

## **Selection and ranking of RTP applications:**

### **Selection**

In the selection of applicants for allocation of RTP stipend scholarships the Graduate Research School strives to achieve a balance of gender, discipline and strategic considerations whilst ensuring that the criterion of academic merit of applicants is also addressed. The Graduate Research School Board (GRSB) will ensure that it operates in accord with the University's Fair and Transparent Decision-Making Guidelines. Eligibility for an RTP Stipend does not guarantee award of a stipend, as the number of applicants normally exceeds the number of available stipends. The below Ranking Criteria will be used to assess the merit of each application.

Stipend scholarships are normally awarded to candidates seeking enrolment in doctoral degree programs. In some circumstances applicants seeking entry to Master of Philosophy candidature may be awarded a stipend scholarship where they are competitively ranked with all other applicants.

Scholarship applications will be ranked by academic performance, research performance, disciplinary excellence and alignment of the proposed project with the University Research Strategy. Scholarships will be awarded based on ranking and ensuring that both new applicants and existing candidates receive scholarships.

Applicants who do not have a PhD may be prioritised before applicants who already hold a PhD.

### **Ranking criteria:**

**Applications are ranked based on an applicant's qualifying degree, their research outputs, disciplinary excellence and University strategic considerations.**

- Academic Performance: Qualifying degree or honours equivalency case
  - Points are awarded for results or strength of honours equivalency case
  - where a publication/s and/or research output/s have been used to build an honours equivalence case and demonstrate eligibility, they will not be included in the Research Outputs section
- Research Performance
  - Only refereed research outputs **within the last ten years** will be included in ranking
  - Journal articles that are published in a journal that is indexed in a reputable database will attract more points than those published in journals that are not indexed.
  - DOIs **must be provided** for any research output to be considered. Where a DOI is not provided, the output will not be considered in the ranking of the application
  - Creative outputs will be assessed on a case-by-case basis
- Disciplinary excellence

- o Applicants that have contributed to a discipline that is aligned with their research project may be awarded points for activity (within the last ten years) that extends beyond normal paid employment or demonstrates disciplinary expertise, such as authoring a response to white papers, creating professional development programs, providing expert commentary in the media, or other items assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- o Evidence must be provided for examples of disciplinary excellence.
- Research strategy, equity and supervisory support
  - o Applicants are encouraged to have **a full supervisory panel in place** to support their application. They should discuss this aspect with their proposed principal supervisor.
  - o Projects that align to the [University Research Strategy](#) may attract additional points.

### Selection timeline

1. All RTP stipend scholarship applications will be assessed for eligibility for admission to candidature by the Graduate Research School.
2. If eligible for admission to candidature, applications will be ranked for stipend scholarships.
3. Successful stipend scholarship applicants will be notified in writing.
4. Applicants who are **ineligible for candidature** because they do not meet eligibility for admission for candidature requirements will be notified at the earliest opportunity.
5. Applicants who are **eligible for candidature but were unsuccessful in obtaining a stipend scholarship** will be notified and asked if they wish to be considered for a PhD or Master of Philosophy candidature supported by a RTP fee offset scholarship only.
6. Offers of admission for applicants applying for candidature supported by an RTP fee-offset scholarship only, will be issued for those applicants who are approved by the Graduate Research School

\*Application dates and details may change.

General conditions for Federation University HDR Scholarships can be found on the [Graduate Research School website](#)