

# Research Training Program Scholarship Policy

## Section 1 - Introduction

- (1) The Australian Catholic University, henceforth 'ACU' or 'the University', offers Research Training Program Scholarships to support both domestic and overseas students undertaking a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree, as defined in the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#), and outlined by ACU's Higher Degree Research Graduate Attributes and Learning Outcomes.
- (2) The Research Training Program, henceforth 'the RTP', is funded by the Australian Government.
- (3) The RTP replaces the Research Training Scheme, and Australian Postgraduate Award and International Postgraduate Research Scholarship programs.
- (4) The ACU RTP Scholarship Policy has been developed in accordance with the [Higher Education Support \(Commonwealth Scholarships\) Guidelines 2025](#) and should be read in conjunction with the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#).
- (5) There are three RTP Scholarships: RTP Fees Offset, RTP Stipend, and RTP Allowance.
- (6) In accordance with section 1.6.30 of the [Higher Education Support \(Commonwealth Scholarships\) Guidelines 2025](#), ACU may expend up to a maximum of 10 per cent of its total RTP grant on the provision of RTP Scholarships to overseas students.

## Section 2 - RTP Fees Offset Scholarships

### Purpose

- (7) An RTP Fees Offset Scholarship pays for the tuition fees of a student enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree that would otherwise be payable by the student.

### Eligibility

- (8) To be eligible for an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship, the following criteria must be met:
- a student must be a domestic student or an overseas student enrolled in an accredited research higher degree at ACU; and
  - a student must not be in receipt of an equivalent award or scholarship from the Commonwealth designed to offset research higher degree fees.

### Offer Process

- (9) The University will offer an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship to all domestic students, as follows:

- a. Research Doctorate degrees, for three years at a full-time student load or six years at a part-time student load; and
- b. Research Masters degrees, excluding the Master of Theology (Research), for two years at a full-time student load or four years at a part-time student load.

(10) The University may offer an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship to overseas students who are awarded an RTP Stipend Scholarship.

(11) A student who has already undertaken study towards a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree, at either ACU or another Higher Education Provider, prior to the commencement of the RTP Fees Offset Scholarship, will have that period of study deducted from the duration of the scholarship, as specified in clause (9) of this Policy, unless more than three years have lapsed since the student was last enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree.

(12) A student will be offered an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship in writing and will be required to accept the offer in writing within the timeframe specified in the letter of offer. The offer will include the period of support of the RTP Fees Offset Scholarship, a copy of the [Research Training Program Scholarship Policy](#), and the estimated annual value of Australian Government support for the scholarship.

## **Suspension**

(13) A student in receipt of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship may apply to the Faculty Associate Dean, Research for a suspension of the scholarship, as follows:

- a. Research Doctorate degrees, for a maximum of 12 months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of 24 months at a part-time student load; and
- b. Research Masters degrees, for a maximum of six months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of 12 months at a part-time student load.

(14) The application for a suspension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

(15) Approval of a suspension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship is at the discretion of the Faculty Associate Dean, Research.

(16) A student in receipt of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship who has exceeded the suspension provisions in clause (13) of this Policy, may, in exceptional circumstances, apply to the Director, Graduate Research School for a further suspension of the scholarship, as follows:

- a. Research Doctorate degrees, for a maximum of six months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of 12 months at a part-time student load; and
- b. Research Masters degrees, for a maximum of three months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of six months at a part-time student load.

(17) The application for a further suspension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#))

(18) Approval of the further suspension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship is at the discretion of the Director, Graduate Research School, subject to their being satisfied that the exceptional circumstances are beyond the control of the student and warrant a further suspension of the scholarship.

(19) Any approved periods of suspension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship will not contribute to the period of support

provided by the RTP Fees Offset Scholarship.

(20) A student on an approved suspension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship is not entitled to supervision or the use of any University facilities or resources for the duration of the suspension.

(21) A student on an approved suspension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship must resume their RTP Fees Offset Scholarship the working day following the expiry of the suspension, in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

## **Extension**

(22) A student in receipt of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship and who is enrolled in a Research Doctorate Degree may apply to the Director, Graduate Research School for an extension of the scholarship for a maximum of 12 months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of 24 months at a part-time student load.

