

**PHD AND RESEARCH DEGREES
APPLICATION GUIDE**

2021-22

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= For international applicants



Why choose Griffith?

We're proud to deliver an outstanding research education that supports our candidates in facing the future with confidence, competence and the knowledge and skills to find solutions to some of the world's biggest issues.

Future-ready skills and knowledge

We offer a range of resources, opportunities and over 100 workshops each year to support you to develop research and transferable skills.

Support to succeed

As a research candidate, you'll be supported in every aspect of your research journey, from a comprehensive orientation program to help you hit the ground running, to help with planning your research degree, research methodology, statistical and software training, writing and publishing, and selling and presenting your research.

Research excellence

Griffith University is one of the leading providers of higher education in the Asia-Pacific, with a reputation for research and teaching excellence. The latest Excellence in Research (ERA) for Australia exercise rated 99 per cent of our research at world standard or above (the highest ranking that can be achieved).

Collaborative research opportunities

Griffith's collaborative research opportunities open doors to greater innovation and discovery for our research candidates, who are ready to think globally and discover new solutions to world issues.

You will have the opportunity to explore multidisciplinary collaborations with researchers across our 30+ research centres and institutes, in extensive and varied discipline areas.

Research infrastructure

Griffith offers world-class facilities and resources for research candidates. Building our research and teaching infrastructure remains a priority for us as we continue to invest in campus developments to create the best possible environment and experience for our research community.

Global connections

Griffith researchers are well connected and collaborative, with over 5,000 national partners and over 200 international research agreements. With these connections, a Griffith PhD or research degree will open career directions almost anywhere in the world.

Join a worldwide community

At Griffith, you'll join an inclusive community of like-minded researchers. Upon successfully completing your program, your PhD or research degree will be your passport to a global network of contacts. You'll join an alumni community who cover every corner of the world.

Across multiple fields, our graduates range from groundbreaking medical researchers and globally recognised CEOs through to marine biologists and acclaimed musicians.

Learn from the best

Our teachers and researchers have won more national awards since 2012 than any other university's staff*, and our candidates who learn in this environment are renowned among employers for their skills, experience and work ethic.

* Based on Learning and Teaching results from the Department of Education.



‘The 3MT process has served as a reflective, refining exercise to concretise my thinking and in the process reinforce why I started the organisational finance culture journey in the first place.’

Griffith’s annual Three Minute Thesis (3MT) is a renowned academic competition that challenges PhD candidates to describe their research to the general public within three minutes. With cash prizes and the opportunity to represent Griffith at the Asia–Pacific Final, the competition has become a firm fixture for our PhD candidates. Find out more at griffith.edu.au/3MT

Clare Burns

PhD student

Winner of Griffith University 3MT 2020

You have questions—we have answers

Here are the top questions asked about life as a research student at Griffith.

Where can a research degree take me?

A research degree from Griffith can take you in a number of different career directions, depending on your research topic and career aspirations.

In 2017, Griffith University initiated a project to gather career destination and pathway information from our doctoral and research masters (HDR) graduates. Our research found that 90 per cent of HDR graduates were employed or self-employed one year after graduation.

Should I choose a coursework or research degree?

The type of study you undertake will depend on what you are trying to achieve.

- **Choose coursework if you want to advance your career, or change career direction**—A postgraduate coursework degree (such as a graduate certificate, graduate diploma or masters by coursework) builds on the skills and knowledge you've gained through professional experience and previous study. You'll study courses that may involve lectures and tutorials, laboratory practice, or fieldwork.
- **Choose a research degree if you want to advance your career and add to human knowledge and understanding to create a better future for all**—A research degree, such as a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Master of Philosophy (MPhil), will prepare you for a research career. You'll complete a significant piece of research under supervision. You can also choose to undertake a masters by research degree, which is a specialist degree in areas such as arts, education, design, medicine and music that combines coursework with professional and/or artistic practice.

What's the difference between an honours degree and a PhD?

A bachelor degree with honours is a level 8 qualification on the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF); a PhD is level 10 and is the highest qualification recognised by AQF.

In terms of workload, an honours degree generally combines one trimester of research with one trimester of coursework over one year, while a PhD is usually pure research undertaken over three or four years. It is comparable to working full-time in the workforce in that you can work from 9 am to 5 pm on your project and are no longer bound by the traditional trimester system as you would be as an honours student. In that sense, honours degrees can be less intense but are no less challenging or rewarding.

