



## ECCLES PHD SCHOLARSHIP IN MEDICAL SCIENCES

### CONDITIONS OF AWARD

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Each year the John Curtin School of Medical Research (JCSMR) may offer one award known as the Eccles PhD Scholarship in Medical Sciences ("the award").

The award is designed to attract international students of high calibre to pursue higher degree research, at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, in Neurosciences. The scholarship will provide for an annual living expense stipend set at the normal rate of the ANU PhD Scholarship, and a fee-waiver scholarship for international students.

Funding for the award has been provided by the JCSMR.

#### 2. BENEFITS

**Value:** The value of the award will be stated in your letter of offer. The award will be paid in fortnightly instalments unless otherwise stated in the letter of offer.

**HDR Fee Remission Merit Scholarship:** Successful international candidates will also be awarded an HDR Fee Remission Merit Scholarship, to cover the International Student Fees for the standard duration of the research program, subject to the student being ranked as competitive in a merit-based selection process.

The recipient is responsible for making payment of any administrative fees by the prescribed date as set by the University each session and are responsible for the cost of books, study materials, accommodation and all other costs of study not covered by the award.

**Duration:** The duration of a full-time award will be 3 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 of the ANU Research Award Rules, paternity 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 recipient's control and is related to the research and is not of a personal nature.

**Thesis Reimbursement:** A recipient is eligible to receive a reimbursement of up to \$840 for costs associated with the production of the thesis. The reimbursement must be claimed in accordance with the Australian National University's Thesis Allowance Requirements. The reimbursement must be claimed within 12 months of submission of the thesis and no more than 2 years after termination of the award, unless exceptional circumstances can be

demonstrated. A case outlining the exceptional circumstances must be made before approval for reimbursement can be considered.

### **PROGRAM & SCHOLARSHIP LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS**

A recipient 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 recipient and must be approved by the Delegated Authority in the College.

**Medical Leave:** A recipient 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 recipient's illness and certifies that the recipient 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 recipient 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 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 recipient 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 student who:

- (a) is an international student.
- (b) is enrolling full-time in a program of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, Australian National University.
- (c) holds an Australian Bachelor Honours degree with First Class Honours or equivalent, and has research publications and/or relevant research experience.

### **4. APPLICATION**

There is no application as students are automatically considered based on meeting the eligibility criteria or conditions prescribed under the Eligibility section.

## **5. SELECTION**

Selection will be made on the basis of qualifications and research potential.

The award will be offered to a student by a JCMSR Scholarship Committee, chaired by the Deputy Director of JCMSR. Other members of the Committee are the Associate Director HDR for JCMSR, and a panel of four JCMSR academic staff members representing the different departments.

The Selection Committee and the JCMSR Executive reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit. The JCMSR 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.

During the tenure of the award, the recipient cannot be in receipt of another equivalent or major living allowance award/scholarship or salary to undertake the proposed program, providing a benefit greater than 75% of the stipend of this award.

## **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 recipient 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.

A part-time award may be offered or 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.

An award cannot be transferred to another institution, ANU College or research school.

## **9. SUSPENSION OF AWARD**

A recipient 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 recipient 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 recipient has:

- a) outstanding fees;
- b) an outstanding debt with the University; or
- c) outstanding PhD milestone/s

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 recipient will forfeit payment for the period of time that their award is suspended.

#### **10. CESSATION OF AWARD**

The award ceases or should be surrendered:

- (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.

#### **11. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS**

A recipient who is taking leave from their program, or changing intensity from full-time to part-time, is expected to submit the prescribed 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 recipient 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**

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 Health & Medicine 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:

*John Curtin School of Medical Research*

*College of Health & Medicine*

*Email: [jcsmr.hdr.sa@anu.edu.au](mailto:jcsmr.hdr.sa@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**

ANU Research Award Rules - <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2013L00564>

ANU Overpayments Procedure – [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_000599](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_000599)

ANU Academic Misconduct Rules - <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01785>

ANU Discipline Rules - <https://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01792>

Thesis Allowance Requirements - <http://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/assessments-exams/theses-reimbursement>

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