

Sponsor a Student Project

Research Leadership

Sponsor a Student Research Project



The WaterRA Research Leadership Program (RLP) transforms water industry businesses through professional development opportunities to enhance skills, knowledge and training of water professionals at all stages of their professional career.

Central to our program is the opportunity for organisations to sponsor a student research project.

Sponsoring student research projects creates invaluable partnerships and relationships across research and industry, allowing industry organisations to connect with the next generation of high-calibre research leaders who work within the business to solve focused and, organisation-specific challenges.

Student research projects undertaken by PhD, Masters and Honours researchers provide an alternative, cost-effective solution to challenges facing industry today, helping to rapidly unlock organisational innovation, capability, capacity, and skills.

Sponsoring student research projects also enhances professional development - offering vital networking, mentorship and professional support opportunities, all of which assist in creating well-rounded, industry-ready graduates.

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Step 1	Submit Project Initiation form	This form identifies the project topic, the sponsor and the university and student if known. (See Step 2). If university or student are not known, the Research Capability Manager can assist in connecting you
Step 2	Letter of Commitment (LoC)	A draft LoC is sent to the Sponsor for comment and negotiation confirming the funding commitment, project plan, intellectual property ownership (shared) and payment schedule. A final LoC is issued for execution between the Sponsor and WaterRA.
Step 3	Student to submit Application form	The Student Application form is to be submitted by the student before the university due date for primary scholarships. This form provides the student details and background experience. It can be submitted with the Project Initiation form or follow separately. WaterRA can assist the sponsor in finding a student to undertake the project if required. The student must apply for a primary scholarship via the university process by the university due date unless other arrangements have been agreed to for primary scholarship. <i>Check the university website for the due dates as these are now quite varied. Honours and Masters students are not required to secure a primary scholarship.</i>
Step 4	Research Leadership Program Advisory Committee (RLPAC)	To ensure governance and due diligence, the application is assessed and shortlisted by the RLPAC. This practice is to ensure the project is robust, with background resources to support the student and that the student has the right experience/skill set and/or degree to undertake the project.
Step 5	Outcomes announced	All students approved by the RLPAC will be awarded relevant scholarship. Successful applicants will be considered for the WaterRA Memorial scholarships. The <u>Michael R Moore Memorial Honours scholarship</u> is merit selected and awarded. All shortlisted candidates for the <u>Nancy Millis Memorial PhD scholarship</u> will be invited to an interview.
Step 6	Student Agreement (RASP)	Enter into negotiation of the Research Agreement for Student Project (RASP). This Agreement is signed by WaterRA, the University and the student. A final RASP is executed.

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Scholarship packages	PhD	Masters by Research	Masters by Coursework	Honours
Cost	\$39,000	\$29,000	\$17,000	\$17,000
Period	3 years	2 years	1 year	1 year
Stipend	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$7,000	\$7,000
Operating allowance	\$10,000	\$7,500	\$3,000	\$3,000
Conference support	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Professional Development & Knowledge Transfer Activities	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Conference support	National and international	National	National	National
Support	Mentor	Mentor	-	-
Management Fee	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$ 1,500	\$1,500

For more information or clarification about any information in this guide, please contact Water Research Australia's Research Capability and Leadership Branch:

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