How long does an application take to process/when will I hear the outcome of my application?

It will normally take six to eight weeks for your application to be processed. If you have not received an email regarding your application after eight weeks, you can email us at hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au to receive an update on your application.

Can I work while I'm completing a research degree?

Full-time candidates (including those in receipt of scholarships) are permitted to undertake only a strictly limited amount of paid employment. The following conditions apply:

- **Full-time candidates (no scholarship):** No more than 15 hours a week during normal working hours (i.e., 9 am–5 pm Monday to Friday).
- **Scholarship holders:** No more than 9 hours a week during normal working hours (i.e., 9 am–5 pm Monday to Friday)

For candidates employed in tutoring or lecturing, these hours will include the time required for preparation and marking.

Scholarship holders and sponsored students should consult the conditions associated with their awards and sponsorships for any special conditions relating to employment.

How long does a PhD or research masters usually take to complete?

Typically, a doctoral degree lasts three to four years (240–320 credit points), while a masters degree (research) can take one to two years (80–160CP). If you hold an HDR scholarship or are funded under the Commonwealth Research Training Program, your degree duration may vary.

For more information about time requirements for research degrees, visit griffith.edu.au/research-study

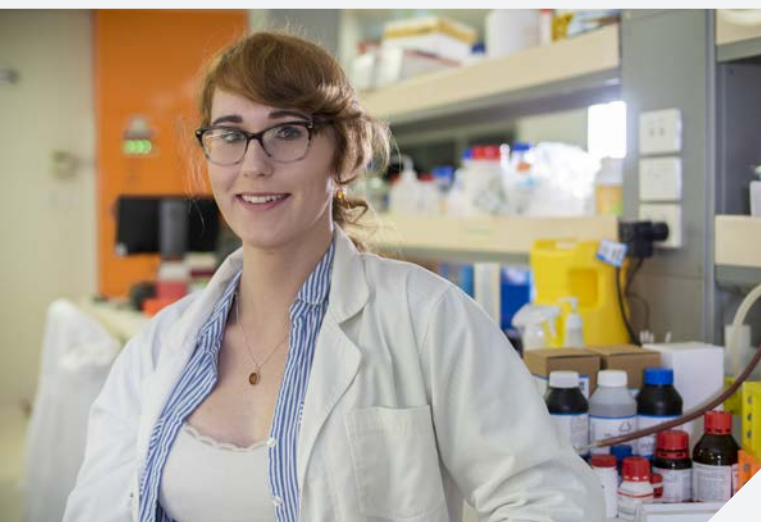
What's the quickest path from an undergraduate degree to a PhD?

Generally, the quickest pathway to a PhD after a bachelor degree is to complete an honours degree with first class or class 2A honours. However, the University also provides other pathways and opportunities to demonstrate eligibility for a PhD program.

Visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/degrees to view Griffith's pathway options.

Griffith's research centres and institutes

- Australian Rivers Institute
- Cities Research Institute
- Environmental Futures Research Institute
- Griffith Asia Institute
- Griffith Criminology Institute
- Griffith Institute for Drug Discovery
- Griffith Institute for Educational Research
- Griffith Institute for Tourism
- Institute for Glycomics
- Institute for Integrated and Intelligent Systems
- Menzies Health Institute Queensland
- Advanced Design and Prototyping Technologies Institute
- Centre for Catalysis and Energy
- Centre for Governance and Public Policy
- Centre for Quantum Dynamics
- Centre for Work, Organisation and Wellbeing
- Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research
- Law Futures Centre
- Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre
- Queensland Micro- and Nanotechnology Centre
- Australian Research Centre for Human Evolution
- Griffith Centre for Design and Innovation Research
- Centre for Coastal and Marine Research



'Griffith Institute for Drug Discovery is a small community where everyone gets along. You know everyone and you can strike up a conversation about anything over coffee.'

Dr Alison Wright
PhD graduate, Griffith Institute for Drug Discovery

Applying for a PhD or research degree

There are a number of steps to work through to apply for a research program at Griffith University:

1. Choose your research degree. Consider:
 - eligibility
 - scholarships
 - program fees.
2. Choose a research topic.
3. Find and connect with a research supervisor.
4. Submit your application online.

