

## PhD Scholarships 2021 Advice to Applicants

This document provides information about the application process, eligibility and the conditions of applying for a TPCH Foundation PhD Scholarship.

**Applicants must discuss their interest in this program prior to submission.** Further information can be obtained from Dr Stephanie Yerkovich, Research Development Manager, by emailing [Stephanie.Yerkovich@tpchfoundation.org.au](mailto:Stephanie.Yerkovich@tpchfoundation.org.au).

### General information

1. TPCH Foundation PhD Scholarships have been developed to support educational academic research and high-quality research training at TPCH, or in significant partnership with TPCH and its associated community programs.
2. Only universities can confer PhD degrees. The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation is not awarding a degree. TPCH Foundation's PhD scholarship award is for financial assistance to support an individual undertaking a PhD degree at a recognised Australian university.
3. Applicants may apply for a TPCH Foundation PhD Scholarship either before or any time during their candidature. If the student is already enrolled, the length of the scholarship will be determined based on the time the student has already completed.
4. Scholarships are only available to students enrolled full-time.
5. The PhD Scholarship will be provided for a maximum of 3 years, with any extensions dealt with on a case by case basis. The continuation of the PhD Scholarship is dependent on remaining enrolled and successfully completing any milestones as set out by the awarding University.
6. Access to Scholarship funds will not be provided until all Institutional approvals, including PhD enrolment, have been received.
7. Applicants must adhere to the higher research degree program and any alterations including extended leave must be requested in writing for approval by the Foundation. The Foundation must be notified of changes to PhD degree enrolment circumstances prior to or during the Scholarship period, particularly if this will affect the applicant being able to complete their PhD. The Foundation reserves the right to review the applicant's Scholarship in view of these changes and terminate the Scholarship if this is deemed appropriate.
8. The scholarship will be valued at \$28,597 per annum (2021 stipend rate).

### Obligations of awardees

The ability of TPCH Foundation to support research is dependent on our ability to raise funds through donations. Therefore, the ability to engage with potential donors is critical to our success, and it is a condition of accepting the grant that recipients will include TPCH Foundation in any publicity surrounding the research. In addition, TPCH grant recipients will be expected to provide regular research updates and may be called upon to participate in promotional activities.

PhD Scholarship holders are also expected to disseminate their results through the normal scientific channels and the support of TPCH Foundation must be acknowledged in any publications, media or presentations.

### **Eligibility**

1. Projects will be considered only if the work is being undertaken at, or in significant association with, TPCH campus and/or a TPCH community-based service.
2. Be assessed by the Graduate School of the awarding University as meeting all the criteria for admission to a research higher degree PhD program.
3. Be enrolled, or soon to be enrolled, full-time in a PhD program at an Australian University.
4. Applicants must discuss their interest prior to applying to ensure alignment with the goals and aims of TPCH Foundation.

### **Application submission**

1. Applications will only be accepted online through the Smarty Grants portal <https://tpchfoundation.smartygrants.com.au/> and must be submitted by 12pm on the due date.
2. Late applications will not be accepted.

### **Application process and assessment**

The applications will be assessed by an independent research panel convened by TPCH Foundation. TPCH Foundation will review applications for eligibility, completeness and for alignment to TPCH. Applications that do not meet these requirements will not be assessed further.

Applications for a PhD Scholarship will be assessed on

1. Relevance to TPCH ie link between academic research and clinical benefit in a specialist area relevant to the work of the hospital
2. Demonstration of academic ability
3. Clearly stated aims, objectives and potential outcomes of the research

### **Reporting requirements**

PhD Scholarship holders are required to submit six monthly progress reports (or milestone documents) and confirmation of milestone attainment to the Foundation. It is the responsibility of the scholarship holder to submit these in a timely manner. Failure to submit a progress report will result in the applicant being ineligible for future funding from TPCH Foundation.

### **Conditions of application**

1. Applicants authorise The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation to make any enquiries it considers necessary in relation to the proposed research project.

### **Key Dates**

PhD Scholarships open – 08 December 2020

PhD Scholarships close – 22 January 2021

Applicants notified of the outcome – late February 2021