(23) The application for an extension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

(24) Approval of an extension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship is at the discretion of the Director, Graduate Research School, subject to them being satisfied that the student will submit their thesis for examination prior to the expiry of the extension.

(25) A student enrolled in a Research Masters degree is not entitled to an extension of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship.

## **Expiry**

(26) A student who reaches the maximum duration of their RTP Fees Offset Scholarship, either as stated in the letter of offer or following an approved suspension or extension of the scholarship, and has not submitted their thesis for examination, will be required to either withdraw from ACU or pay tuition fees for the remainder of their candidature (refer to the [ACU Tuition Fee Schedule](#)).

(27) A student who withdraws may be eligible to have their enrolment reinstated at a later date (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#) and clause (11) of this Policy).

## **Paid Employment**

(28) A student in receipt of a RTP Fees Offset Scholarship at a full-time student load is expected to work on their research project for approximately 40 hours per week and may undertake only a limited amount of part-time employment.

(29) Part-time employment must not interfere with the student's research project or academic progress and will not be accepted as an explanation for progress deemed unsatisfactory.

(30) Part-time employment arrangements must be discussed and agreed with the student's principal supervisor prior to the employment commencing, or at the time of enrolment.

(31) A student in receipt of a RTP Fees Offset Scholarship at a part-time student load is expected to work on their research project for approximately 20 hours per week.

(32) Employment that conflicts with supervision arrangements, research integrity obligations, or university policies (for example, conflicts of interest) may be refused.

# Section 3 - RTP Stipend Scholarships

## Purpose

(33) An RTP Stipend Scholarship assists students with general living costs while undertaking a Higher Degree by Research.

## Eligibility

(34) To be eligible for an RTP Stipend Scholarship, the following criteria must be met:

- a. a student must be a domestic student or an overseas student enrolled in an accredited research higher degree at ACU.

## Application Process

(35) RTP Stipend Scholarships will be offered at least once a year and will be advertised on the ACU website and in other media, as appropriate.

(36) A link to the [Research Training Program Scholarship Policy](#) will be included in all RTP Stipend Scholarship advertisements.

(37) Applications for RTP Stipend Scholarships must be made on the relevant ACU application form and received by the University no later than the deadline published in the scholarship advertisement.

(38) The University reserves the right not to consider incomplete or late applications.

## Selection Process

(39) The University will select RTP Stipend Scholarship recipients using a competitive selection process.

(40) Applications will be assessed and ranked by a Stipend Scholarship Assessment Panel approved by the Director, Graduate Research School or Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) (DVCRE).

(41) In awarding RTP Stipend Scholarships, the University will give priority to:

- a. applicants whose proposed field of research aligns with the research priorities as identified in the University's strategic plan and / or with existing or emerging research strengths of the University as designated by the Director, Graduate Research School or Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise);
- b. applicants whose proposed research can be supported by the University's research environment including supervision and infrastructure;
- c. applicants who are Indigenous Australians;
- d. applicants who have applied for doctoral level study and who have completed at least four years of full-time equivalent tertiary study and obtained first class honours or equivalent results such as high-quality academic publications and / or relevant work experience equating to first class honours; and
- e. applicants who have not previously undertaken doctoral level study.

(42) Applicants will also be assessed and ranked based on academic merit as evidenced by:

- a. their academic qualifications; and
- b. the strength of the research proposal submitted with the application; and
- c. the referee reports received by the University.

## Offer Process

(43) A student will be offered an RTP Stipend Scholarship in writing and will be required to accept the offer in writing within the timeframe specified in the letter of offer. The offer will include the period of support of the RTP Stipend Scholarship, a copy of the [Research Training Program Scholarship Policy](#), and the annual value of Australian Government support for the scholarship.

## Duration

(44) An RTP Stipend Scholarship will have a duration of three years for students enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree at a full-time student load.

(45) An RTP Stipend Scholarship will have a duration of two years for students enrolled in a Research Masters degree at a full-time student load;

(46) If an RTP Stipend Scholarship recipient is enrolled at a part-time student load, the duration of the scholarship will be double the duration specified in clauses (43) and (44) of this Policy.

(47) A student who has already undertaken study towards a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree, prior to the commencement of the RTP Stipend Scholarship, will have that period of study deducted from the duration of the scholarship.