During the application process, you can contact your proposed research supervisor or HDR convenor if you have any questions—they are there to help. Alternatively, you can contact the Griffith Graduate Research School office and we will redirect your enquiry: hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au

griffith.edu.au/research-study



Researchers at Griffith Universities state-of-the-art sea jelly laboratory, located within Sea World, Gold Coast.



*‘Griffith University
is such an inspiring
place to be, and I love
the opportunity to
teach and pass on
my skills to the next
generation of artists.’*

Dr Foley decided to combine her passion for art and history by completing a PhD at the Queensland College of Art. In 2017, she was given a Griffith University Postdoctoral Fellowship and is now a lecturer in fine art at the QCA. Dr Foley has been recognised as one of the country’s leading Aboriginal researchers. In 2020, Dr Foley received a \$50,000 grant from the Australia Council to create a new photographic series on country. She was the inaugural recipient of the Monica Clare Research Fellowship from the State Library of Queensland and awarded the prestigious Capstone Editing Grant.

Dr Fiona Foley
PhD graduate and Lecturer
Queensland College of Art, Griffith University

1. Choose your research degree

What is a research degree?

A research degree is a postgraduate degree that primarily involves completing a supervised project of original research.

Completing a research degree is your opportunity to make a substantial contribution to, and develop a critical understanding of, a specific discipline or area of professional practice.

The most common research degree is a Doctor of Philosophy, or PhD, but there are several others you can choose from, depending on your interests and eligibility.

The PhD is the highest level of education that can be achieved.

See below for the full list of research degrees offered at Griffith University.

HDR PROGRAM	COURSE CODE	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Research Doctorates		
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	6001	A bachelor degree with first- or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 scale).
Doctor of Philosophy (by Prior Publication)	6024	Established researcher of international standing in the respective field on the basis of an ongoing record of academic work, and for whom admission to the PhD program is inappropriate; with a portfolio of high-quality publications that meet the program criteria.
Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology	6026	A bachelor degree in psychology with first- or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree in psychology incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale). Qualifications must be accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC). Note: Admission is restricted to candidates who are registered psychologists or who are eligible for probationary registration with the Psychology Board of Australia.
Doctor of Medicine/ Doctor of Philosophy	5099/6001	A numerical score equivalent to a Distinction for year 1 of the Doctor of Medicine program; and a bachelor degree with first- or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale).
Research Study Abroad (Non-Award)	9926	Enrolled in a doctoral program in an overseas institution.
Professional Doctorates		
Doctor of Education	6022	A bachelor degree with first-class or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale), and professional engagement pertinent to the degree of at least 3 years.
Doctor of Musical Arts	6017	A bachelor degree with first- or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale), and normally professional experience pertinent to the degree of at least 5 years.
Doctor of Visual Arts	6009	A bachelor degree with first- or second-class honours (Division A), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.5, and a grade of 6.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale).

Significant research component requirement

To be ready to undertake a research degree at Griffith, you must have completed a *significant research component* in your most recent prior qualification. This is normally equivalent to at least one full-time semester (40CP) of research. For example, if you most recently completed a one-year masters degree, 50 per cent of that degree should have been towards a research component.

If you completed a two-year masters qualification, at least 25 per cent of that program must have been in research.

If your previous qualification did *not* have the required amount of research, you may still be considered for entry into our research degrees under special circumstances.

Visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/degrees for further details.

HDR PROGRAM	COURSE CODE	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Masters by Research		
Master of Philosophy (MPhil)	5001	A bachelor degree with second-class honours (Division B), or a masters degree incorporating a significant research component with equivalent grades (GPA of at least 5.0, and a grade of 5.0 for the research component on a 7.0 point scale).
Master of Arts Research	5633	A postgraduate qualification with a GPA of at least 5.0 (on a 7.0 point scale), or a bachelor degree with second-class honours (Division B). Qualification must be in a related discipline.
Master of Education and Professional Research Studies	5608	A postgraduate qualification with a GPA of at least 5.0 (on a 7.0 point scale), or a bachelor degree with second-class honours (Division B). Qualification must be in a related discipline.
Master of Medical Research	5626	A bachelor degree in medical science, biological science, pharmaceutical science or a related health discipline with a GPA of at least 5.0 (on a 7.0 point scale) or equivalent.
Master of Music Research	5602	Bachelor of Music with second-class honours (Division B) or a postgraduate qualification in music with appropriate professional experience.
Master of Science	5667	Bachelor of Science in a relevant science discipline with a GPA of at least 5.0 (on a 7.0 point scale) or equivalent.
Master of Visual Arts	5052	A bachelor degree with second-class honours (Division B) or an equivalent 4-year bachelor degree in an appropriate visual art or design discipline. Practitioners with substantial experience and a corresponding exhibition record will be considered.
Master of Design (Research)	5723	A postgraduate qualification with a GPA of at least 5.0 (on a 7.0 point scale), or a bachelor degree with second-class honours (Division B). Qualification must be in a related discipline.

