

PhD Scholarships 2024 Advice to Applicants

This document provides information about the application process, eligibility, and the conditions of applying for The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) Foundation PhD Scholarships.

Further information can be obtained from Dr Megan Grace, Research Manager, by emailing Megan.Grace@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. TPCH 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 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 available to students enrolled full-time or part-time. Part-time students must demonstrate that they meet all requirements for enrolment with their nominated academic institution.
5. The PhD Scholarship will be provided for a maximum of 3 years full time, or the equivalent pro-rata if part-time. Any extension requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Continuation of the PhD Scholarship is dependent on remaining enrolled and successfully completing 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. Applications addressing one or more of the Foundation's priority areas of heart, lung, mental health, and ageing will be highly regarded. However, high-quality applications addressing other health issues relevant to the Foundation's mission to "help people live healthier for longer" will also be considered for funding.



9. The scholarship will be valued at \$33,641 per annum (full time 2024 stipend rate), or the equivalent pro-rata rate, indexed to CPI.

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. The applicant must be assessed by the Graduate School of the administering University as meeting all the criteria for admission to a research higher degree PhD program.
3. The applicant must be enrolled, or soon to be enrolled, in a PhD program at an Australian University.

Application submission

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

Application assessment

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

PhD Scholarship applications will be assessed on:

1. Relevance to TPCH: link between academic research and clinical benefit in a specialist area relevant to the work of the hospital (10%)
2. Research Project: clearly stated hypothesis, aims, objectives and potential outcomes, project design, feasibility (40%)
3. Demonstration of academic ability (30%)
4. Research Environment and Opportunities: mentoring and support provided, collaboration opportunities (20%)

Obligations of awardees

It is a condition of accepting the grant that recipients will include TPCH Foundation in any publicity surrounding the research. In addition, TPCH Foundation grant recipients will be expected to provide regular research updates and may be called upon to participate in promotional activities.

PhD Scholarship holders are 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.

Reporting requirements

PhD Scholarship holders are required to submit six-monthly progress reports to the Foundation, in which the recipient will be asked to outline recent achievements and provide confirmation of milestone attainment. 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

- Applicants authorise The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation to make any enquiries it considers necessary in relation to the proposed research project.
- The applicant agrees to abide by The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation policies and procedures.

Key Dates

PhD Scholarships open – 8 January 2023

PhD Scholarships close – 19 February 2023

Applicants notified of the outcome – March/April 2023