(48) The total duration of an RTP Stipend Scholarship, including approved extensions (refer clauses (69) to (72) of this Policy), approved paid additional sick leave (refer clauses (81) to (88) of this Policy) and approved paid parental leave (refer clauses (89) to (95) of this Policy) cannot exceed the maximum period of support stipulated in the [Higher Education Support \(Commonwealth Scholarships\) Guidelines 2025](#), clause 1.6.5).

## Stipend

(49) The RTP Stipend Scholarship base rate is determined annually by the Department of Education (DoE).

(50) A student who is awarded an RTP Stipend Scholarship and who is enrolled at a full-time student load will receive a stipend as per the DoE RTP base rate per annum.

(51) A student who is awarded an RTP Stipend Scholarship and who is enrolled at a part-time student load will receive a stipend at a rate that is 50 per cent of the DoE RTP base rate per annum.

(52) The RTP base stipend rate for any subsequent year is the same as the RTP stipend rate for the preceding year, indexed in accordance with Australian Government policy.

(53) The University reserves the right to award stipend top-ups. Such top-ups are in addition to the DoE RTP Stipend base rate, are non-indexed and may be from sources of funding other than RTP.

(54) A student who is awarded a top-up will be advised in writing.

(55) The University will pay a student their RTP stipend in proportion to the period in which the student has been supported with an RTP Stipend Scholarship.

(56) The University will make fortnightly payments directly to a student in respect of their RTP Stipend Scholarship. Payment into an account in the student's name with an Australian ADI is considered to be payment directly to the student.

(57) If a student in receipt of a RTP Stipend Scholarship notifies the University of an underpayment, the University will make a corrected payment to the student normally within two working days. By mutual agreement, in writing,

between the student and the University, such payment may be made not later than the pay day for the next stipend pay period.

(58) An overpayment to a student in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship shall normally be recovered at the rate the overpayment was made and shall normally be rectified within the financial year that the overpayment occurred.

(59) Subject to clause (57) of this Policy, the student shall have the right to negotiate the rate of repayment provided that the rate shall normally be not less than 10% of the total payment per fortnight until the overpayment has been fully recovered.

(60) Subject to clause (57) of this Policy, no recovery action of an overpayment shall commence until the student has been advised, in writing, by the University as to the circumstances surrounding the overpayment.

(61) If a student receives an overpayment of their stipend and their candidature ends, the University retains the right to recover any overpayment owing.

## **Suspension**

(62) A student in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship may apply to the University for a suspension of the scholarship, for a maximum of 12 months at a full-time student load, or a maximum of 24 months at a part-time student load.

(63) The application for a suspension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

(64) A student in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship who has exceeded the suspension provisions in clause (61) above, may, in exceptional circumstances, apply to the Director, Graduate Research School for a further suspension of the scholarship, for a maximum of six months at a full-time student load or a maximum of 12 months at a part-time student load.

(65) The application for a further suspension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

(66) Approval of the further suspension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship is at the discretion of the Director, Graduate Research School, subject to them being satisfied that the exceptional circumstances are beyond the control of the student and warrant a further suspension of the scholarship.

(67) Any approved periods of suspension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship will not contribute to the period of support provided by the RTP Stipend Scholarship.

(68) A student on an approved suspension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship is not entitled to supervision or the use of any University facilities or resources for the duration of the suspension.

(69) A student on an approved suspension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship must resume their RTP Stipend Scholarship the working day following the expiry of the suspension, in accordance with ACU's procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

## **Extension**

(70) A student who is enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree and who is in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship may apply to the Director, Graduate Research School for an extension of the scholarship, for a maximum of 12 months at a full-time student load or for a maximum of 24 months at a part-time student load.

(71) The application for an extension must be made in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree](#)

[Research Policy](#)).

(72) Approval of an extension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship is at the discretion of the Director, Graduate Research School, subject to them being satisfied that the student will submit their thesis for examination prior to the expiry of the extension.

(73) A student who is enrolled in a Research Masters degree is not entitled to an extension of an RTP Stipend Scholarship.

### **Paid Employment**

(74) A student in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship at a full-time student load is expected to work on their research project for approximately 40 hours per week and may undertake only a limited amount of part-time employment.