The qualifications listed in this table are a guide. Please visit griffith.edu.au/degrees to view admission requirements for each program.

(i) Eligibility

Direct entry requirements

If you do not hold an honours or masters degree with the required grades for admission to your chosen higher degree by research program, you will be required to establish equivalence. A case for equivalence may be based on:

- an equivalent qualification where information is provided about the structure and research content of the program and grades achieved
- a combination of qualification/s and demonstrated, relevant research or industry experience as evidenced on the Curriculum Vitae detailing the type of research or industry activity, the level, quality, duration and recency of relevant work
- a combination of qualification/s and journal publications or other research outputs where comprehensive evidence of the publications/research outputs is provided.

For additional information on the requirements to establish equivalence, visit policies.griffith.edu.au and type 'Higher Degree Research Policy' in the search box to view this policy.

Academic pathway programs to a research degree

If you don't meet the direct entry requirements for a research degree, you may be offered or you may apply for admission to a Graduate Diploma of Research Studies as an academic pathway to a PhD.

Griffith offers multiple pathways to a PhD or other doctoral degrees. Discover your pathway at griffith.edu.au/research-study/degrees

Griffith Pathway Programs are:

- Graduate Diploma of Criminological Research Studies
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Business
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Engineering
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Environment
- Graduate Diploma of Health Research
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Information Technology
- Graduate Diploma of Law Research Studies
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Science

Visit griffith.edu.au/degrees to view academic entry requirements, English language entry requirements (international applicants), campus locations, program fees (where applicable), and application processes.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Prior research undertaken at Griffith University or another institution may be recognised towards the research program, provided it has not been recognised for another award and has been completed at the same level.

While prior research may be recognised towards your degree's research component, you will be expected to complete any relevant coursework requirement as specified in the program requirements, unless credit has been granted.

Visit policies.griffith.edu.au and type 'higher degrees by research' in the search box to view this policy.

Refer to section 7.6 Recognition of Prior Learning—Griffith University Higher Degree Research Policy, for all applicants (includes credit for coursework information).



English language requirements for international applicants

English language requirements apply to international applicants. You may need to take an English language test to demonstrate that you meet the English language requirements for your degree. The following English language tests are accepted by Griffith for admission to research degrees: IELTS (Academic), PTE Academic, TOEFL iBT, paper-based TOEFL, Cambridge and ISPLR. Some degrees only accept specific English language tests.

Please check griffith.edu.au/degrees for the specific requirements of your degree.



English pathway options

If you do not meet specific English entry requirements for your program, you may wish to consider English pathway options at Griffith University. Griffith English Language Institute (GELI), located at the Gold Coast campus, provides high-quality English language instruction for international students who wish to prepare for postgraduate courses in Australia.

When applying for admission to a research degree, you can also apply for admission to a GELI program when completing the English language section of the research application.

You can complete the Direct Entry Program at GELI to meet the language requirements for your program. Classes are delivered virtually to enable you to improve your English proficiency while you are offshore or elsewhere in Australia. Once you are able to travel to the Gold Coast, you will study on-campus and have face-to-face interaction with classmates and staff.

The number of weeks you will need to study in the Direct Entry Program to achieve the English entry requirement for your research degree will vary depending on your current level of English (details below; please use this table as a guide only).

Please check griffith.edu.au/degrees for the specific requirements of your degree.

