

Application Guidelines and Information 2013

- **International Postgraduate Research Scholarship**
- **Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship**
- **Admission to Research Higher Degree**

BENEFITS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS)

International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (IPRS) (previously known as EIPRS) are funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. They are tenable at Flinders University for full-time study towards a Research Masters degree or a Research Doctorate degree. The applications process is highly competitive and only a small percentage of applicants will be successful.

The IPRS pays the international student tuition fees charged by Flinders University for a research higher degree. The IPRS also provides the recipient and dependants residing in Adelaide with student health cover. IPRS students are not required to pay for visa application fees for themselves or their dependents. Recipients must advise at the time of visa application that they are recipients of this scholarship for the government to waive the fees. .

In addition, Flinders University may provide, to students with outstanding prior studies, an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) or a Flinders stipend to accompany the IPRS. The stipend provides the recipient with a generous living allowance paid at the rate of AUD\$23,728 per annum (2012 rate). It is tax exempt and indexed annually. The University reserves the right not to award an APA or a Flinders stipend. IPRS students may also receive a Dependent Child Allowance in respect of a child (or children) up to 18 years of age who is dependent on the award holder's income and who is residing with the scholarship holder in Adelaide. An IPRS student who moves to Adelaide from overseas is eligible for an establishment allowance (**after** arrival at Flinders) of up to \$1,485 to assist with relocation costs and airfares, provided receipts can be produced by the student.

Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (FIPRS)

The Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (FIPRS) is funded by Flinders University. The FIPRS pays the international student tuition fees charged by Flinders University for a research higher degree. In addition, Flinders University will provide a stipend that provides the recipient with a generous living allowance paid at the rate of AUD\$23,728 per annum (2012 rate). It is tax exempt and indexed annually.

An FIPRS student who moves to Adelaide from overseas is eligible for an establishment allowance (**after** arrival at Flinders) of up to \$1,485 to assist with relocation costs and airfares, provided receipts can be produced by the student.

Please note, health cover and a dependent child allowance are not included in the benefits FIPRS.

Scholarship Offers

The highest ranked eligible applicants will be offered an IPRS scholarship. The number available per year is determined by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science, Research, Training and Education (DIISRTE). Up to 10 FIPRS scholarships are available per annum for the next highest ranked eligible applicants.

If you receive an offer of an IPRS or FIPRS, you will be advised of the conditions of the award. You will be required to sign and return the acceptance form to Flinders University by the date stipulated in the letter of offer. Offers not accepted by this date will lapse.

APPLICATION FORMS AND RELATED INFORMATION

To apply for an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) or Flinders International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (FIPRS) tenable at Flinders University you will need to complete the:

- IPRS/FIPRS Application form
- IPRS/FIPRS Academic Referee's Confidential report forms
- Publication Details form

These forms can be downloaded from the Flinders University scholarships website: http://www.flinders.edu.au/scholarships-system/main-display-scholarship-details.cfm?scholarship_id=114 or are available from the Student Finance (see page 4 for contact details). The International Postgraduate Course Guide is at <http://www.flinders.edu.au/international-students/study/courses-taught-at-flinders.cfm>

The application forms and supporting documents must be lodged by **31 August 2012** with:

The International Office
Flinders University
GPO Box 2100
Adelaide SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5001
Australia

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an IPRS, applicants **must**:

- (a) be a citizen of a country other than Australia and New Zealand, and not hold Australian citizenship, Australian permanent resident status or New Zealand citizenship; and
- (b) satisfy the University's academic entry requirements for a Research Masters degree or a Research Doctorate degree, including the English proficiency levels set by Flinders University for international students. Students for whom English is a foreign language will need to provide evidence of their English language competence (see http://www.flinders.edu.au/international-students/study/entry--and-english-requirements/entry--and-english-requirements_home.cfm for full details). Minimum acceptable qualifications are:
 - an overall IELTS band score of at least 6.0 with a minimum score of 6.0 in the Writing and Speaking components; or
 - a TOEFL score of at least 550 with a minimum Test of Written English (TWE) score of 4.5, (or CBT 213 with an essay rating of at least 4.5 or iBT 80 with a writing score of at least 20); or
 - successful completion of an Australian Year 12 Program; or
 - a grade of 'C' or better in the GCE Ordinary Level subject 'English'; or
 - successful completion of a tertiary degree program taught in the English language.

IPRS applicants **must not**:

- (a) hold a Research Doctorate degree;
- (b) hold a Research Masters degree, if seeking an IPRS to undertake a Masters degree;
- (c) have held an Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) scholarship within the two years prior to the commencement of their IPRS;
- (d) have commenced study towards a Research Doctorate degree (or Research Masters degree if seeking an IPRS to support Masters study) within Australia prior to 1 January 2012. The University **may** consider applicants who commenced their research higher degree in 2012 but who, due to the timing of their application and subsequent enrolment, were unable to apply for an IPRS for that year. The University **may** also consider applicants who commenced a higher degree by research at an Australian institution and terminated that enrolment within six months of commencement.
- (e) previously have received an IPRS for a Research Doctorate degree; and previously have received an IPRS for a Research Masters degree, unless that degree was completed and the student is undertaking a Research Doctorate degree.

