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits. If Item (b) of

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits is marked as "Incremented" .then stipend payments are indexed annually and are currently exempt from taxation.

Domestic scholarship holders will be granted a fee offset or Research Training Program fee-offset covering tuition fees for the duration of the course. In 2019, the value of this component of the Award is between \$14,000 and \$16,100.

Holders of Scholarships may:

- Be in receipt of minor award, allowances or other earnings which are supplementary to a scholarship, or derived from part- time work within the guidelines set out by Victoria University
- Receive stipend top up funding from industry, provision for fieldwork, equipment and other such expenses not covered by the scholarship. Funds towards overseas travel costs may be obtained from Commonwealth awards or other sources.

Special Conditions

If item (f) of

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits includes:

- the response “Yes” to the item “Intellectual Property Assignment Required” then the scholarship holder will be required to assign intellectual property they create while working on this project (excluding copyright in the thesis) to the University through a formal agreement; or
- the response “Yes” to the item “Working Children Check Required” then the scholarship holder will be required to secure a Working with Children Check before commencing the Project and Scholarship; or
- the Response “Yes” to the item Police Check Required, then the scholarship holder will be required to secure a Police Check before commencing Project and Scholarship; or
- Other Special Conditions, then the Other Special Conditions must be met and abided by the scholarship holder throughout the Project.

Duration of the Scholarship

All students are expected to complete their study in the timely duration for their degree per Table 4.

Table 4. Stipend durations for Higher Degrees by Research at Victoria University

	Stipend Duration	Timely Duration
Master by Research (International only)	2 years	2 years
Master of Applied Research	2 years	2 years
Master of Research Practice	1 year	1 year
Master of Research	1.5 years	1.5 year
Doctor of Philosophy	3.5 years	4 years

The maximum period for a research degree stipend scholarship will be up to 3.5 years (stipend duration) for a Doctoral program and for a Masters by Research degree for that stipend duration. Periods of study already undertaken towards the degree prior to the

commencement of the award will be deducted from the normal period of award tenure. Similarly, periods of study undertaken during suspension of the award, or undertaken during the tenure of a previous Research Training Program Stipend or Australian Postgraduate Award, will be deducted from the maximum period of tenure.

A stipend scholarship holder may be required to pay tuition fees for any period of enrolment in excess of the timely duration.

Employment

Candidates are paid to study on a full-time basis and are only permitted to undertake a strictly limited amount of employment. Candidates are not permitted to undertake additional paid work for than a maximum of 15 working hours on average in any one week.

Employment must not interfere with the candidate's progress.

Commencement

No deferrals of the Scholarship will be considered. All successful applicants are expected to commence study by the Commencement Date advised in the Letter of Offer. The Commencement Date will normally be the Expected Commencement Date in Item (a) of Table 2. Project Outline (see above), however the University reserves the right to change the Commencement Date in the Letter of Offer when offering a scholarship.

If an applicant cannot start by the Commencement Date, the offer of the Scholarship may be withdrawn.

Part-time Scholarships

If Item (f) of

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits is marked "No" then Funding Agency requirements for the Project mean that the scholarship cannot be offered for part-time study.

If Item (f) of

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits is marked "Yes" the Scholarship may be available for part-time study to those who are unable to study full-time for all or part of their candidature. Where Item (f) of

Table 3. Stipend Value and Included Benefits is marked "yes" part-time scholarships can only be approved only in the following specific instances:

Where the scholarship holder has:

- A medical condition which limits the capacity to undertake full-time study (supported by medical certification), OR
- Care responsibilities for a pre-school child, OR
- Care responsibilities for a school aged child as a sole parent with limited access to support, OR
- Care responsibilities for an invalid or disabled spouse, child or parent

Part-time scholarships are **NOT** available to applicants who wish to study part-time in order to undertake full or part-time employment. Part-time scholarship holders are subject to the

same restrictions on employment as full-time scholarship holders. Applicants wishing to be considered for a part-time scholarship must meet the criteria listed above. Applicants must provide evidence of the reason(s) they are unable to study full time. They also require the agreement of the supervisor and the University to the part-time arrangements.

Scholarship Selection Procedures

Eligibility

All applications are assessed against the eligibility criteria for the scholarship scheme. Those applications deemed ineligible for a scholarship will not be processed any further and ineligible applicants will be notified of the result.

Due to increased competition in recent years applicants are requested to provide transcripts with actual marks whenever possible.

Ranking against the selection criteria

The Project Supervisor will rank eligible applications on the basis of academic merit, relevant research experience, publications, relevant work experience, referee reports and may identify applications which are not for further consideration (NFFC).

The Project Supervisor may contact an applicant directly for more detail regarding their application.

The Project Supervisor (and, if appropriate, a representative of the industry partner) may interview candidates in person or by tele- or video-conference.

Final Ranking

The Institute Deputy Director will determine a final ranking of applications, identifying the preferred application, a short reserve list and those not to be offered the Scholarship.

Appeals

Appeals can only be lodged against process issues and not against Institute Deputy Director decisions or ranking. Appeals against the outcome of scholarship applications must be made in writing to the Dean and Director, Research Training, Quality and Integrity within 14 days of the applicant being notified of the outcome. Applicants must explain the basis of their appeal and provide relevant documentation and evidence to support the appeal. The appeals process will be carried out by an independent Senior University Officer who is not a staff member who has been part of the process reviewing applications for the Scholarship. The Senior University Officer appointed will consider the appeal and advise the applicant of their decision in writing.

Application Submission

To apply please refer to the steps on [Apply for a Graduate Research Scholarship – Applications](#)

Please ensure you have submitted your application by the time and date stated in item (a) of **Table 1: Application due date**

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Victoria University (VU) values your privacy and is committed to handling your personal information in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and other applicable privacy legislation. The personal information collected on this form will be used primarily for the purposes of assessing and processing this application. VU may also use and disclose your personal information to verify the information provided by you, to comply with government and other reporting requirements and/or to carry out associated activities connected with this application. Your personal information may also be disclosed to Commonwealth and State agencies such as the Department of Education and Training and the Department of Home Affairs in accordance with VU's obligations under the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (Cth) (**ESOS Act**), the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (**National Code**) and other applicable legislation. Your personal information will not otherwise be used or disclosed without your consent, unless permitted by law. By completing and submitting this application, you agree to VU collecting, using and disclosing your personal information as described above and in accordance with VU's Privacy Policy and Student Information Privacy Collection Statement (which provides further detail about the types of personal information VU may collect from you and how it is managed) available on the Privacy page on our website vu.edu.au/privacy

You have a right to access your personal information held by VU. If you have any questions regarding privacy, please refer to the Privacy page on our website, our frequently asked questions at ASKVU or phone us on 9919 6100 or 1300 VIC UNI (or 1300 842 864).

PRIVACY INFORMATION:

We collect and protect your personal information in accordance with our Privacy Policy vu.edu.au/privacy

RESEARCH SERVICES: Postgraduate Research Scholarship Application Guide 2021 – Updated August 2021
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