(75) Part-time employment must not interfere with the student's research project or academic progress and will not be accepted as an explanation for progress deemed unsatisfactory.

(76) Part-time employment arrangements must be discussed and agreed with the student's principal supervisor prior to the employment commencing, or at the time of enrolment.

(77) A student in receipt of an RTP Stipend Scholarship at a part-time student load is subject to the paid employment requirements outlined in clauses (74) and (75) of this Policy.

(78) Employment that conflicts with supervision arrangements, research integrity obligations, or university policies (for example, conflicts of interest) may be refused.

### **RTP Stipend Holder Leave Entitlements**

(79) an RTP recipient has transferred to ACU from another University and has accessed leave under the leave entitlements set by the Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines in a calendar year, ACU may deduct the amount of leave accessed by the student from the leave entitlements it must provide for that calendar year.

### **Paid Annual / Recreational Leave**

(80) A student enrolled on a full-time basis is entitled to receive up to 20 working days' paid recreation / annual leave for each year of the RTP Stipend. This entitlement is pro rata for students enrolled on a part-time basis (i.e 10 working days).

(81) This leave entitlement will accrue over the duration of the scholarship but will be forfeited when the RTP Stipend Scholarship expires or is terminated.

(82) Paid Annual / recreation leave should be agreed with and recorded by the Principal Supervisor.

(83) Paid Annual / recreational leave does not alter the student's RTP Stipend Scholarship end date.

### **Paid Sick Leave and Paid Additional Sick Leave**

(84) A student enrolled on a full-time basis is entitled to receive up to 10 working days' paid sick leave for each year of the RTP Stipend. This entitlement is pro rata for students enrolled on a part-time basis (i.e. 5 working days).

(85) The above leave entitlement will accrue over the duration of the scholarship but will be forfeited when the RTP Stipend Scholarship expires or is terminated.

(86) Paid Sick leave as outlined in clause (81) of this Policy, should be agreed with and recorded by the Principal

Supervisor.

(87) Paid Sick leave as outlined in clause (81) of this Policy, does not alter the student's RTP Stipend Scholarship end date.

(88) An RTP Stipend Scholarship recipient is entitled to receive paid additional sick leave of up to a total of 12 weeks at full-time enrolment or 24 weeks at part-time enrolment over the duration of the RTP Stipend Scholarship for periods of illness where the student has insufficient sick leave entitlements available under clause (81) of this Policy.

(89) Applications for paid additional sick leave must be per the prescribed process and accompanied by:

- a. a medical certificate from a registered health practitioner; or
- b. a Statutory Declaration to be provided by the candidate to verify they are the primary carer. The Statutory Declaration must clearly outline the circumstances upon which the candidate will be the primary carer including how, and in what way, they will be caring for the child.

(90) The student's period of support for the RTP Stipend Scholarship will be extended by the period of approved paid additional sick leave as outlined in clause (47) of this Policy.

(91) Sick leave entitlements, including paid additional sick leave, may also be used to cover leave for a student with family caring responsibilities.

### **Paid Parental Leave**

(92) Parental leave is the general term that covers the following leave types:

- a. Leave associated with the birth of an infant or the adoption of a pre-school age child;
- b. Leave for partners

(93) Primary carer means the person who has the primary responsibility to care for, or support, the dependent infant or the pre-school age child.

(94) Partner means the partner of the primary carer; the partner may be the spouse, de facto or same-sex partner.

(95) A student who is the primary carer and has received 12 months of full-time RTP Stipend Scholarship support (or 24 months part-time) is entitled to a maximum 20 at full-time enrolment or 40 weeks at part-time enrolment paid parental leave associated with each birth of an infant or adoption of a pre-school age child during the lifetime of the RTP Stipend. The student's period of support for the RTP Stipend Scholarship will be extended by the period of approved paid parental leave (refer clause (47) of this Policy).

(96) A student who is the partner and has received 12 months of full-time RTP Stipend Scholarship support (or 24 months part-time), may apply for a maximum of 2 weeks at full-time enrolment or 4 weeks at part-time enrolment paid parental leave associated with the birth of an infant or adoption of a pre-school age child during the lifetime of the RTP Stipend. The student's period of support for the RTP Stipend Scholarship will be extended by the period of approved paid parental leave (refer clause (47) of this Policy).

