

# PHDS AND RESEARCH DEGREES



Griffith University  
Griffith Institute for Drug Discovery

**2019**  
*Higher Degree by Research (HDR)  
application guide*

# Contents

What is a higher degree by research?	02
Is Griffith right for me?	02
Applying for a higher degree by research	03
1. Choose your higher degree by research	04
(i) Consider eligibility	06
(ii) Consider program fees	08
(iii) Consider scholarships	10
2. Develop a research proposal	12
3. Find and connect with a research supervisor	13
4. Submit your application online	14
5. Be advised of your application outcome	15
University terms explained	16
Contact us	17
Key dates	17

## Legend

Abbreviations and symbols used throughout this guide:



For international applicants

More detailed explanations of terms are on page 16.



*Ranked in the top 2% worldwide*



*Australia's most awarded teachers*



*Rated 5 stars for student experience*



*Globally connected*



*Industry focused*



*5 campuses*



*Over 2000 research experts*



*Over 30 research institutes and centres*

At Griffith,  
we believe in,  
strive for and  
celebrate the  
Remarkable.



# What is a higher degree by research?

A higher degree by research (HDR) is a postgraduate degree which primarily involves completing a supervised project of original research.

During your HDR you will be working independently under the guidance of your supervisor(s) to complete an original research project.

Completing an HDR program 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 HDR program is a Doctor of Philosophy, or PhD, but there are several other higher degrees by research you can choose from, depending on your interests and eligibility.

See pages 04–05 for the full list of HDR programs offered at Griffith University.

## Is Griffith right for me?

### Areas of research strength

- Asian politics, security and development
- Criminology and crime prevention
- Drug discovery and infectious diseases
- Education
- Environmental sciences
- Griffith Climate Change Response Program
- Health and chronic diseases
- Music, the arts and the Asia–Pacific
- Nursing
- Physical sciences
- Sustainable tourism
- Water science

By undertaking a research degree at Griffith University, you are choosing to study at one of Australia's most innovative tertiary institutions, supervised by internationally renowned research experts.

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 rated 98% of our research at world standard or above.

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

Learn from more than 1,700 experts across a broad range of disciplines who will help you pursue your research interests. Explore multidisciplinary collaborations with researchers across our 30+ research centres and institutes, exploring extensive varied discipline areas.

Griffith offers world-class facilities and resources for HDR candidates, creating the best possible research environment and experience.

The Griffith Graduate Research School offers a suite of workshops to support higher degree researchers. Our workshops focus on practical skills development including writing, publishing, selling your research, and public speaking.

# Applying for a higher degree by research program

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

1. Choose your higher degree by research
  - (i) *Consider eligibility*
  - (ii) *Consider program fees*
  - (iii) *Consider scholarships*
2. Develop a research proposal
3. Find and connect with a research supervisor
4. Submit your application online
5. Be advised of your application outcome

Contact your proposed HDR supervisor or HDR convenor if you have questions about the process, they are here to help. Alternatively you can contact the Griffith Graduate Research School office and we will redirect your enquiry.

[griffith.edu.au/research-study](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study)

'My supervisor and the Griffith International team always placed a great emphasis on practical real world experience and international opportunities. What set Griffith apart from other programs that I looked at was that I was able to combine an internship, field work and research between Australia and China. This allowed me to build an international resume that puts me in a great position to apply for research positions within international organisations.'

**Brad McConachie**

*PhD Candidate, Griffith Business School*



# 1. Choose your higher degree by research

Whether you're beginning your research study or continuing at a higher level, our degrees provide a unique opportunity to follow a specific interest in a particular research area.