An IPRS student who is granted permanent residency status in Australia will not be eligible to continue to hold their IPRS. IPRS students who are granted permanent resident status must advise the University immediately. The University may continue payment of the Flinders stipend after the student ceases to hold the IPRS.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Complete the **International Postgraduate Research Scholarship Application** form. You must include with your application original or certified copies of:

- academic transcripts
- English language test results
- translations (where appropriate).

You must also include:

- a research proposal, approximately 500 words in length, which details the problem, hypothesis or question that you will examine, and the methodology or approach that you will use and the anticipated resources required for the research project to be viable
- a brief outline of your research experience and

- a summary of your research publications. For each of your research publications that are in a language other than English please provide an abstract in English.

Applicants are required to lodge an original application form together with all supporting documents **PLUS** a complete photocopy of the application form and all supporting documents. Please ensure that you complete all sections of the application form and enclose all requested documents. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

IPRS applicants are not required to complete the Postgraduate International Student Application form which is included in the International Postgraduate Course Guide, and are not required to pay an application fee.

CONTACTING A POTENTIAL ACADEMIC SUPERVISOR

It is strongly recommended that you make contact with the Department or School in which you would like to conduct your research, to discuss your proposed research project, and to identify a possible supervisor. Intending research higher degree candidates should consult the Head of the School (or the Director of Studies or Postgraduate Coordinator) before lodging a formal application. The Head of School will be able to provide details of the School's research activities and information about the expertise and interests of staff who are qualified and willing to accept research higher degree candidates for supervision. It is **very unlikely** that applicants who have not made contact with a potential academic supervisor will be offered a scholarship.

Information about areas of research focus and research undertaken at the University and the research interests of staff can be found at: <http://www.flinders.edu.au/research/our-research/research-expertise.cfm> This website may provide assistance in identifying a potential supervisor.

Telephone and email details for Flinders University staff can be found at: <http://www.flinders.edu.au/directory/>

ACADEMIC REFEREE'S CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Complete Section A of two copies of the Academic Referee's Confidential Report forms and forward them to two appropriate referees of your choice. If possible the referees should have an informed, personal and professional knowledge of your academic ability and be able to exercise judgment of your research potential.

It is recommended that you select the supervisor of the most recent tertiary program in which you are/were enrolled and the Head of Department or the Postgraduate Coordinator of the Department. Ensure that you forward your Academic Referee's Confidential Report forms to your referees so that they have adequate time to forward the forms **directly** to Flinders University by 31 August 2012.

SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is based on academic merit, academic research training and research indicators and performance.

The University will only offer scholarships to applicants for whom it can provide proper supervision throughout the research period, and where adequate resources to support the proposed research project exist.

The selection process for scholarships is normally finalised in November. Most applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application before the end of 2012. The University may make some late scholarship offers in early 2013.

Unsuccessful scholarship applicants who have indicated that they wish to be considered for admission to a research higher degree at Flinders University may be offered a place as a full fee paying student and will be required to pay substantial tuition fees. Tuition fees for Research Masters degrees and Research Doctorate degrees at Flinders University currently

range between AUD\$22,500 and AUD\$28,700 for one year of full-time study. Fee details are available at <http://www.flinders.edu.au/international-students/study-at-flinders/ebrochure-course-info/fees-and-costs.cfm>.

If you are accepted for admission to candidature for a research higher degree, but are not awarded a scholarship, you will be notified of the outcome of your application by the International Office in January/February 2013.

TENURE

The International Postgraduate Research Scholarship is tenable at Flinders University for up to three years full-time study for a Research Doctorate degree and up to two years full-time study for Research Masters degree. In some circumstances, students may convert from a Research Masters degree to a Research Doctorate degree, or from a Research Doctorate degree to a Research Masters degree, and continue to receive their IPRS.

A six-month scholarship extension may be granted to Research Doctorate students who have demonstrated satisfactory progress. Under exceptional circumstances, the University may approve a second six-month scholarship extension for Research Doctorate students, whose progress has been interrupted by circumstances that are beyond their control, and related to his or her research rather than of a personal nature. No extension is possible for Research Masters students.

IPRS students who require visa extensions will need to pay any associated medical examination costs for themselves and their dependants.

LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

Students are entitled to 20 days paid recreation leave a year calculated on a pro-rata basis within the period of the award. Students may also receive up to three months paid sick leave in certain circumstances and up to three months paid maternity leave. Periods of sick and maternity leave, where approved, are in addition to the period of scholarship tenure.

EMPLOYMENT

Students are required to study full-time and are only permitted to 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.

ANY PROBLEMS?

If you have any queries about lodging your application for an IPRS please contact Student Finance Services in the Student Centre, Flinders University.

Email: scholarships@flinders.edu.au or
Telephone: (International Code) + 61 + 8 + 8201 3115 or
Facsimile: (International Code) + 61 + 8 + 8201 5175

CRICOS Registered Provider: The Flinders University of South Australia
CRICOS Provider Number: 00114A

The information in these guidelines was correct at the time of preparation (July 2012).