

VU Industry Supported PhD Scholarships Application Guide 2019

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B. Introduction

This guide is for applicants for a VU/Industry Supported PhD Scholarship commencing in 2019 at Victoria University which are awarded for pre-defined research projects with an industry partner. Applications will be considered on merit.

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).

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

Scholarship Includes a waiver for the associated tuition fees and a stipend for the applicant for the duration of the scholarship award.

Table 1. Projects Scholarships available and their annual stipend value

| Project | Industry Partner | Total annual value (per annum in 2019) |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Project 1 - Development of intelligent water network - a case study for one of Australia's fastest urban growth areas Supervisors: Associate Professor Ashok Sharma Dean Barnett, Manager, Field Services & Network Operations, Western Water | Western Water | \$27,600 |
| Project 2 - Evaluation of the vocational education component of the Hester Hornbrook Academy Social Impact Project Supervisor: Professor Robyn Broadbent | Melbourne City Mission | \$27,600 |
| Project 3 - The Australian hot springs and spa industry: implications of growth for regional development Supervisor: Dr Joanne Pyke | Peninsula Hot Springs | \$27,600 |
| Project 4 - Machine Learning Algorithm for Market Shares Analysis Supervisor: Professor Hua Wang | Omicron Technologies | \$27,600 |
| Project 5 - Victoria Energy Policy Centre Research Program (2 scholarship available) Supervisor: Professor Bruce Mountain | Victorian State Government | \$30,000 |

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|--|--|----------|
| Project 6 - Impact of protein-mineral interactions on milk protein stability Supervisor: Professor Todor Vasiljevic | FrieslandCampina | \$27,600 |
| Project 7 - An Integrated Approach for Building Operation Optimization Supervisors: Dr. Cagil Ozansoy and Dr. Wei Yang | Victoria University (Facilities) | \$27,600 |
| Project 8 - Investigating on improving waste disposal practices and recovering energy and resources from organic waste streams discharged from industries Supervisor: Dr. Dimuth Navaratna | City West Water | \$27,600 |
| Project 9 - Strengthening the use of Preventive Health models in Community Health Supervisor: Professor Melinda Craike | CoHealth | \$27,600 |
| Project 10 - Road and Stormwater Infrastructure Asset Management – A Climate Change, Natural Hazards and Infrastructure Interdependency Study Supervisor: Dr Rudi van Staden | Wyndham City Council, Melton City Council, Hume City Council | \$27,600 |
| | | |

* Stipends will be indexed annually, since it is based on the minimum RTP stipend rate.

C. Domestic Applicants

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a VU/Industry Supported PhD 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)
- ◆ Be Australian citizens, **OR** have been granted permanent resident status
(This includes New Zealand citizens who are granted permanent residency status on arrival)
- ◆ Have completed a four year undergraduate degree, or equivalent. For example:
 - a four year undergraduate degree (e.g. Engineering or Law) or
 - a three year degree and an additional Honours year or
 - Masters by Research and
 - Not have completed or be enrolled in a PhD. 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.
- ◆ Only those applicants who meet the entry requirements for a PhD at Victoria University will be considered for VU/Industry Supported PhD Scholarship.

You are **NOT ELIGIBLE** for an Industry Supported Scholarship if you are receiving another equivalent award, scholarship or salary to undertake the proposed program ("equivalent" stipend is regarded as more than \$20,000 per annum)

D. Conditions and Benefits

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

Scholarship Stipend Allowance

The annual value of the stipend is provided in Table 1 and includes the RTP component and any contributions by the industry partner.

Holders of all 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, or obtain from a non-Commonwealth source, 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.

Research Training Program (RTP) Fee Offset

In addition to the scholarship stipend allowance provided, each scholarship holder will receive an RTP Fee Offset Place. This will exempt the scholarship holder from paying tuition fees for the duration of the scholarship. Successful recipients will still have to pay the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) for each semester in which they are enrolled in the degree.

Intellectual Property

Applicants will be required to assign intellectual property they create while working on certain research projects to the University through a formal agreement.

Duration of the Scholarship

The scholarship is normally for three years.

After three years (EFT), candidates may be eligible for RTP Fee Offset Place.

The stipend scholarship may be extended for up to six months where the University is satisfied that the extension is based on grounds which are beyond the control of the candidate and are related to the research rather than of a personal nature. All students are expected to complete their study in a timely manner.

If a Doctoral scholarship holder exceeds a maximum duration of 4 years, they will be liable for tuition fees should they be required to enrol for any period of time post 4.0 years of candidature.

| Timepoint | 0 – 3 years Equivalent Full-Time (EFT) | Extension 1 3 yrs – 3.5 yrs EFT | Extension 2 3.5yrs – 4 yrs EFT | Beyond 4yrs EFT |
|---|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Living Stipend component of scholarship | Yes | Extension possible | No extension possible | No Extension possible |
| Fee component of scholarship | Yes | Extension possible | Extension possible | Tuition fees charged (No scholarship) |

Employment

Students are paid to study on a full-time basis and are only permitted to undertake a strictly limited amount of employment. Students 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 student's progress.

Commencement

No deferrals of the scholarship will be considered. All successful applicants are expected to commence study by 9 August 2019

If an applicant cannot start by 9 August 2019, the offer of the scholarship will be withdrawn. There will be no opportunity to defer a scholarships to 2020 or afterwards.

Normally, due to the nature of the industry projects, it will not be possible to undertake the research on a part-time basis. .

E. Scholarship Selection Procedures

Ranking against the selection criteria

The relevant Institute Deputy-Director and the Project Supervisor will rank applications (in some cases with a representative of the industry partner funding the project) on the basis of academic merit, relevant research experience, publications, relevant work experience and referee reports, resulting in an Oder of Merit.

The Project Supervisor:

- may contact an applicant directly for more detail regarding their application. The Project Supervisor may also contact an applicant's referees directly.
- and, if appropriate, a representative of the industry partner may interview candidates in person or by tele- or video-conference.

University Ranking:

Only those applications that are eligible for entry into a PhD a VU and who have provided all required supporting documentation will

be forwarded to the University Ranking Committee for final ranking.

The University Scholarship Ranking Committee will review eligible applications on the Project Order of Merit lists to determine a to identify the preferred applicant (and any a ranking for any reserve candidates) for each project.

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

All applicants will receive written notification of the result.

Appeals

Appeals can only be lodged against process issues and not against Committee decisions or ranking. Appeals against the outcome of scholarship applications must be made in writing to the Chair, University Scholarship Ranking Committee 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 member of any Flagship or University Scholarship Ranking Committee that has considered the scholarship applications in a particular year. The Senior University Officer appointed will consider the appeal and advise the applicant of their decision in writing.

F. Application Submission

Application submission dates are advertised on the Victoria University [Graduate Research Scholarships](#) website. All applications must be submitted using [Victoria University's online application form, hosted by SmartyGrants](#).