Find innovative solutions to complex problems and connect with talented new researchers by co-funding a Flinders PhD Enterprise Scholarship

Flinders University is excited to be at the forefront of the world’s most advanced thinking, leading innovations and working with industry to investigate current and future challenges.

Partner with Flinders University to co-fund a PhD student and gain fresh perspectives, in-depth analysis and cutting-edge solutions for your industry-related problems, while also developing the future research workforce.
Students enrolled in the Flinders University PhD Enterprise Scholarship undertake a 3-3.5 year research project that addresses real-world challenges identified by the industry partner. The PhD Enterprise Scholarship also incorporates a 3-month internship that integrates the PhD student into your team, enabling exponential development and shared expertise for the student and your employees.

Benefits for your organisation:
- Co-create a research project that matters to you, your customers, and your industry e.g. digital transformation, product or service innovation, sustainable development, evidence-based practices
- Deliver fresh insights and accelerate innovation, gaining in-depth analysis cost-effectively
- Upskill your staff’s leadership and coaching skills as they co-supervise a PhD student
- Create two-way learning between the PhD student and your workforce
- Tap into the Flinders research community and cutting-edge facilities e.g. Factory of the Future, Tonsley Innovation District, Medical Device Research Institute, Assemblage Centre for the Creative Arts, and more.

Why a PhD student?
Our highly motivated PhD students will bring valuable specialised research expertise, best-practice methodological advances and highly developed critical analysis and problem-solving skills. You will also be building the skills of the future research workforce including:
- Innovation and entre/intrapreneurship
- Stakeholder management, project management and collaboration
- Industry-focused professional skills
- Ability to communicate complex ideas and solutions to different audiences.

What’s involved?
As a co-funded PhD, your organisation and Flinders will each cover 50% of the costs of a PhD scholarship for up to 3.5 years (plus the provision of additional personal and parental leave of up to 6 months for eligible students). The potential cost to an industry partner is approximately $66,000 (2023 rate only, indexed annually, indexation will be indicated in the final collaboration agreement), with Flinders committing an equal amount. Your organisation can “top-up” this amount to attract talented students if the market is particularly competitive.

Your organisation will also be investing resources to co-supervise the PhD, enable the internship and potentially provide access to data, information and equipment.

Intellectual property & confidentiality
Typically, Project IP will be owned by the Industry Partner subject to the Industry Partner agreeing to grant Flinders a nonexclusive, non-transferable, royalty free, perpetual licence to use the Created IP for academic, including assessment and research purposes, publishing the results of any of the Student’s research and thesis; assessment of the Student including any thesis; and any other non-commercial purpose as agreed by the parties from time to time. Confidentiality clauses can also be incorporated to protect commercially sensitive information.

Interested? What’s next
We will work with you to develop a project and discuss details such as finding a student that matches your needs, the nature and timing of any industry placement, project deliverables, IP rights and your investment.

Enquire now
Contact Office of Graduate Research
+61 8201 5427
HDR.Engagement@flinders.edu.au

90% of our research rated world-standard or above

* Flinders rating 89.7%, rounded up to 90%. Excellence in Research for Australia, 2018.