



FLINDERS INTERNATIONAL POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS

Conditions of Award 2016

Please retain these Conditions of Award as this document forms part of your agreement with the University.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (FIPRS) pays the full international student tuition fees charged by Flinders University for a research higher degree as well as a generous living allowance, which is tax exempt and indexed annually. The stipend will be equivalent to the Flinders University Research Scholarship (FURS). Up to 10 scholarships will be awarded annually.

2 PURPOSE

The purpose of the scholarship is to enable a suitably qualified graduate to carry out, under the supervision of a member of staff appointed by the Faculty, a program of study leading to a research higher degree.

3 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 To be eligible for consideration for the award of a Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, a student must:
- a. be a citizen of any overseas country except New Zealand; and
 - b. not hold Australian citizenship, Australian permanent resident status or New Zealand citizenship;
 - c. be commencing full-time enrolment in a research higher degree in Australia in the year for which the award is to be allocated; and
 - d. satisfy all entry requirements for a research higher degree, including the English proficiency levels;
 - e. not hold a qualification deemed the equivalent of an Australian Research Doctorate degree or, if undertaking a Research Masters degree, not hold a qualification deemed the equivalent of or higher than an Australian Research Masters degree; and
 - f. not have held an Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) scholarship within the two years prior to commencing the FIPRS.
- 3.2 For the sake of clarity, 3.1(c) does not preclude students who
- a) commenced their research higher degree in the previous year, but due to the timing of their application and subsequent enrolment, were unable to apply for an FIPRS in that year; or
 - b) commenced a research higher degree and terminated that enrolment within 6 months of commencement.

- 3.3 A Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship will not be awarded to a student who:
- a) is in receipt of a scholarship for which course tuition is a component under any other scholarship to which the Australian Government makes a substantial contribution; or
 - b) has previously received an IPRS or FIPRS for a Research Doctorate degree, or for a Research Masters degree unless the Research Masters degree was completed and the student is undertaking a Research Doctorate degree; or
 - c) is on paid study leave; or
 - d) holds a fractional academic appointment greater than 0.2FTE.

4 APPLICATION

An application for an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) will constitute an application for an FIPRS.

5 SELECTION

Selection of award holders will be undertaken by the Scholarships Committee on the basis of academic merit and research potential.

6 TENURE

- 6.1 A Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship is tenable for:
- a) three years full-time in the case of Research Doctorate degree students; or
 - b) two years full-time in the case of Research Masters degree students.
- 6.2 An extension to the duration of an FIPRS for a Research Doctorate student of up to six months may be approved by the Scholarships Committee provided the student is making satisfactory progress and the grounds for the extension relate to the study and are beyond the control of the student. Research Masters Students are not eligible for a scholarship extension.
- 6.4 The tenure of the award will be adjusted for
- a) Research Masters degree students who upgrade their candidature to a Research Doctorate degree during the tenure of the award;
 - b) Research Doctorate degree students who downgrade their candidature to a Research Masters degree during the tenure of the award;
 - c) Award holders who have completed periods of study towards the degree for which the scholarship was awarded before accepting their Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship;
 - d) Award holders who undertake periods of study towards their degree whilst on intermission from their Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.

7 FEES

The Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship pays the full international student tuition fees charged by Flinders University for a research higher degree.

8 STIPEND

Flinders University will provide a stipend equivalent to the Flinders University Research Scholarship (FURS). In 2015, the FURS stipend was \$25,849 per annum tax-free.

9 ALLOWANCES

9.1 Relocation Allowance

An award holder who moves to Australia from overseas in order to take up his/her award is eligible for a relocation allowance of up to \$1,485 to assist with relocation costs and airfares, provided receipts can be produced by the award holder. This allowance is reimbursed after arrival at Flinders University.

9.2 Thesis Allowance

Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship holders may be eligible to apply for a thesis allowance to assist with thesis production costs. Students claiming a thesis allowance must produce original receipts showing the amount paid by the student, the date it was paid and the service for which the payment was made. Claims for the thesis allowance must be lodged within six months of the date of Faculty approval that all requirements for the degree have been completed, and within two years of the termination date of the scholarship.

<i>Thesis Allowance</i>	<i>Rate for 2015</i>
• Masters	\$420
• Doctoral	\$840

10 REGISTRATION & ESTABLISHMENT

10.1 Award holders will be asked to nominate a commencement date, which is normally not later than 31 March in the year in which the scholarship was awarded.

10.2 In exceptional circumstances, award holders may apply to the Scholarships Committee for permission to commence their award after 31 March, but no later than 30 June.

10.3 Award holders must be enrolled full-time to commence the award, and must remain enrolled on a full-time basis for the duration of the Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.

