

# Higher Degree by Research Student Policy



## 1 Purpose

To outline the principles which describe the University's approach to developing and implementing Higher Degree by Research (HDR) programs and Research training.

## 2 Scope

This policy applies to HDR programs. This policy does not apply to Coursework Programs, Honorary Doctorates or Higher Doctorates.

## 3 Policy Statement

The University establishes standards for HDR programs and Research training through this policy. For further details on expected standards of conduct, please refer to the Research Code of Conduct (and related procedures).

## 4 Principles

The University will offer HDR programs that:

1. meet the standards specified in the Higher Education Standards Framework;
2. provide high-quality Research training to HDR Students;
3. promote a Research culture of excellence, integrity, professionalism and mutual respect;
4. align with the University's Research objectives; and
5. develop HDR Student capabilities that will equip them for individual professional and career paths.

Students are admitted to Research training only where the training can be provided in a supervisory and study environment of Research activity or other creative endeavour, inquiry and scholarship, and the supervision and resources required for their project are readily available and supported by the University.

The University reserves the right to refuse Admission where required resources are not

available.

The University will award HDRs in accordance with the practice and terminology used in the Australian higher education system.

Intellectual Property created by HDR Students will be managed in accordance with the Intellectual Property Policy and Procedure.

Research training is guided by an institutional Research training framework that is designed to achieve:

1. definition and recognition of the rights and responsibilities of HDR Students and supervisors;
2. induction and orientation of HDR Students and supervisors to their roles;
3. monitoring of the progress of HDR Students;
4. assessment and examination of HDR Students' work;
5. independence of examiners;
6. presentation and communication of Research Outputs by HDR Students;
7. resolution of disputes; and
8. opportunities for HDR Students to engage in collaborative Research with end-users of the Research.

## 5 References

Nil.

## 6 Schedules

This policy must be read in conjunction with its subordinate schedules as provided in the table below.

## 7 Policy Information

<b>Accountable Officer</b>	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Dean (Graduate Research School)

<b>Policy Type</b>	Academic Quality Policy
<b>Policy Suite</b>	<a href="#">Australian Commonwealth Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship Policy Schedule</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Confirmation of Candidature Schedule</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Student Progress Procedure</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Supervision and Student Support Procedure</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Thesis Examination Procedure</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Thesis Presentation Schedule</a> <a href="#">Higher Degree by Research Thesis Submission Schedule</a>
<b>Subordinate Schedules</b>	
<b>Approved Date</b>	21/9/2021
<b>Effective Date</b>	21/9/2021
<b>Review Date</b>	21/9/2024
<b>Relevant Legislation</b>	<a href="#">Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research</a> <a href="#">Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000</a> <a href="#">Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021</a> <a href="#">Higher Education Support Act 2003</a> <a href="#">Information Privacy Act 2009</a> <a href="#">National Code of Practice for Providers of education and Training to Overseas Students 2018</a>
<b>Related Policies</b>	<a href="#">Admissions Policy</a> <a href="#">Assessment Policy</a> <a href="#">Award Eligibility and Graduation Policy</a> <a href="#">Code of Conduct Policy</a> <a href="#">Harassment and Discrimination Complaint Resolution for Students Policy and Procedure</a>

	<a href="#">Intellectual Property Policy and Procedure</a> <a href="#">Student Academic Integrity Policy</a> <a href="#">Student Code of Conduct Policy</a> <a href="#">Student Communication Policy</a> <a href="#">Student Grievance Resolution Policy</a>
<b>Related Procedures</b>	<a href="#">Admissions Procedure</a> <a href="#">Assessment Procedure</a> <a href="#">Enrolment Procedure</a> <a href="#">Research Code of Conduct: Management of Potential Breaches Procedure</a> <a href="#">Student Academic Misconduct Procedure</a> <a href="#">Student Communication Procedure</a> <a href="#">Student General Misconduct Procedure</a>
<b>Related forms, publications and websites</b>	<a href="#">Academic Appeal Form</a> <a href="#">Administrative Information for Higher Education Providers (AIP) Manual</a> <a href="#">Exclude Internal Form</a> (restricted access) <a href="#">Feedback, Complaints and Appeals</a> <a href="#">Graduate Research School Student Progress Reports</a> <a href="#">Milestone review table</a> <a href="#">Requesting changes to your candidature</a> <a href="#">Student General Misconduct Procedure Penalty Schedule</a> <a href="#">USQ Scholarship website</a> <a href="#">Variation to Candidature Request Form</a>
<b>Definitions</b>	<b>Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary</b> <a href="#">Admission</a>

The process of submission and assessment of applications for entry to study at the University.

### [Assessment](#)

The process of evaluating the extent to which Students have achieved the objectives of a Course.

### [Coursework Program](#)

A sequence of study consisting predominantly of Coursework.

### [Higher Degree by Research \(HDR\)](#)

A Research Doctorate or Research Masters program for which at least two-thirds of the Student load for the program is required as research work.

### [Higher Doctorate](#)

A higher doctorate is the highest academic qualification awarded by the University and give formal public recognition to scholars who have made a substantial, original and distinguished contribution to the knowledge and understanding of any branch of learning with which the University is concerned.

### [Honorary Doctorate](#)

A degree conferred to a recipient to honour outstanding achievements independent of fulfilling the academic requirements of a doctorate.

### [Intellectual Property](#)

Means all proprietary rights in copyright, patentable and non-patentable inventions including field and laboratory books relating to such inventions, plant varieties, registered and unregistered trademarks, registered and unregistered designs, Confidential Information, circuit layouts and all other rights of intellectual property resulting from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields.

### [Research](#)

Research is the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings. This could include the synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative.

## Research Output

An output is an outcome of research and can take many forms. Research Outputs must meet the definition of Research. Some examples of outputs of research include: books—authored research chapters in research books—authored research journal articles—refereed, scholarly journal conference publications—full paper refereed. original creative works live performance of creative works recorded/rendered creative works curated or produced substantial public exhibitions and events research reports for an external body portfolio.

## Scholarship

A Scholarship is Student recognition, typically based on Academic Merit, which provides a financial grant to a Student to undertake or complete a program of study at the University over a nominated period of time, in accordance with the selection criteria. A Scholarship may take the form of periodic payments to the Student or a reduction in specified costs, such as tuition fees for the duration of the Scholarship.

## Student

A person who is admitted to an Award Program or Non-Award Program offered by the University and is: currently enrolled in one or more Courses or study units; or not currently enrolled but is on an approved Leave of Absence or whose admission has not been cancelled.

## University

The term 'University' or 'USQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.

### **Definitions that relate to this policy only**

<b>Keywords</b>	Research training, research students, research program
<b>Record No</b>	21/324PL