For more information about GELI and other English courses, contact GELI griffith.edu.au/international/griffith-english-language-institute

Email: Griffith-English@griffith.edu.au

Phone: +61 (0)7 5552 7555

BAND SCORE MINIMUM	SUBSCORE MINIMUM	YOUR ENGLISH PATHWAY OPTIONS
6.5	6.0	You will most likely be eligible for direct entry into a research degree.
6.0	5.5	Start with Direct Entry Program (10 weeks of English study) for research degree entry.
5.5	5.0	Start with Direct Entry Program (minimum 20 to 25 weeks of English study) for research degree entry.
5.0	4.5	Start with Direct Entry Program (minimum 30 to 35 weeks of English study) for research degree entry.
4.5	4.0	Start with Direct Entry Program (minimum 40 to 50 weeks of English study) for research degree entry.



Dr Dinesh Palipana, Queensland's first quadriplegic doctor and adjunct research fellow at the Menzies Health Institute of Queensland.

(ii) Scholarships

Griffith offers generous scholarships to help you with the cost of living while you study. Scholarships vary in value and duration. Scholarships may include a living stipend, tuition fees, overseas student health cover or other allowances specific to that scholarship. Scholarships are available to candidates enrolling in doctoral programs and selected research masters programs. Check griffith.edu.au/degrees to confirm scholarship availability for your degree.

Living allowance scholarships

- Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) stipend
- Griffith University Postgraduate Research Scholarships (GUPRS)
- Griffith University Indigenous Australian Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUIAPRS)

Australian Government RTP stipend scholarships and Griffith-funded stipend scholarships (GUPRS, GUIAPRS) are awarded to research candidates in any academic discipline through a competitive, merit-based selection process. These scholarships assist with research candidates' general living costs by providing a fortnightly allowance for the duration of the scholarship.

Scholarship conditions

Check the scholarship conditions of award for a comprehensive outline of the benefits and conditions of each scholarship, including eligibility requirements, selection processes and scholarship duration.



Tuition scholarships

Below are the tuition scholarships offered by Griffith.

- Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) International Fee Offset Scholarships
- Griffith University International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (GUIPRS)

Australian Government RTP International Fee Offset scholarships and Griffith funded tuition scholarships (GUIPRS) are awarded to international candidates in conjunction with a GUPRS or other eligible living allowance scholarship.

The scholarships fully cover the research program tuition fees that would otherwise be payable by an international candidate for the tenure of the scholarship.

Other funded scholarships

Griffith also offers a range of scholarships sponsored by academic groups and research centres and institutes for research candidates linked with a specific research area or group. For more information about these scholarships, visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships

Externally funded scholarships are also available to support research candidates in specific research areas.

Each scholarship scheme has particular eligibility requirements and selection criteria that may include being of specified citizenship; enrolled in a particular program; demonstrating an outstanding academic background; and a proven capacity for research and/or specific experience and research skills in a particular discipline.

Scholarship round ranking and selection process

To view the scholarship application round dates visit the scholarship key dates website.

Visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/faqs-for-applicants to find out more about applying for a scholarship.

Criteria for scholarship consideration

Scholarship applications will initially be assessed against a number of criteria before progressing to the ranking stage. Criteria include:

- your award or expected award of an Australian bachelor honours degree with class I, or an equivalent level of attainment in accordance with Griffith University's grounds for determining class 1 honours equivalence
- your enrolment in the research program will be on a full-time basis
- you have not completed a degree at the same level or higher as the research program to which you are applying
- you have not previously held the same scholarship for which you are applying unless it was terminated within six months of commencement
- for international applicants, you have not held a Commonwealth Government Australia Award scholarship in the two years prior to the point of scholarship commencement.

For additional criteria along with further information on the criteria above, please refer to the Higher Degree Research Scholarship Policy.



International applicants: Provide evidence of ELP

For your application to be considered in the scholarship round, you must be able to provide evidence of meeting the University's English language proficiency requirements by the closing date for applications (refer to English language requirements on page 10). Applicants who intend to meet ELP through completion of a GELI program may be considered for scholarship (subject to providing evidence of ability to fund the GELI program). Applications that do not provide this evidence will not go forward for scholarship consideration.

Ranking criteria

Applications that meet the criteria for scholarship consideration above will then be ranked based on the following criteria:

- Academic merit
- Research background
- The University's strategic priorities
- The international standing of the institution at which the qualification with the substantial research component was completed
- Supervisor recommendation.

Application ranking is necessary as there are fewer scholarships to offer than the number of quality applications received.

To view Griffith's current scholarships, visit
griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships



'Griffith has an amazing community, where you feel supported and cared for. Right from the start, I have always felt like Griffith has made an effort to get to know me and seek to give me support where I needed it.'

