

Conditions of Award

1. Introduction

The objective of the Indigenous Australian Higher Degree Research (HDR) Top Up Scholarship ('the top up scholarship') is to offer supplementary financial support to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander HDR candidates who are in receipt of an eligible stipend scholarship, while they undertake a HDR program at Griffith University ('the University'). This document sets out the eligibility requirements and conditions that apply to awardees of the top up scholarship.

2. Eligibility Requirements

- (1) Awards may be available to those who are Aboriginal Australian and/or Torres Strait Islander, who identify themselves as such, and are accepted by the Community with which they are associated as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
- (2) Awardees will normally have been awarded, or be in receipt of, an Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend Scholarship, Griffith University Postgraduate Research Scholarship or other stipend scholarship that is paid at a lower rate than the Griffith University Indigenous Australian Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUIAPRS).

3. Scholarship Value

- (1) The top up scholarship will normally be awarded to cover any difference between the value of an awardee's stipend scholarship and the value of the Griffith University Indigenous Australian Postgraduate Research Scholarship (GUIAPRS).
- (2) The top up scholarship 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 will commence from the date specified in the letter of offer.
- (3) The top up scholarship will only be paid in conjunction with payment of the awardee's primary stipend scholarship (where a primary stipend scholarship is in place), as set out in section 2.1b. Any extension, cessation, suspension or termination of those stipend payments will also apply to payment of this top up scholarship.
- (4) Income derived by way of a scholarship by a candidate receiving full-time education at a university may be exempt from tax under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. It is the responsibility of the scholarship holder to assess the tax liability of their scholarship.

4. Progress Requirements

- (1) Continuation of receipt of the top up scholarship during the tenure of the award is dependent on the awardee maintaining satisfactory progress in the HDR program in which they are enrolled, as evidenced through the timely completion of candidature milestones as set out in the *Higher Degree Research Policy* and satisfactory annual progress reports.

5. Repayment of Scholarship

- (1) An awardee is required to repay any scholarship payment if:
 - a. The payment is made in error or overpaid (as determined by the university);
 - b. The awardee is no longer enrolled in the period the scholarship is paid:

- c. The awardee does not meet the conditions of the scholarship or is ineligible for the scholarship including situations where;
 - i. The awardee has provided false information; or
 - ii. The awardee has been made a scholarship offer in error.

6. Termination of Award

(1) An award will be terminated in any of the following circumstances –

- a. at the end of the period of tenure provided for by the awardee's primary stipend scholarship (where a primary stipend scholarship is in place), as set out in section 2.1b, or when the awardee lodges a thesis for examination, whichever is earlier;
- b. if the University is satisfied that the program 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;
- c. when the candidate ceases full-time enrolment without indication of a date at which full-time enrolment will be resumed, or when approval has not been obtained to hold the scholarship on a part-time basis;
- d. if the awardee commences a period of suspension without formal approval, or fails to maintain an on campus enrolment without the approval of the Dean, Griffith Graduate Research School for remote candidature status;
- e. 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;
- f. if the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility criteria specified in Section 2 of these Conditions of Award, other than during a period in which a suspension of candidature has been approved;
- g. if the University determines that a candidate is guilty of serious academic or student misconduct in accordance with the *Academic Misconduct Policy – Higher Degree Research Candidates* and the *Student Misconduct Policy*;
- h. if the candidate fails to maintain satisfactory progress, as determined by the University.

(2) if an award is terminated, it cannot be reactivated unless the termination occurred in error.

7. Reconsideration of Decision

- (1) A decision by the University made in respect of an application for scholarship is final and not reviewable, as per the University's *Student Review and Appeals Policy*.
- (2) A candidate who is dissatisfied with a decision to terminate the scholarship may request a review of the decision in accordance with the *Student Review and Appeals Policy*. Candidates requesting a review of the decision should specify the grounds in writing using the *Review of Decision* form, and follow the process for requesting a review set out in the *Student Review and Appeals Procedures*.

8. Change to Award Conditions

- (1) The conditions of award may change and these changes will be made available on the relevant scholarship website.