HDR PROGRAM	COURSE CODE	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
<b>Research Doctorates</b>		
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	6001	A bachelors 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).
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; and have a portfolio of high quality publications that meet the program criteria.
Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology	6026	A bachelors degree in psychology with first-class 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). <b>Note.</b> Admission is restricted to candidates who are registered Psychologists or who are eligible for probationary registration with the Psychology Board of Australia.
Doctor of Philosophy in Organisational Psychology	6027	A bachelors 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). <b>Note.</b> 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 bachelors 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).
Research Study Abroad (Non-Award)	9926	Enrolled in a Doctoral program in an overseas institution.
<b>Professional Doctorates</b>		
Doctor of Education	6022	A bachelors 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 bachelors 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 normally professional experience pertinent to the degree of at least 5 years.
Doctor of Visual Arts	6009	A bachelors 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).

HDR PROGRAM	COURSE CODE	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
<b>Masters by Research</b>		
Master of Philosophy	5001	A bachelors 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 bachelors 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 bachelors degree with second-class honours (Division B). Qualification must be in a related discipline.
Master of Medical Research	5626	A bachelors 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	A Bachelor of Music degree with second-class honours (Division B) or a postgraduate qualification in music with appropriate professional experience.
Master of Science	5667	A Bachelor of Science degree 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 bachelors degree with second-class honours (Division B) or an equivalent 4 year bachelors 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 bachelors degree with second-class honours (Division B). Qualification must be in a related discipline.

## (i) Consider eligibility

### Direct entry requirements

The qualifications listed in the table on the previous page are a guide, please visit [degrees.griffith.edu.au](https://degrees.griffith.edu.au) to view admission requirements for each program.

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

### Academic pathway programs to a higher degree by research

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](https://griffith.edu.au/research-study)

Griffith Pathway Programs are:

- Graduate Diploma of Arts Research Studies 4178
- Graduate Diploma of Criminological Research Studies 4179
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Business 4160
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Engineering 4176
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Environment 4180
- Graduate Diploma of Health Research 4161
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Information Technology 4174
- Graduate Diploma of Law Research Studies 4177
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies in Science 4175
- Graduate Diploma of Visual Arts Research Studies 4182

Visit [degrees.griffith.edu.au](https://degrees.griffith.edu.au) 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 recognised institution may be recognised towards the HDR program, provided it has not been recognised for another award and has been completed at the same level.

Whilst prior research may be recognised towards the research component of the HDR program, candidates will be expected to complete any coursework requirement relevant to the degree as specified in the program requirements, unless credit has been granted.

Visit [policies.griffith.edu.au](https://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. A number of English language tests are accepted by Griffith, including IELTS, PTE Academic, TOEFL iBT, Cambridge, ISPLR. Some degrees only accept specific English language tests. Please check the **degree and career finder** for the specific requirements of your degree.

If your previous studies were completed in English in a country listed on Schedule A ([policies.griffith.edu.au/pdf/Admission-Policy-Schedule-A.pdf](https://policies.griffith.edu.au/pdf/Admission-Policy-Schedule-A.pdf)) you will meet English language requirements as long as the previous studies were of at least two years duration (if completed within the past five years), or of at least one year duration (if completed within the last two years). Refer also to section 7.5 English Language Requirements—Griffith University Higher Degree Research Policy.



## 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. The **Griffith English Language Institute (GELI)** provides high quality English language instruction for international students who wish to prepare for postgraduate courses in Australia. GELI has three centres located at Griffith's Nathan, Mt Gravatt and Gold Coast campuses.

You can complete the **Direct Entry Program** at GELI to meet the language requirements for your program. The number of weeks you will need to study in the Direct Entry Program will vary depending on your level of English and the minimum IELTS score required for your degree (details below). Please check the **degree and career finder** for the specific requirements of your degree. The below table should be used as a guide only.

For more information about GELI and other English courses, contact GELI:

[griffith.edu.au/international/griffith-english-language-institute](http://griffith.edu.au/international/griffith-english-language-institute)

Email: [Griffith-English@griffith.edu.au](mailto:Griffith-English@griffith.edu.au)

Phone: +61 (0)7 3735 3463

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

## (ii) Consider program fees

### Domestic candidates

As a domestic candidate, you will be exempt from paying tuition fees, *except when studying the programs listed below*. You will also be provided with an Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Domestic Fee Offset place, supplemented by tuition fee support from Griffith University.

