Applying for a scholarship

The University of Adelaide conducts two rounds of scholarship applications for domestic students, the major round and mid-year round.

The major round closes on 31 October and the mid-year round on 31 May. Around 300 scholarships are offered as part of the major round each year, with a limited number offered during the mid-year round. Applying during the major round is the most effective way to maximise the chances of obtaining a scholarship, as students will be considered for every available scholarship for which they are eligible.

Scholarships not in the major round

Other scholarships will also be available at various times throughout the year and you should visit the University of Adelaide’s website at adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships to see what is available and how to apply.

Funding a scholarship

Opportunities are available to fund scholarships to support students undertaking a higher degree at the University of Adelaide. There are several ways of providing support to students, with full or partial scholarships, supplementary scholarships, fee remission, research maintenance, travel allowances and various other means of support.

One of the University’s most popular schemes is the divisional scholarships. The University provides funding bodies with the ability to support a full-time student for 50% of the usual costs. Under this scheme, the University provides 50% of all costs (living, relocation and thesis allowances) and the funding body provides the other 50% (approximately $15,000 per annum for up to three and a half years).

Contracts can be negotiated under all funding schemes to arrange the distribution of intellectual property, commercial value and any other interests that need to be addressed by both the funding body and the University.

For further information on funding a scholarship at the University of Adelaide please visit adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships/staff/setup-scholarship or contact the Adelaide Graduate Centre. There is currently no fee charged by the University of Adelaide for scholarship administration and all invoicing and financial reporting requirements can usually be met.

Research scholarships

To be considered for domestic research scholarships you must be a citizen or permanent resident of Australia, or a New Zealand citizen. All other applicants are considered as international applicants and should refer to the international student website at adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships/research-international

The University offers over 300 new living allowance scholarships annually to domestic students. It attracts a high level of research funding from a wide variety of external sources that provide both new scholarship opportunities and essential research infrastructure.

Scholarship values range from a minimum of $22,000 tax-free per annum (2017 full-time rate) up to around $35,000 tax-free per annum and many scholarships provide additional funds to support your research. Scholarship tenure is normally up to three years for a PhD or two years for a masters degree by research. For those undertaking a PhD there is the possibility of a six month extension upon application. There are no extensions to masters scholarships.

Some scholarships are listed in this brochure, however, for details of all available scholarships, the full conditions of awards and comprehensive information on scholarship benefits, please visit adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships

Applying during the major round is the most effective way to maximise the chances of obtaining a scholarship.
Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarships (RTPS)

RTPS are provided by the Australian federal government and offer a tax-free living allowance valued at $26,682 per annum (2017 full-time rate).

These scholarships are open to students in any school within the University. The only way to be considered for a RTPS is to apply as part of either the major round or the mid-year round (note RTPS are not always available in the mid-year round – check the Adelaide Graduate Centre website before applying). The University usually offers approximately 140 of these awards each year.

University of Adelaide Divisional scholarships

Divisional scholarships are provided on a shared funding basis, with 50% of the funds coming from the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Research) and 50% coming from another source. They offer the same value and benefits as a RTPS, however these scholarships are only available to students commencing a higher degree by research. While there is no prescribed closing date for these scholarships, the majority are offered as part of the major and mid-year rounds and applicants are strongly encouraged to apply in this way. The University offers approximately 150 of these awards each year.

Master of Philosophy (No Honours) scholarships

Master of Philosophy (No Honours) scholarships are usually only provided in the major round however may be offered in the mid-year round. These scholarships offer a living allowance valued at $22,000 per annum (2017 full-time rate) and are open to applicants who have completed a bachelor degree attaining a GPA of 6.0 and above, and who do not hold an honours degree or other postgraduate qualification. The University usually offers approximately 15 of these awards each year.

ARC Linkage Project scholarships

Academic staff members in conjunction with an industry partner are able to apply for Linkage Project grant funding via the Australian Research Council (ARC). Part of this funding can be used to offer PhD scholarships called ARC Linkage Project scholarships. The awards are advertised on the University’s scholarships website, in its publication the Adelaidean, and on occasion in the national newspaper The Australian. Students who apply as part of the major round may also be considered for these scholarships without advertisement. The scholarships are aligned with a specified research project. They offer a tax-free living allowance, the value of which is dependent on the year of award of the linkage project (eg $32,032 per annum, 2017 full-time rate).

The Frederick James Sandoz Scholarship

The scholarship is named in memory of the late Frederick James Sandoz who was born at Kent Town, Adelaide in 1888 and died in 1956. Mr Sandoz spent most of his professional career in the production and manufacture of dairy products and their marketing in Australia, Asia and the Pacific Islands. His recreational interests were in the environment, the breeding of birds and animal welfare. The scholarship is available as income permits to students undertaking science based research towards the completion of a PhD, either pure or applied science in any field preferably, but not essentially, in any of the areas of conservation, the environment, animal welfare, dairy science or food technology. The scholarship is valued at 10% above the level of a RTPS. Applicants in the major round are automatically considered for this award.

The Commonwealth Hill Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship is to assist students to undertake a higher degree in the field of agricultural science. The terms and conditions are similar to those of the RTPS, however the relevance of the applicant’s research topic is considered when deeming eligibility. The awards are offered on a three yearly basis and are valued at $27,500 per annum. Applicants in the major round are automatically considered for this award.