Peta Zivec
PhD Candidate, School of Environment and Science

(iii) Program fees

Domestic candidates

As a domestic research candidate, you will be exempt from paying tuition fees, except when studying the degrees listed below. You will be provided with an Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Domestic Fee Offset place, supplemented by tuition fee support from Griffith University. Candidates covered by the exemption are required to pay a Student Services and Amenities Fee.

The maximum period of tenure of the RTP Domestic Fee Offset is up to four years (full-time equivalent) for a doctoral degree, and two years (full-time equivalent) for a masters degree (research) calculated from the date of commencement.

The programs listed below are not eligible for RTP support and are full-fee-paying programs for domestic candidates:

- PhD (by Prior Publication)
- Master of Science

Visit griffith.edu.au/degrees for more information on program fees.



International candidates

All international research candidates are required to pay tuition fees. Visit griffith.edu.au/degrees to calculate the tuition fees for your program.

You may wish to consider applying for a tuition scholarship to cover the cost of your program fees for the duration of the scholarship (further details in the scholarships section on page 12).

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) costs

Australian government regulations require international student visa holders to have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of their visa in Australia (with the exception of Belgian, Norwegian and some Swedish citizens, who are exempt from OSHC under a mutual government arrangement). Griffith University will automatically arrange health cover for applicants through the OSHC provider, Allianz Global Assistance.

Visit griffith.edu.au/international/plan-your-move-to-australia for details.

Arranging your own health cover

Applicants not wanting the University to arrange their health cover may do so independently. However, evidence of independent cover (single, dual or family) will be required upon accepting your offer.

OSHC scholarship cover duration

Please note: Your OSHC cover must match the duration of your visa. If you are applying for a research scholarship, the duration of your scholarship cover will not match the duration of your student visa.

You will be required to fund the outstanding amount for your OSHC at the same time that you accept your offer (please refer to example below). Your offer letter will include payment options for OSHC required for the duration of your student visa.

Example for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program Code 6001

Compulsory OSHC Cover	4 years, 9 months	
Student visa	4 years, 9 months	
Maximum program duration	4 years	
Griffith University International Postgraduate Research Scholarship OSHC Cover	3 years, 6 months	15 months difference payable by awardee

2. Choose a research topic

Now that you have established that you meet entry requirements for your preferred degree, you need to clarify your chosen area of study and identify a research area and/or research question, clarify its importance and, in consultation with your supervisory team, prepare a research proposal to submit.

Your research question will provide the key research focus for the full duration of your degree, so it is important that you consult a wide variety of resources and select a topic you feel highly motivated to investigate. Depending on your area of study and research, you may be starting at the very beginning or you may already have a research topic or area of focus from an established research team.

How to develop a research proposal

1. Think carefully about your motivation to complete a research program—what are you passionate about? What topic, question or problem do you want to tackle? Remember, you will be spending a lot of time on this topic so a keen interest is a must.
2. Find a connection with a Griffith school, department, research centre or institute to find a match for your research area and/or research question. Some research centres and institutes have proposed research projects and hot topics for prospective candidates. Further information is available via griffith.edu.au/research/centres-institutes
3. Narrow your focus to a single research topic. Once you have connected with your prospective supervisor (step 3 in this guide, page 16), it is important that you seek their input and advice on your research proposal. Developing a research proposal is an iterative process, so you need to allow time to prepare multiple drafts and seek feedback along the way. Your potential supervisor is the best person to contact, so make sure you reach out to find one as soon as possible.
4. Your draft research proposal should include:
 - your name
 - dissertation/thesis title
 - project summary (maximum 100 words)
 - rationale—brief review of relevant research in the field
 - statement of the principal focus of intended research
 - significance of the study
 - intended methodology and project feasibility
 - anticipated project costs (if required by your enrolling school or research centre)
 - any requirements for specialist equipment or resources.

Your proposal should be no longer than two or three pages.

Professors' advice

Professor Sue Berners Price

Dean, Griffith Graduate Research School

'Do something you're passionate about—you will need that passion to sustain you while you're on your research journey.'

Professor Andrew O'Neil

Dean (Research), Griffith Business School

'Pick a niche area so you can do really original work, and try to make sure it is significant and will make a contribution to the field of knowledge. Pitch it to friends and family and get feedback; be open to change as you develop your question.'

