

Research Higher Degree Student Grants

AIMS:

The DSI RHD Student Grants mechanism primarily supports the DSI mission of *assisting and enhancing defence-relevant research engagement between universities, industry, DST Group and Defence organisations.*

Specifically, the Grants aim to:

- ▶ develop research linkages between universities and DST Group and Defence sector business;
- ▶ support capacity building in research areas where Defence has an interest;
- ▶ promote new Defence-related research linkages between universities;

by providing stipend support for students undertaking their RHD on Defence-related projects and/or undertaking Defence-industry placements as part of their study.

NATURE OF THE GRANT:

The grant is to provide partial stipend support for RHD students working on collaborative, defence-relative projects.

The grant shall be awarded to the primary supervisor of the student for payment by the enrolling institution as living stipend:

- ▶ \$15,000 payable in two instalments
 1. \$5,000 on enrolment or execution of the grant agreement, whichever is the latter
 2. \$10,000 on confirmation

Grants will be awarded for proposed RHD projects where a student has not yet been identified as well as those where a student is enrolled, subject to the conditions below.

It is expected that the following number of grants will be available for awarding:

2015 – 3

2016 – 9

2017 - 8

ELIGIBILITY:

- ▶ DSI RHD Support Grants are open to academic staff of DSI Participating Universities.
- ▶ The research project must be defence-relevant and aligned to the themes of the DSI. Projects can be undertaken within any discipline provided it can demonstrate alignment to the themes. Multi-discipline projects are encouraged.
- ▶ For security purposes, the student must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- ▶ The student must have at least one co-supervisor (formal or informal as part of a collaboration) at either an industry partner, the DST Group or another university. Projects which do not have an external collaborator or supervisor will not be considered.
- ▶ The project must be substantially based, and the student enrolled in a Victorian university.
- ▶ Employees of DST Group are **NOT** eligible for support as students on these projects.
- ▶ Where the grant will support a student who has already commenced on the project they must be within 3 months of commencement at the time of application.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Applications for funding will be assessed by the DSI Research Leaders Forum against the following selection criteria:

- ▶ Defence relevance of RHD project
- ▶ Alignment to DSI themes
- ▶ Nature/Strength of collaboration, including opportunities for the student to undertake an industry/DST Group internship as part of their study
- ▶ Home organisation of the co-supervisor/s – preference will be given for co-supervisors in industry or DST Group. Where supervisors are at different universities, preference will be given to new collaborations.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD:

- ▶ Unless already enrolled, the student must commence within 6 months of the execution of the grant agreement. In the event that a suitable student has not been identified and enrolled within this period, the grant will be rescinded.
- ▶ Payment of the first instalment of the grant is conditional upon enrolment of the student.
- ▶ Payment of the second instalment of the grant is conditional upon successful confirmation.
- ▶ The student must conform to the usual requirements of the enrolling university in regards to eligibility, satisfactory progress, research integrity, ethics and other related matters.
- ▶ During the course of their enrolment, the student must attend the DSI Annual Symposium/Conference.
- ▶ The supervisor must provide annual reports regarding the student's progress on the project
- ▶ Copies of any research publications arising from the project must be provided to DSI (excluding the thesis) and DSI support must be acknowledged within the publication.
- ▶ On submission of the thesis a short lay abstract, suitable for website or newsletter publishing must be supplied to DSI.

APPLYING FOR THE AWARD:

- ▶ Applications will be accepted at any time from Oct 2016 - Sept 2017. However as funds for each year are limited, applicants are encouraged to submit early.
- ▶ Applications are to be submitted by the primary supervisor and must be endorsed by the external co-supervisor/s.
- ▶ 2016 onward : Submit actual application online via DSI Grant portal (Link for 2017 RHD Student Program will be available in the week commencing Oct 17th).
- ▶ Please quote submission ID in all correspondence with DSI.