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 program 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
- Graduate Diploma of Research Studies.

Visit [degrees.griffith.edu.au](https://degrees.griffith.edu.au) for more information on program fees.



### International candidates

All international candidates are required to pay tuition fees.

Visit [degrees.griffith.edu.au](https://degrees.griffith.edu.au) 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 10).

### 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's approved OSHC provider is Allianz Global Assistance.

Visit [griffith.edu.au/international/plan-your-move-to-australia](https://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 Scholarship GUIPRS OSHC Cover	3 years, 6 months	15 months difference payable by awardee

## Passion for research

'I grew up just a stone's throw from the Uganda Virus Research Institute, so I knew a career in research was an option.' Aloysious Ssemaganda is in the fight to find a cure for malaria at the Griffith Institute for Glycomics. In Africa, one child dies from malaria every two minutes. Each of Aloysious' three children—now aged 11, 9 and 5—have had malaria. 'In our country, there are drugs to cure malaria, but people cannot access them because of limited access to health facilities,' he says. 'In some areas, people can't afford to pay for the drugs. If we could come up with a vaccine at Griffith University and roll it out to people, this would be the greatest achievement of my career.'

### **Aloysious Ssemaganda**

*PhD Candidate,  
Griffith Institute for Glycomics*



## (iii) Consider scholarships

Griffith offers generous HDR scholarships to help you with the cost of living for the duration of your research study. Scholarships vary in value and duration. Scholarships may include a living stipend; tuition fees; overseas student health cover and other allowances specific to that scholarship. Scholarships are available to candidates enrolling in doctoral programs and selected research masters programs. Check the **degree and career finder** 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 and GUIAPRS) are available to HDR candidates in any academic discipline. These scholarships assist with HDR candidates' general living costs by providing a fortnightly allowance for the tenure of the scholarship. The scholarship conditions of award provides a comprehensive outline of the benefits and conditions of the scholarship including eligibility requirements; selection processes; scholarship tenure and additional allowances.



### Tuition scholarships

When you apply for a scholarship as an international candidate, and unless your individual circumstances dictate otherwise (eg. if you already have a living allowance scholarship), you are applying for both tuition and living allowance 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 HDR program tuition fees that would otherwise be payable by an international candidate for the tenure of the scholarship. The scholarship conditions of award provide a comprehensive outline of the benefits and conditions of this scholarship, including eligibility requirements, selection processes and scholarship tenure.

### Other funded scholarships

Griffith also offers a range of scholarships sponsored by Academic Groups and Research Centres and Institutes for research candidates who are linked with a specific research area or group. For more information about these scholarships visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships](http://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 which 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.

### When to apply

Most scholarships are available to apply for in the Annual Scholarship Round. To be considered in the Annual Scholarship Round, you will need to apply online before the Scholarship Round closing date. Applications received at other times are considered on a case-by-case basis with scholarships awarded throughout the year to high quality applicants.

Visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships) to view scholarship award conditions and the Scholarship Round closing date.

## Scholarship round ranking and selection process

The University currently conducts one competitive scholarship round per year. Applications received at other times are considered on a case-by case basis with scholarships awarded throughout the year to high quality applicants. Annual Scholarship Round applications open in July.

### Criteria for scholarship consideration

Scholarship<sup>1</sup> 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<sup>2</sup>
- you will be undertaking the HDR program on campus at Griffith University
- your enrolment in the HDR program will be on a full-time basis
- you have not completed a degree at the same level or higher as the HDR 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

In order 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. Applications that do not provide this evidence will not go forward for scholarship consideration.

### Ranking criteria

Applications that are assessed as possessing sufficient merit against the criteria for scholarship consideration above will then be ranked based on the following criteria:

- Academic merit
- Research background
- The international standing of the institution at which the qualification with the substantial research component was completed<sup>3</sup>
- Quality of the research training environment, including the alignment of the proposed research project with strategic goals and areas of research strength within the University
- Supervisor recommendation.