Professor Robert Sang

Dean (Academic), Griffith Sciences

'What you're doing is something that nobody else has ever done before, so you're going to come across problems that nobody has solved before.'

Professor Gerry Docherty

Dean (Research), Griffith Arts, Education and Law

'In preparing a research proposal for your application, keep in mind the objective, which is to demonstrate that you have thought about the topic deeply, have some interesting ideas about the topic, and have considered possible methodologies of research and the project's feasibility. It is advantageous to show why you think that your chosen topic is significant or interesting.'

3. Find and connect with a research supervisor

With over 1,000 experts conducting research across all major academic disciplines, Griffith researchers provide multidisciplinary and practical solutions for industry, government and community.

Choosing your supervisor is one of the most important things you'll need to do when applying for a research program.

An effective working relationship between research candidates and their supervisors is crucial to the successful completion of your research program. You'll need to find a supervisor who works in your area of interest by reviewing your potential supervisor's profile to establish their:

- research interests
- academic background
- previous publications
- current research projects.

Once you've found a researcher with whom you would like to work, you will need to contact them directly to discuss your research proposal. It is crucial to look at the alignment between your potential supervisors and your proposed project.

1. Griffith Experts

Visit experts.griffith.edu.au to find and contact a research expert for potential supervision. Search by researcher name or field of expertise.

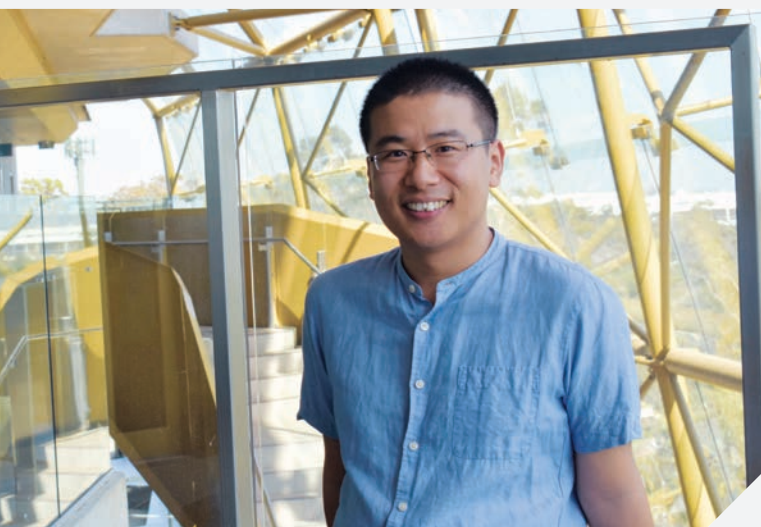
2. Griffith Academic Groups, Schools and Departments

Visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/find-a-supervisor and view our Academic Groups and Schools/Departments.

Each research area has an HDR convenor who will be able to point you in the direction of an academic staff member in your area of interest.

3. Griffith Research Centres and Institutes

Visit griffith.edu.au/research-centres to view over 30 research institutes and centres.



Australian Rivers Institute is a world leader in research on rivers and catchments. During my PhD candidature, my supervisors were researchers with high reputations and extensive knowledge and experience in my study field. I have a very good relationship with all my supervisors. They not only helped me with my research, but also provided many opportunities to familiarise me with Australian culture. I also had the opportunity to meet many world-class researchers from other institutes when they came to visit.

Dr Songyan Yu
PhD Graduate and Research Fellow,
Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University

4. Submit your application online

Griffith's online admission website is a safe and secure way to:

- apply online for any research program and/or research scholarship
- save and change your application details as needed before submission
- track your submitted application.

To apply online, visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply

Alternatively, you can apply by visiting our Degree and Career Finder website: griffith.edu.au/degrees

Search for your chosen degree, add to your shortlist and then, from your shortlist, click the 'Apply' button.



International applicants can apply direct or through a registered Griffith agent. Note that applicants from certain countries are required to apply through a registered agent. Visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply/international for further information.

Before beginning your online application, make sure you have all the documentation required by going through our application checklist, available at griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply

Remote candidature

If you are not intending to relocate to the Brisbane/Gold Coast region to undertake your program, you can apply to pursue your candidature predominantly away from the University (remote candidature). For information on requirements for remote candidature, please see griffith.edu.au/research-study/degrees

Application closing dates

When submitting your application for candidature and scholarship, please be aware of the application and scholarship closing dates —these are listed in Griffith Degree and Career Finder.

