DATA61 RESEARCH PROJECT AWARD

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. INTRODUCTION

Each year Data61 may offer the Data61 Research Project Award ("the award"). The number of scholarships offered each year will be determined by Data61 annually.

The objectives of the award are to foster the next generation of ICT researchers via the scholarship through Data61’s research training program.

Funding for this award has been provided by Data61.

2. BENEFITS

Value: The value of the award will be stated in your letter of offer. The award will be paid in fortnightly instalments in arrears unless otherwise stated in the letter of offer. Payments will not commence until the Data61 Student Scholarship Agreement is signed and the student is enrolled.

The recipient is responsible for making payment of any tuition and/or administrative fees by the prescribed date as set by the University each session. Recipients of this award are responsible for the cost of books, study materials, accommodation and all other costs of study.

Duration: The duration of a full-time award will be three years in the first instance or such shorter period as is stated in the letter of offer.

Periods of study already undertaken for the PhD degree and periods of study undertaken for the PhD degree during suspension of the award will be deducted from the duration of the award.

Periods of paid sick leave taken in accordance with Section 38(2) of the ANU Research Awards Rule 2015, and maternity leave are additional to the normal duration of the award.

Extension: If eligible, a recipient may apply for an extension of the award by completing the Application for Extension of Research Scholarship form. The maximum period of extension is six months and an extension may be sought only where the research has been delayed by circumstances beyond the scholar’s control and is related to the research and is not of a personal nature.

PROGRAM & SCHOLARSHIP LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

A scholar who is unable to pursue their program of study should apply for program and Scholarship leave of absence by completing the Application for Program and Scholarship Leave - Research form.

Personal Leave: The University may approve program and Scholarship leave of absence on personal grounds, which does not exceed a total period of twelve months during the tenure of the award. An application for program and Scholarship leave of absence for more than twelve months will only be considered if there are
exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the scholar and must be approved by the Delegated Authority in the College.

**Medical Leave:** A scholar whose application for program and Scholarship leave of absence is approved on medical grounds will continue to receive the award for the period of the program leave of absence, on receipt of a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner which gives the nature and likely duration of the scholar’s illness and certifies that the scholar is unable to pursue the program because of the illness. Medical grounds may also be used to cover leave for students with family caring responsibilities. The maximum aggregated period for receipt of the award under this provision cannot exceed 12 weeks within the duration of the award.

**Maternity Leave:** A scholar whose application for program and Scholarship leave of absence is approved for maternity reasons will continue to receive the award for the period of the leave of absence for up to a maximum aggregate of twelve weeks within the duration of the award, provided the application for program leave of absence is accompanied by a medical certificate indicating the expected date of confinement. Paid maternity leave is not available within the first twelve months of the award.

**Paternity Leave:** A scholar who is the partner of a woman giving birth may be entitled to 5 days’ paid parenting leave at the time of the birth provided the award has been held for at least twelve months at the time of application. The application for leave must be accompanied by a medical certificate confirming the date of birth.

In no circumstances can the program and Scholarship leave of absence exceed two years in total (which includes personal, medical, maternity and paternity leave).

3. **ELIGIBILITY**

The award will be available each year to a prospective or continuing student who is:

(a) a domestic and/or international student (a domestic student is considered - an Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen, holder of an Australian Permanent Resident visa or a permanent humanitarian visa).

(b) enrolled or enrolling full-time in a program of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Australian National University.

(c) co-supervised both ANU and Data61-employed researchers.

(d) undertaking or proposing research that is aligned with Data61’s Research Groups, Business Teams and supervisory capability.

(e) agrees to and signs the *Data61 Student Scholarship Agreement* prior to the commencement of the scholarship. (Students are encouraged to seek independent legal advice prior to signing the *Data61 Student Scholarship Agreement*).

4. **APPLICATION**

There is no application as students are automatically considered based on meeting the eligibility criteria or conditions prescribed under the Eligibility section through their application for admission to a PhD at ANU.

In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria, candidates should:
(a) have made informal contact with a Data61 Research Group Leader for advice on constructing a research proposal that aligns with Data61’s Research Groups, Business Teams and associated projects.

(b) have applied for full-time admission into a PhD program at ANU, as one of Data61’s partner Universities, with an intended supervisor who is involved in collaborative ICT research with Data61.

(c) have applied for any appropriate Australian Government or ANU scholarships.

5. SELECTION

Selection will be made on the basis of academic merit. Other factors such as research potential and the alignment of the candidate’s proposed project to Data61’s Research Groups, Business Teams and supervisory capability may also be taken into account.

The award will be offered to a student by a selection Committee chaired by the Associate Dean HDR from College of Engineering and Computer Science which will also include the Associate Director Education Data61 (Canberra office) as well as members from the Research School of Computer Science and Research School of Engineering as determined by the Associate Dean HDR.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit. The Selection Committee may also vary the number of awards and/or offer the award at other times in exceptional circumstances or based on the standard of applications or students.

6. CONCURRENT HOLDING OF AWARDS

A recipient of the award is permitted to concurrently hold other scholarships, awards, grants and bursaries subject to the terms of the corresponding section in the conditions of award of the other scholarship/bursary/grant/award that they are holding.