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

### Higher Degree Research Scholarship Policy

The Higher Degree Research Scholarship Policy provides information on scholarship eligibility and selection criteria and processes. Visit [policies.griffith.edu.au](http://policies.griffith.edu.au) and type 'higher degree by research' in the search box to view this policy.

For further tips on applying for a HDR scholarship visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/application-tips](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/application-tips)

Applicants to certain HDR programs are not eligible to apply for a Griffith University Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUPRS) or Griffith University International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUIPRS). Visit [degrees.griffith.edu.au](http://degrees.griffith.edu.au) and check admission requirements for your chosen program and scholarship eligibility.

**Please note: you may only apply a maximum of two times in a five year period for consideration in the scholarship ranking and selection process.**

1. The Griffith University Indigenous Australian Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUIAPRS) and some Group-awarded scholarships have different eligibility requirements and selection criteria for consideration of award of scholarship. Please refer to the conditions of award for these scholarships to find out more.  
2. More information about Honours equivalence information can be found here: <http://policies.griffith.edu.au/pdf/Higher%20Degree%20Research%20Scholarship%20Policy.pdf>  
3. The standing of the institution is assessed with reference to the most recent releases of the following internationally recognised ranking systems: Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), QS World University Rankings, CWTS Leiden Ranking, University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP).

## 2. Develop a research proposal

### 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**

'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**

'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**

'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.'

Once you have established that you meet entry requirements for your preferred program, you need to clarify your chosen area of study and identify a research area and/or research question, clarify its importance and prepare a research proposal. 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 already established research team.

### How to develop a research proposal

1. Think carefully about your motivation to complete an HDR program—what are you passionate about, what topic or 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](http://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 13), it is important that you seek their input and advice on your research proposal. Developing a research proposal is an iterative process, so expect to work on a number of drafts before you finalise your research proposal. 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 the following:
  - Student name
  - Dissertation/thesis title
  - Summary of project (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 2–3 pages.

# 3. Find and connect with a research supervisor

With over 1,400 experts conducting research across all major academic disciplines in schools, research institutes and centres, 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 HDR program.

An effective working relationship between HDR candidates and their supervisors is crucial to the successful completion of your HDR 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 whom you would like to work with, 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 Academic Groups, Schools and Departments

Visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/find-a-supervisor](http://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 right direction of an academic staff member in your area of interest.

## 2. Griffith Research Centres and Institutes

Visit [griffith.edu.au/research-centres](http://griffith.edu.au/research-centres) to view over 30 research institutes and centres.

## 3. Griffith Experts

Visit [experts.griffith.edu.au](http://experts.griffith.edu.au) to find and contact a research expert for potential supervision. Search by researcher name or field of expertise.

*'In my supervisory relationships, I intentionally build respectful, caring relationships as the foundation of quality supervision.'*

In 2015 Donna received the Griffith University Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Award for Research Supervision. In 2017 she was awarded a Commendation by the Australian Council of Graduate Research for Excellence in Graduate Research Supervision. 'In my supervisory relationships, I intentionally build respectful, caring relationships as the foundation of quality supervision. From ensuring the partnership is right, to establishing reasonable agreed expectations; inspiring and motivating; and being willing to provide honest, timely and constructive guidance; quality postgraduate supervision is a complex but rewarding role academics are privileged to engage in.'

**Professor Donna Pendergast**  
*Dean and Head, School of Education and Professional Studies*



## 4. Submit your application online

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

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

To apply online visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply). Alternatively, you can apply by visiting our Degree and Career Finder website [degrees.griffith.edu.au](http://degrees.griffith.edu.au)

Search for your chosen degree and click the 'Apply Now' button.

International applicants can apply direct or through a registered Griffith agent. Visit [griffith.edu.au/international/contact-us/international-agents](http://griffith.edu.au/international/contact-us/international-agents) to find a registered agent in your country.

