

PhD Scholarships and Grant Applications – GRS (updated 5/9/2024)

This information sheet outlines JCU's position with regard to provision of PhD/MPhil Scholarships for inclusion in research grant applications. JCU via the GRS will guarantee scholarships for successful DECRA/NHMRC/Laureate/Future ARC Fellows, with all other grant type applicants are strongly encouraged to request scholarships from the funding body via the grant application.

ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA) Applications:

The GRS will guarantee one full PhD scholarship for any successful ARC DECRA. Successful grant recipients can award the scholarship to a candidate of their choosing. The GRS must be informed by the applicant by email to grs.staff@jcu.edu.au at the time of grant application so that the scholarship can be budgeted. Scholarships granted by this method must be taken up in the year of award to allow for the new cohort of grant recipients in the subsequent year.

ARC Future Fellowship, ARC Laureate Fellowship, NHMRC Investigator Grant Applications:

The GRS will guarantee one full scholarship for any successful Future Fellow/Laureate Fellow/NHMRC Investigator UNLESS the grant application included and has been funded for two PhD stipends, in which case the GRS will match that by guaranteeing two scholarships. The GRS must be informed by the applicant by email to grs.staff@jcu.edu.au at the time of grant application so that the scholarship can be budgeted. Scholarships granted by this method must be taken up in the year of award to allow for the new cohort of grant recipients in the subsequent year, except for NHMRC Fellows for whom scholarship awardees must commence in the first 1.5 years.

All other grant applications (including ARC Discovery Project Grants and Linkage Project Grants):

Applicants for all other grant applications are strongly encouraged to include a request for HDR scholarships in the budget of their grant applications. The reasoning behind this is that the GRS funded (RTP & JCUPRS) scholarship pool is finite, stationary, and increasingly competitive. External sources of scholarship funding are encouraged to be sought to expand the scholarship pool at JCU. The standard scholarship value to be used is \$34,002 per annum (in 2024) over 3.5 years PhD/2 years MPhil if not specified in application guidelines.

Applicants may find the below statement useful for inclusion in a grant application where it is beneficial to include evidence of in principle support by JCU: "James Cook University pledges PhD stipend/s for a student/s whose project is aligned with the successful proposal, allowing recruitment of either a domestic or international HDR candidate. The stipend is valued at \$34,002 per annum (in 2022) over 3.5 years, (2 years MPhil) and is subject to the university's HDR admissions and scholarship policy requirements. This means that JCU will give a scholarship to anyone who is successfully awarded a scholarship based on merit by our scholarship application and scoring process."

A JCU Co-funded HDR Stipend Scholarship:

Cofunded scholarships can be approved if 50% of the total costs are contributed with HERDC reportable funding sources from outside of the RTP block grant. Valid sources include industry partner/research end user, ARC Grant, NHMRC Grant, other grant, where only 50% of the funding is available. NOTE: 50% funded by JCU can be written into a grant application. This is currently on a trial basis only and may change in future years.

The GRS need to be notified by end October if it is intended a JCU-CFS will commence in the following year. This requirement allows a planned and budgeted approach to JCU's contribution. This can be done by emailing grs.staff@jcu.edu.au. If the GRS are not aware of this intention, it cannot be guaranteed that the funding will be available. Please contact grs.staff@jcu.edu.au with any further queries.