7. DEFERMENT

The award must be taken up no later than the date specified in the letter of offer, unless in special circumstances another date has been approved by the Delegated Authority.

8. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

The scholar is required to remain enrolled full-time in a program of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Australian National University in the program for which the award is offered.

In exceptional circumstances, a part-time award may be approved if the student has reasons acceptable to the University that preclude full-time study for part or all of the course of study. In such cases the University must be satisfied that the reasons relate to caring commitments, a medical condition, a disability or other circumstance which limits the student’s capacity to undertake full-time study. These cases will need to be endorsed by Data61 for the approval of the part-time award. If a student converts to part-time and does not receive Data61 endorsement for a part-time award, their scholarship will be suspended until reversion to full-time study.

Continuation of the award is conditional on maintaining satisfactory academic progress and satisfactory engagement with Data61. Progress will be monitored through the completion
of student milestones. Students will be required to provide evidence of their engagement with Data61 on an annual basis.

An award cannot be transferred to another institution. With approval from the Delegated Authority in the College an award may be transferred to another research school/college.

9. SUSPENSION OF AWARD

A student may apply for suspension of their award. The approval of a suspension will be at the discretion of the scholar’s College. A suspension may be appropriate if a student is studying at another institution and receives an award for that study. In these circumstances the duration of the award will be reduced by the periods of study undertaken towards the degree during suspension of the award (unless the study was undertaken overseas as part of a Commonwealth Government financially supported international postgraduate research scholarship or award).

The University may suspend an award where a student has:

(a) outstanding fees;
(b) an outstanding debt with the University; or
(c) outstanding PhD milestone/s; or
(d) converted to part-time study load as under Ongoing Eligibility

An award will only be suspended once a reasonable amount of time (more than 20 working days) has passed since the fees and/or debt and/or milestones were due and once the University has advised the scholar in writing that the milestones, debt and/or fees are outstanding. Under these circumstances, the scholar will forfeit payment for the period of time that their award is suspended.

An award will be suspended immediately if the student converts to part-time study load without endorsement from Data61 for a part-time award.

10. CESSATION OF AWARD

The award ceases or the student should surrender their award:

(a) at the conclusion of the period outlined in section 2; or
(b) on submission of the thesis for examination; or
(c) on the date on which the student withdraws or ceases to attend the University other than for approved absences; or
(d) if a recipient is no longer meeting or has breached the conditions of award; or
(e) if a recipient breaches academic or behavioural standards set by the University under the Academic Misconduct & Discipline Rules; or
(f) on the termination of the Data61 Student Scholarship Agreement.
11. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

A scholar who is taking leave from their program is expected to submit the prescribed leave form in a timely manner and, where possible, in advance in order to avoid receiving an overpayment of their award. In circumstances where an overpayment does occur, the overpayments will generally be recovered in line with the ANU Overpayments Procedure.

In the situation where a student is overpaid an amount in excess of a full fortnightly disbursement, the University may recover the overpayment by withholding future stipend payments at the same rate that the stipend was overpaid.

12. PROVIDING FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

The offer of an award is based on the information provided to the University. An award may be withdrawn at any stage if incorrect, false or misleading information is provided or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the false information is unrelated to the assessment in offering the award.

13. VARIATION TO CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis section 6 and/or 7 of these conditions of award may be varied by the Dean on the recommendation of the Chair of Selection Committee.

14. TAXATION & CENTRELINK

Award recipients are responsible for seeking taxation and Centrelink advice regarding their own individual circumstances. Scholarships/grants/awards may be regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For information on how your award may affect your Centrelink benefits, please refer to this website:  http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/

15. ACCOMMODATION

It is the recipient’s responsibility to obtain residential accommodation. Information on student accommodation and application forms are available from the University Accommodation Services. Information may be found on the Web at:  http://www.anu.edu.au/students/services/accommodation

16. PUBLICITY

The award recipient may be requested to participate in publicity for the award from time to time. This may include publicity in the state or territory of residence or of schooling. Recipients may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the award by publishing the names of the recipients. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through the ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science or Strategic Communications and Public Affairs Office of the University.
17. CONTACT WITH THE ANU COLLEGE

All enquiries regarding the award and changes, issues, or further information after acceptance should be made to:

CECS Student Services
ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science
Computer Science and Information Technology Building #108
The Australian National University
ACTON 2601
AUSTRALIA
Email: research.cecs@anu.edu.au

18. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of this award is subject to The Australian National University Act 1991 as amended, and to the Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Resolutions of the University.

The award of a scholarship/grant does not carry any commitment by the University for future employment.

These conditions of award should be read in conjunction with the University’s Research Award Rules and Candidature and Supervision Policies.

19. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, RULES & RESOURCES

Research Scholarship Information (including forms) - http://www.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships-support/research-scholarship-information
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ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER

I _______________________________(print name) hereby accept the offer of a Data61 Research Project Award on the conditions set out in your letter of _____________(date) and in the Data61 Research Project Award Conditions of Award (1201/2016)

I have read and understood the conditions of award and agree to be bound by them. I acknowledge that no undertakings regarding the award beyond the terms of this letter and the Conditions of Award are authorised or will be binding on the University unless they are contained in an official letter from the Student Administration and Records Office, Division of Student Administration.

_________ Print Name ___________ Signature ___________ ANU Student ID ___________ Date ________