

TONY FITZGERALD POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP (TFPRS)

INTRODUCTION

The Tony Fitzgerald Postgraduate Research Scholarship Scheme was launched in 2008 in conjunction with the inaugural Tony Fitzgerald Lecture to be held in 2009 commemorating the 20th anniversary of the release of the Fitzgerald Report.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Awards will only be available to those who –

- (1) have completed at least four years of tertiary education studies at a high level of achievement or equivalent;
- (2) are enrolling as full-time students in a doctoral degree at Griffith University;
- (3) have not already completed a degree at the same level as the proposed candidature, or at a higher level;
- (4) are not receiving another equivalent award/scholarship/salary to undertake the proposed program.

APPLICATION

Persons wishing to apply for a TFPRS may do so when completing the Griffith University *Application for Research Higher Degree Candidature & Application for a Postgraduate Research Scholarship* form by **31 October** of the year prior to the year in which they believe they are eligible to receive the scholarship. Applicants must include a covering letter addressed to the Director, Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance which includes a statement of reasons for applying for the TFPRS.

SELECTION

Applications will be assessed and ranked on the basis of two criteria:

- (i) academic merit;
- (ii) relevance and strength of research proposal.

Membership of the Selection Committee will be:

Director, Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance (Chair)
Heads of School relevant to applicants
A nominee of the Fitzgerald Lecture Steering Committee
Manager, Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance (Secretary)

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

Tenure

A scholar may hold the award for up to two years, in the case of a masters candidate, and up to three years in the case of a doctoral candidate. In the case of a doctoral candidate only, an extension of six months may be granted where the University is satisfied that the reason for the requested extension is beyond the candidate's control and related to the research, rather than to personal reasons. The award is renewed on an annual basis subject to the maintenance of satisfactory progress by the candidate. The maximum tenure of the scholarship will be reduced by any periods of study undertaken towards the degree prior to the commencement of the scholarship and during suspension of the scholarship.

Stipend

The stipend payable per annum will be \$30,000. The scholarship also includes a one-off relocation allowance of up to \$1,485 and a thesis allowance (Doctorate - \$840; Masters - \$420). Income derived by way of a scholarship by a student receiving full-time education at a university may be exempt from income tax. It is the responsibility of the scholarship holder to assess the tax liability of their scholarship. The University will provide scholarship holders information from the Australian Taxation Office.

The stipend will be paid fortnightly into an account in a bank, building society or credit union. Payment will be made from the date of commencement of study, except where a scholar is already enrolled in the program, in which case payment may commence from the date of advice of the grant of the award.

Leave Arrangements

PhD students are entitled to -

- (1) 20 days paid recreation leave each year calculated on a pro-rata basis. No more than 20 days recreation leave may be accumulated and leave must be taken during the term of the award. No formal approval to take this leave is required however leave should be taken with the agreement of the holder's principal supervisor;
- (2) up to twelve (12) weeks' paid sick leave (calculated on a pro-rata basis for each year of the scholarship tenure) within the tenure of the award. Claims for extensions of award may be made on the basis of periods of certified illness in excess of 10 days. Claims must be made within 30 days of the end of the period of illness claimed;
- (3) up to twelve (12) weeks' paid maternity leave within the tenure of the award. Maternity leave may not be taken within the first 12 months of an award. An extension of the award may be sought on the production of appropriate certification.

Employment

Award holders are only permitted to undertake a strictly limited amount of paid employment: no more than nine (9) hours a week will be permitted between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Progress Reports

In common with all research postgraduate candidates, an award holder is required to complete a progress report in respect of each year of candidature. Extension of award tenure each year will be dependent upon the maintenance of satisfactory progress.

Termination of Award

An award will be terminated in any of the following circumstances -

- (1) at the end of the period of tenure provided for by the award;
- (2) on submission of the thesis;
- (3) if the University is satisfied that the course of study is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the offer of award, and no suitable arrangements can be made for continuation of the degree;
- (4) if the award holder commences a period of suspension, or relocates remote from Griffith University (i.e., Brisbane/Gold Coast), without the approval of the Research and Postgraduate Studies Committee;
- (5) when the student ceases full-time enrolment without indication of a date at which full-time enrolment will be resumed;
- (6) on cancellation of enrolment;
- (7) if the award holder does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of suspension, or does not make arrangements to extend that period of suspension;
- (8) if the University determines that a student is guilty of serious academic misconduct.

If an award is terminated, it cannot be reactivated unless the termination occurred in error.

SPECIFIC STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

Award holders shall diligently, and to the best of their ability, apply themselves to the successful completion of the degree. Award holders must immediately notify the University in writing if the award holder -

- (1) leaves Australia other than for approved overseas study, approved suspension or approved recreation leave;
- (2) discontinues full-time study;
- (3) is absent for any reason for a period of fourteen days or longer from the award holder's place of study, except on approved recreation leave.

Where necessary, award holders shall abide by the National Health and Medical Research Council codes on human and animal experimentation guidelines established by the Australian government's Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee, and the University's safety practices.

CHANGE TO AWARD CONDITIONS

The conditions of scholarship may change from time to time. The conditions applicable at the time of enrolment will be those provided to successful applicants at the time a scholarship is offered and accepted.

March 2009