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](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/apply)

### Remote candidature

For information on requirements for remote candidature please see [griffith.edu.au/research-study](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study)

### 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 [degrees.griffith.edu.au](http://degrees.griffith.edu.au) to verify application closing dates for candidature and scholarship for your specific program.

Further information regarding the scholarship schedule of dates is also available at [griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates)

# 5. Be advised of your application outcome

Your online application will be reviewed by the University's team of academic staff. You will be advised of the outcome of your application for admission by email.

The average assessment period for a complete application is six to eight weeks, however if you have applied for a scholarship in the Annual Round you will not be informed of the result until after the round. Applicants applying at other times should submit their application 4 months before the preferred intake date.

Scholarship offers will be announced approximately two months after the Griffith University Higher Degree by Research Annual Scholarship Round has closed.

For international applicants applying for a scholarship, your application for candidature outcome will be advised at the same time as your scholarship application outcome.

If you require evidence of an offer of candidature earlier than this, a request can be made to the Griffith Graduate Research School.

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

'The scientists in my research team are from all over the world. Everyone in the team has different skills and knowledge which means we are always learning something new from one another. We are a large team which means that you feel like a part of a community, supporting each other, all working towards the same goal.'

**Heidi Walkden**  
*PhD Candidate,  
Griffith Health*



# University terms explained

## Admission

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

## Program

An approved course of study leading to an award (degree). A student is admitted to a program and on successful completion of all program requirements is awarded the degree to which the program relates.

## Candidates

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

## Candidature

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

## Coursework component

Those components of the program other than the research component.

## 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 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.

## 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 AskUs [griffith.edu.au/ask-us](https://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 HDR candidates.

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

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

**Phone:** +61 (0)7 3735 3817

**Email:** [hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au)

## Locations

### Gold Coast campus

Griffith Graduate Research School  
Griffith University  
Academic 1 (G01) Room 3.46

### Nathan campus

Griffith Graduate Research School  
Griffith University  
The Bray Centre (N54) Room 0.20

## Office hours (both campuses)

Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

## Postal address (all campuses)

Griffith Graduate Research School  
Griffith University  
Bray Centre (N54) Level 0  
170 Kessels Road, Nathan Qld 4111

17

Contact us | Key dates

# 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 [degrees.griffith.edu.au](http://degrees.griffith.edu.au)

## Scholarships

For information on key dates, visit [griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates](http://griffith.edu.au/research-study/scholarships/key-dates)

Annual Scholarship Round applications open in July.

## Intake dates

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

### PURE RESEARCH INTAKE DATES

Intake 1	11 February 2019
Intake 2	29 April 2019
Intake 3	1 July 2019
Intake 4	14 October 2019



## Talk to us

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

Phone: **+61 (0)7 3735 3817**

Email: [hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au)

If you're an international student  
email [hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au](mailto:hdr-enquiry@griffith.edu.au)  
or call **+61 (0)7 3735 3817**

### Disclaimer

Griffith has used reasonable endeavours to ensure that the information contained in this publication is accurate but this information may be subject to corrections or changes without notice. Griffith reserves the right to alter, change, or discontinue programs and Griffith-funded scholarships without notice. Griffith assumes no responsibility for the information provided by third parties. The publication of a program or scholarship in this document does not create an obligation on the part of Griffith to deliver the program or offer the scholarship in any given year. It is the responsibility of students to check and confirm all general, program and scholarship information prior to application and enrolment. In particular, program or scholarship offerings, duration, commencement, campus location, fees, and entry requirements need to be checked and confirmed. All costs, fees and scholarship figures contained in this publication are in Australian dollars (AU\$). Applications and enrolments are subject to Griffith's Privacy Policy, which is available online at [griffith.edu.au/privacy-plan](http://griffith.edu.au/privacy-plan)

### 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](http://internationaleducation.gov.au) and [education.gov.au](http://education.gov.au)