11 EMPLOYMENT

11.1 Award holders who hold a student visa with permission to work attached as a condition of that visa may undertake a strictly limited amount of part-time paid employment, provided it does not interfere with their study program. Students are normally only permitted to work up to 8 hours in any one week. Employment will be monitored by a student's supervisor. Award holders must apply to the Scholarships Committee for approval to undertake more than 8 hours work a week

11.2 The assessment of hours for award holders who undertake part-time teaching will be defined in accordance with the awards and rates of pay for part-time teaching at Flinders University as follows:

- an initial tutorial involves a total time of three hours, normally requiring one hour each of preparation, contact and marking time;
- a repeat tutorial is designated as two hours.

12 LEAVE

- 12.1 Award holders in receipt of a stipend are entitled to 20 days paid recreation leave for each year of scholarship tenure, in addition to all public holidays. Recreation leave may be accrued over the tenure of the award, but will be forfeited when the award is terminated.
- 12.2 Award holders in receipt of a stipend are entitled to up to 10 days of paid sick leave per year. Sick leave may be accrued over the tenure of the award, but will be forfeited when the award is terminated. Award holders are entitled to receive additional paid sick leave of up to a total of 12 weeks during the duration of the FIPRS for periods of illness lasting longer than ten working days for which a medical certificate has been provided.
- 12.3 Award holders in receipt of a stipend are entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid maternity leave, which is in addition to the normal tenure of the award. Maternity leave may not be taken in the first twelve months of the award.

13 INTERMISSION

- 13.1 Award holders who wish to intermit or suspend their studies must apply in writing to the Scholarships Committee. Except in the case of illness, applications must be made at least three weeks in advance of the proposed period of intermission. The Scholarships Committee will normally approve a period or periods totalling up to 12 months. However, in exceptional circumstances (circumstances beyond the student's control), the Committee may approve periods of suspension up to 24 months in total. Award holders must also apply separately to the relevant Faculty Higher Degrees Committee for intermission of their candidature.
- 13.2 The Scholarships Committee will not approve intermission of scholarships in the first six months of scholarship tenure except in exceptional circumstances.
- 13.3 Award holders must notify the Student Finance at least three weeks prior to resuming study following a period of intermission.
- 13.4 Award holders who suspend their studies without the approval of the Scholarships Committee will be required to repay any award payments to which they were not entitled.

14 OTHER AWARDS

Award holders may not normally hold other awards concurrent with the Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship. Award holders must immediately advise Student Finance if they are offered a stipend top-up or other stipend supplement. The Scholarships Committee may give approval for an award holder to accept a stipend top-up or other stipend supplement.

15 TERMINATION OF AWARD

The award will be terminated:

- 15.1 if the award holder ceases to meet the eligibility criteria specified in 3 above, other than during a period of intermission; or
- 15.2 up to two weeks after the award holder's thesis is submitted or when the award expires, whichever is earlier; or
- 15.3 if at any time, under the provisions Clause 18 of the University's *Research Higher Degree Policies and Procedures*, the Academic Senate terminates the award holder's candidature; or
- 15.4 if the award holder ceases to be a full-time student; or
- 15.5 upon the granting of Australian permanent resident status to the award holder. Award holders who are granted permanent resident status must advise the Student Finance immediately. An FIPRS holder will his/her Flinders stipend converted to a Flinders University Research Scholarship (FURS) for the remaining period of scholarship tenure. In such cases, the award will be administered according to the FURS conditions of award. FURS holders undertaking a Research Doctorate degree are eligible to apply for one six-month extension to their scholarship tenure only. The recipient will be awarded a Research Training Scheme (RTS) Place; or
- 15.6 if the award holder does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of intermission and approval has not been obtained from the Scholarships Committee to extend that period of intermission; or
- 15.7 if an award holder fails to make satisfactory progress or the course of study is not being carried out with in accordance with the offer of scholarship, and no suitable alternative arrangements can be made for continuation of the postgraduate degree,or
- 15.8 if the award holder has committed serious misconduct, including, but not limited to the provision of false or misleading information in relation to the Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship. In the event of an award holder providing false or misleading information, the University is required to report the matter to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

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

16 TRANSFER OF AWARD

An FIPRS cannot be taken up at another institution.

17 ANNUAL REVIEW OF PROGRESS REPORT

- 17.1 Each award holder is required to complete an Annual Review of Progress Report in each year of tenure.
- 17.2 The Scholarships Committee may at its discretion, require an award holder to submit additional progress reports.

Queries about the Conditions of Award should be directed in the first instance to:

Student Finance
Flinders University

Ph: (08) 8201 3143
Fax: (08) 8201 2580
Email: scholarships@flinders.edu.au

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