(97) A student's principal supervisor is responsible for approving and recording the leave taken by an RTP Stipend Scholarship recipient within clauses (77) to (83) of this Policy.

### **Family and Domestic Violence Leave**

(98) An RTP Stipend Scholarship recipient is entitled to receive 10 working days of paid family and domestic violence leave for each year the student is in receipt of an RTP Stipend and undertaking a full-time student load, and 5 working

days of paid family and domestic violence leave for each year the student is in receipt of an RTP Stipend and undertaking a part-time student load. This leave entitlement does not accrue over the life of the RTP Stipend and does not roll over to subsequent years.

(99) A student is responsible for seeking approval of leave requests in clauses (89) to (86) and (89) to (94) of this Policy in accordance with clauses (116) and (117) of the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#).

## Section 4 - RTP Allowance Scholarships

### Purpose

(100) An RTP Allowance Scholarship assists with the ancillary costs incurred by a student enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree in undertaking their program of study.

### Eligibility

(101) To be eligible for an RTP Allowance Scholarship a student must be a domestic student or an overseas student enrolled in an accredited research higher degree at ACU.

### Offer Process

(102) The University will offer an RTP Allowance (Thesis) to RTP Stipend Scholarship recipients, as follows:

- a. The RTP Allowance (Thesis) is set at a maximum of \$750 and is a contribution to the photocopying / printing and binding costs of the thesis for submission for examination, and re-examination where relevant, and final submission;
- b. The RTP Allowance (Thesis) is payable upon submission of the completed RTP Allowance (Thesis) form with original receipts attached to the University; and
- c. The RTP Allowance (Thesis) may be claimed only once and no later than three months after the student has been approved for graduation.

(103) The University will offer an RTP Allowance (Overseas Student Health Care Policy) to an overseas student who is awarded an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship and / or an RTP Stipend, the Overseas Student Health Care Policy is to be a 'single policy', unless the Director, Graduate Research School or Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise), at their discretion, approves a 'dual-family policy' or 'multi-family policy'.

(104) The University may offer an RTP Allowance (Relocation) to an overseas student to cover costs of the student's relocation from an overseas country to Australia for the purposes of commencing an HDR program at ACU. Normally the value of the RTP Allowance (Relocation) will be up to \$2,000AUD. At the discretion of the Director, Graduate Research School or Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise), an additional allowance may be approved for students who relocate with dependents.

(105) A student will be offered an RTP Allowance Scholarship in writing and will be required to accept the offer in writing within the timeframe specified in the letter of offer. The offer will include a copy of the [Research Training Program Scholarship Policy](#), as well as the estimated value of Australian Government support for the scholarship.

### Research Support

(106) ACU offers a research support scheme for students enrolled in a Research Doctorate degree or a Research Masters degree. A student should contact their Faculty Associate Dean, Research for details of the scheme, including the application process.

## Section 5 - Termination of an RTP Scholarship

(107) A student will have their RTP Scholarship terminated, as follows:

- a. If the student ceases to meet the eligibility criteria specified in clauses (8), (33) and (97) of this Policy, as appropriate, and other than during a period in which a suspension has been approved; or
- b. on submission of the thesis for examination, or on the death, incapacity or withdrawal of the student; or
- c. if the student fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress; or
- d. if, in the opinion of the Director, Graduate Research School, the course of study is not being carried out in accordance with the offer of the RTP Scholarship; or
- e. if the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise) determines that a student is guilty of research or academic misconduct; or
- f. if the student is found to have provided false or misleading information in their application for an RTP Scholarship; or
- g. if the student does not resume their RTP Scholarship, in accordance with ACU procedures, the working day after their suspension or leave expires, or does not make arrangements to extend the period of suspension or leave; or
- h. if, for an RTP Stipend Scholarship, the student ceases to be enrolled at a full-time student load and has not obtained approval to be enrolled at a part-time student load.

## Section 6 - Changes to the Enrolment of an RTP Scholarship Student

(108) A student who changes the topic and / or field of research of their research project will not have the duration of any RTP Scholarship extended.

(109) A student who transfers from another Higher Education Provider to ACU will have the period of study undertaken at the other Higher Education Provider deducted from the period of any RTP Scholarship.