Visit griffith.edu.au/degrees to verify application closing dates for your specific program.

Further information regarding the scholarship schedule of dates is also available at griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates

Application assessment and outcome

Your online application will be reviewed by the University's team of academic staff once all required documentation has been received, including at least one referee report from your academic referees.

If you applied online, you can login to track the status of your application.

If you applied through a registered Griffith agent, you can contact your agent to check the status of your application.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application for admission by email. We will only assess your application when we have all the required information and at least one referee report.

The average assessment period for a complete application is six to eight weeks.

The outcome of your application for admission will be advised at the same time as your scholarship application outcome. If you require an offer of admission prior to receiving your scholarship outcome, you will need to request it from the Griffith Graduate Research School.

Successful applicants will receive an offer of admission (and, if applicable, scholarship) that will include the information needed to commence your program.



'Science is not just about experiments, it's trying to change the lives of people through information, knowledge and expertise.' Since completing his PhD at Griffith University, Dr Hum Gurung has dedicated his professional life to promoting environmental conservation and has become a respected ambassador for conservation between Nepal and Australia, and for Griffith. A selection of Dr Gurung's notable professional achievements include working with the Government of Nepal on the formulation of Nepal's Sustainable Development Agenda and a think-tank chaired by the Prime Minister of Nepal, led by the National Planning Commission. Dr Gurung has also provided consultancy services to global environmental organisations, including the United Nations Development Program and the World Wildlife Fund.

Dr Hum Gurung
PhD graduate
International Conservationist

University terms explained

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Admission

Refers to the process of gaining entry to a program of study at the University.

Candidates

An early career researcher—also known as a student enrolled in a PhD or research degree at Griffith.

Candidature

Refers to the length of time you are enrolled with Griffith University completing your research program.

Coursework component

Those components of the program other than the research component (e.g., classes or assignments required).

Element

An academic unit of the University, comprising either a School, Department or Research Centre/Institute.

Griffith Graduate Research School (GGRS)

GGRS oversees and supports Australian and international higher degree by research candidates through the provision of high-quality research programs, and research training, strategy and policy.

HDR (higher degree by research)

A higher degree by research (HDR) is a program at masters or doctoral level in which more than two-thirds of the program is research rather than coursework.

HDR convenor

Each element has an HDR convenor who is responsible for managing and supporting research education and training within the element. Convenors can assist you with locating available supervisors in your research area.

Intake

Designated research program commencement date.

Research Training Program (RTP)

The Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend Scholarship provides a living allowance per annum; paid as a fortnightly stipend. Relocation, sick leave and parental leave provisions also apply.

Stipend

A fixed regular sum paid as a salary.

Trimester

A trimester is a teaching period.

A standard academic year comprises three trimesters as designated in our academic calendar.

For more university terms explained, visit griffith.edu.au/ask-us

Contact us

The Griffith Graduate Research School (GGRS) at Griffith University is responsible for all aspects of HDR candidature and scholarships for domestic and international research candidates.

Contact GGRS for enquiries relating to admission, candidature or scholarships.

Free call: 1800 303 603 (within Australia)

Phone: +61 (0)7 3735 3817

Email: hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au

Key dates

To help you take the next steps toward a higher degree by research, there are a few important dates you need to remember.

Applications

Closing dates for applications vary between degrees. To check the closing date for your chosen degree, visit griffith.edu.au/degrees

Scholarships

For information on key dates, visit griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates

Intake dates

Griffith offers you the choice of four research intake dates. If your degree includes coursework, please also check the trimester start dates.

Research intake dates

Intake 1	22 February 2021
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Intake 2	27 April 2021
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Intake 3	12 July 2021
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Intake 4	11 October 2021
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Talk to us

Free call: **1800 303 603**
(within Australia)

Phone: **+61 (0)7 3735 3817**
Email: hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au

Disclaimer

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ESOS Compliance

The provision of education services to international students by Australian educational institutions is governed by the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 and the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Regulations 2001 under this Act. Griffith, in providing education services to overseas students, complies with the National Code of Practice 2007 through the Department of Education. Visit internationaleducation.gov.au and education.gov.au

