



Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship Policy

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OVERVIEW

This Policy relates to Commonwealth Government funding provided to the University of Adelaide to support Australian Government Research Training Program ([RTP](#)) Scholarships.

SCOPE AND APPLICATION

This Policy, associated procedures and Conditions of Award apply to Australian Government RTP Scholarships at the University of Adelaide. This Policy applies to all prospective domestic and international applicants for, or recipients of, an Australian Government RTP Scholarship. Staff of the University who administer Australian Government RTP Scholarships are required to abide by this Policy, associated procedures and Conditions of Award.

Implementation of this Policy will be carried out in accordance with the University's Code of Conduct and the Academic Board Statement on Undue Influence. Any attempts to improperly exert pressure or influence actions or decisions made pursuant to this Policy must be reported in accordance with the [Fraud and Corruption Control Policy](#).

POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES

1. In accordance with the Commonwealth Guidelines, candidates for Australian Government RTP Scholarships will be selected by the University of Adelaide through a competitive process.
2. Requirements for admission to research programs are outlined in the [Admissions to Research Programs Policy](#). Information on how to apply for admission and scholarship, eligibility, selection and offer procedures is available on the [Adelaide Graduate Research School website](#).
3. Individual Conditions of Award for Australian Government RTP Fees Offset Scholarships and RTP Stipend Scholarships, outlining the support available, stipend rates and periods of support including scholarship extensions as well as provisions for paid and unpaid leave, undertaking work outside of the research program, arrangements for any industry placements, research internships, professional practice or other enrichment activities, will be reviewed and maintained by the University in accordance with the requirements of the [Commonwealth Guidelines](#). The Conditions of Award are available to the recipients via the [Adelaide Graduate Research School website](#).
4. When a candidate transfers from another tertiary provider, the University will not take over the payments of an Australian Government RTP Scholarship awarded by the former institution. The candidate will be required to apply for an Australian Government RTP Scholarship at the University, and will be considered on the basis of the University selection criteria for all other RTP applicants.
5. When a candidate in receipt of an Australian Government RTP Scholarship converts from a Research Masters to a Research Doctorate or from a Research Doctorate to a Research Masters degree,

changes their field of study, or changes candidature from full-time to half-time or half-time to full-time, the Australian Government RTP Scholarship will be adjusted in accordance with the procedures set out in the individual Conditions of Award for Australian Government RTP Fees Offset Scholarships or RTP Stipend Scholarships, and the provisions outlined in the [Research Student Handbook](#).

6. Candidates who are awarded an Australian Government RTP Scholarship are subject to the requirements of all University policies, academic program rules as well as candidature, supervision and scholarship provisions and facilities documented in the [Research Student Handbook](#). The University will monitor academic progress and may suspend or terminate an Australian Government RTP Scholarship if a candidate is in breach of any of the requirements.
7. Candidates who want to appeal decisions relating to termination of an Australian Government RTP Scholarship, may do so under the University's Student Grievance Resolution Process, details of which are available in the [Research Student Handbook](#) and <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/grievance/>.

AUTHORITIES

| Key | Authority Category | Authority | Delegation Holder | Limits |
|------------|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| Academic | Scholarships | Approve Postgraduate Research Training Program Scholarship Requirements | Pro Vice-Chancellor (Researcher Education and Development) and Dean of Graduate Studies | On recommendation of the Research Education and Development Committee, acting on behalf of Academic Board |
| Academic | Scholarships | Assessment and ranking applications for Research Training Program scholarships by Order of Merit | Pro Vice-Chancellor (Researcher Education and Development) and Dean of Graduate Studies on the advice of the Graduate Scholarships Committee | As appointed by the Research Education and Development Committee, acting on behalf of Academic Board |
| Academic | Scholarships | Approve the Final Order of Merit List | Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) | |
| Academic | Scholarships | Assess individual applications for Research Training Program Scholarship to ensure requirements are satisfied. | Director, Adelaide Graduate Research School | |

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the terms below have the following meanings:

Commonwealth Guidelines means Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017, and as amended, under the Higher Education Support Act 2003. The Guidelines can be accessed at: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2020C00875>.

Research Training Program (RTP) is a Commonwealth Government-funded program which provides block grants to the University on a yearly basis, to support domestic and international students undertaking a Higher Degree by Research program. Support is provided in the form of scholarships for RTP Stipends, RTP Fees Offsets and RTP Allowances.

University refers to the University of Adelaide.

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| RMO File No. | F.2017/5037 |
| Policy Custodian | Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research) |
| Responsible policy officer | Pro Vice-Chancellor (Researcher Education and Development) and Dean of Graduate Studies |
| Endorsed by | Academic Board on 22 June 2017 |
| Approved by | Vice-Chancellor and President on 22 June 2017; re-affirmed for further three years with minor amendments on 2 February 2021. |
| Related Documents and Policies | Admissions to Research Programs Policy Research Student Handbook http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre Student Grievance Resolution Process Scholarship Conditions of Award |
| Related Legislation | Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017 , and as amended |
| Effective from | 2 February 2021 |
| Review Date | 1 February 2027 |
| Contact for queries about the Policy | Director, Adelaide Graduate Research School |