The University of Adelaide has a long tradition of exemplary scholarship and ground breaking research.
The Charles John Everard Scholarship
The Charles John Everard Scholarship is available as income permits to students undertaking research towards a PhD in the field of agricultural or horticultural sciences. The scholarship may be offered as a major valued at 10% above the RTPS rate or as a supplementary scholarship (rate dependent on income). Applicants in the major round are automatically considered for this award.

Joyner Scholarships
The Joyner Scholarships are offered at all three South Australian universities (provided appropriate disciplines are available). The information given here is only relevant to applicants pursuing a higher degree through the University of Adelaide. The scholarships are separated into three distinct research areas and applicants in the major round are automatically considered for the relevant award.

MF and MH Joyner Scholarship in Medicine
When applying in the major round the top ranking students in a health sciences discipline will be considered for this award. It is valued at 10% above the NHMRC medical research scholarship rate for medicine graduates or 10% above the current RTPS rate for students with degrees in other health sciences disciplines.

FA and MF Joyner Scholarship in Law
When applying in the major round the top ranking students in law will be automatically considered for this award. It is valued at 10% above the current RTPS rate.

MF and MH Joyner Scholarship in Science
When applying in the major round the top ranking students in a science discipline will be automatically considered for this award. It is valued at 10% above the current RTPS rate.

Scholarships funded from other sources
The University offers more than 100 scholarships from various sources each year. These may be funded by Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs), the Australian Research Council (ARC), industry, research and development organisations, benefactors, research foundations and trusts, grants, bequests and other nationally competitive scholarship schemes. The application process can be specific to the scholarship, however students maximise their chances of being offered a scholarship from any source by applying in the major round.

George and Constance Fraser Supplementary Scholarships
The George and Constance Fraser Supplementary Scholarships are awarded to the highest ranked applicants for a RTPS who are not in receipt of an award or scholarship of equal or greater value. The George Fraser Scholarship is awarded to the highest ranked student with an Honours qualification and the Constance Fraser Scholarship is awarded to the highest ranked student with a Masters qualification. The value of the awards are equivalent to the difference between a RTPS and an ARC linkage project scholarships, ie $5,350 per annum (2017 full-time rate). The terms and conditions are similar to RTPS. Applicants in the major round are automatically considered for these awards.

Supplementary scholarships
Supplementary scholarships are available to support work in particular areas. Many research centres or discipline areas offer supplementary scholarships. To find out more you should contact the area in which you wish to study.

The University of Adelaide provides a learning environment where teachers are also active researchers who are among the best in their fields.
Baillieu Supplementary Scholarship
These scholarships are open to University of Adelaide graduates who commence as a full-time higher degree research candidate at the University of Adelaide in the fields of medicine, law, commerce, economics or architecture. All major round applicants are automatically considered for these awards.
The scholarship is intended to supplement a major scholarship held by the recipient. The value of the award is $10,000 tax-free per annum held with the concurrent major scholarship, up to a maximum of three years.
Terms and conditions, including leave and allowances, are in line with the terms and conditions of the major award held. The scholarships are not transferable to any other institution.

Konig Bequest Supplementary Scholarship
This scholarship is funded by a bequest made to the University of Adelaide by the late Julia Nora Konig. It is awarded to the top ranking Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who applies for a RTPS.
The value of the award is $6,000 tax-free per annum held for the duration of the concurrent major scholarship. Terms and conditions, including leave and allowances, are in line with the terms and conditions of the major award held. The scholarships are not transferable to any other institution.

The Norman and Patricia Polglase Scholarship
Students undertaking science based research in any field within the Faculty of Sciences will be considered as part of the major round of applications. The value of the scholarship is $6,000 per annum (tax-free) and conditions will be aligned with the recipient’s major award.

How to apply
adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships/research
The University of Adelaide uses an online system for all domestic higher degree by research admission and scholarship applications.
The dynamic online form will guide you through the application process and you may save and return to edit your application as many times as you need to before finalising and submitting it as long as this is within the opening times of the round you are applying in.
After the form has been submitted, you will receive a notification page and email detailing any documents that are required to complete your application.
Unless otherwise directed you should always complete the online application form available and provide all documentation as requested.

Studying at Adelaide
Studying at the University of Adelaide means being part of a rich tradition of excellence in education and research, with world-class academic staff, a vibrant student life and access to exceptional research facilities. Our unique relationship with industry and other organisations ensures that our research expertise is translated into tangible benefits for the global community.
Adelaide’s research is at the leading edge of knowledge, with research earnings consistently the highest per capita of any university in Australia. Our high research earnings ensure the continuation of an excellent scholarships scheme, enabling us to support the majority of our research students with living allowance scholarships.
An innovative and forward-looking university, Adelaide has major strengths in many areas including, but not limited to, agriculture, environment, mineral and energy resources, social innovation, health and biomedical sciences, sensing and computation, arts and culture, and fundamental disciplines.
At the heart of the University’s vision, achievement and impact is our commitment to excellence, our sense that a focus on the experience of the student is fundamental, and our belief that research intensity and innovative, high quality teaching have a symbiotic relationship that underpins and characterises the finest universities in the world.
We are committed to producing graduates recognised worldwide for their creativity, knowledge and skills, as well as their culture and tolerance.
For the most up to date information on scholarships at the University of Adelaide please visit: adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships
As a member of the prestigious Group of Eight universities, we are among Australia’s leading research institutions and in the top 1% of universities worldwide.