(110) A student who transfers from ACU to another Higher Education Provider will withdraw from ACU and relinquish any RTP Scholarship provided by ACU prior to enrolling at the other Higher Education Provider.

(111) A student who changes from full-time to part-time study, or from part-time to full-time study, will have the duration of any RTP Scholarship adjusted accordingly (refer to clauses (9) to (12), and (43 to (47) of this Policy).

(112) A student who changes from a Research Masters degree to a Research Doctorate Degree, or from a Research Doctorate Degree to a Research Masters degree, will have the duration of any RTP Scholarship changed to that for the new degree (refer to clauses (9) to (12), and (43 to (47) of this Policy).

## Section 7 - Arrangements for Continuing Students

(113) All Research Doctorate and Research Masters students who were in receipt of an Australian Postgraduate Award, International Postgraduate Research Scholarship and / or Research Training Scheme Scholarship prior to 1 January 2017 ('continuing students') will be offered an RTP Scholarship with equivalent support to that offered under the ceasing programs.

(114) Clauses (26) and (27) of this Policy — that is, expiry of an RTP Fees Offset Scholarship — applies to all continuing students.

## Section 8 - Grievance and Review Procedures

(115) A student in receipt of an RTP Scholarship who wishes to request a review of a decision made in respect of their scholarship, should do so in accordance with clauses (181) to (194) of the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#).

## Section 9 - Provision of Supervision and Facilities

### Supervision

(116) Expectations in respect of supervision are set out in the [Higher Degree Research Supervision Policy](#).

### Facilities

(117) A student in receipt of an RTP Scholarship will be provided access to:

- a. work space, including a chair and desk;
- b. tea room and wash room facilities;
- c. University licensed software on the same basis as academic staff;
- d. data storage facilities; and
- e. if working full-time on campus, telephone, Wi-Fi, photocopier, networked computer, laboratory facilities where relevant, and stationery for the purpose of conducting their research.

(118) Facilities requirements may be met by shared use involving rosters.

(119) Workspaces will be configured in such a way as to comply with confidentiality or other ethical requirements, as appropriate.

(120) Schools and Research Institutes are responsible for the provision of facilities for a student in receipt of an RTP Scholarship.

## Section 10 - Arrangements for Optional Enrichment Activities

(121) A student who undertakes an optional industry placement, research internship, professional practice activity or other similar enrichment activity, as part of their Research Doctorate degree or Research Masters degree, will not have the duration of the RTP Fees Offset Scholarship and / or the RTP Stipend extended, or, the RTP Stipend rate changed.

(122) A student must seek approval to undertake an enrichment activity in accordance with ACU procedures (refer to the [Higher Degree Research Policy](#)).

## Section 11 - Acknowledgement of an RTP Scholarship

(123) A student in receipt of an RTP Scholarship must acknowledge the support provided by the Australian Government when, at any time during or after completion of a Research Doctorate degree or Research Masters degree, they or their supervisors and any other party, publishes or produces material such as books, articles,

newsletters, reports, or other literary or artistic works which relate to the research project carried out by the student.

(124) The Australian Government's contribution must be acknowledged in a prominent place and in an appropriate form. The following form of words must be used: 'This research was supported by the Commonwealth through an Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship [DOI: <https://doi.org/10.82133/C42F-K220>] .' If a candidate in receipt of an RTP Scholarship has an [Open Researcher and Contributor ID](#) (ORCID) profile, they will also need to include the RTP DOI in their profile.

## **Section 12 - Review**

(125) Unless otherwise indicated, this Policy will still apply beyond the review date.

## **Section 13 - Associated Information**

(126) For related legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines and any supporting resources please refer to the Associated Information tab.

## Status and Details

<b>Status</b>	Current
<b>Effective Date</b>	16th March 2026
<b>Review Date</b>	16th March 2028
<b>Approval Authority</b>	Governance Officer
<b>Approval Date</b>	10th March 2026
<b>Expiry Date</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Executive</b>	Abid Khan Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)
<b>Responsible Manager</b>	Michelle Lopez Director, Graduate Research School
<b>Enquiries Contact</b>	Michelle Lopez Director, Graduate Research School <hr/> Research and Enterprise