Higher Degree by Research

Scholarship

Advice for Applicants

Graduate Research School
The University of Western Australia
CRICOS Code: 00126G
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Introduction

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is committed to providing postgraduate research scholarships that support the training of domestic and overseas students to undertake a Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) and to deliver graduates with the skills required to build careers in both academic and non-academic employment.

The allocation of scholarship is the outcome of a competitive selection process in which applications are ranked according to academic and research achievements, on the basis of evidence provided.

UWA typically holds two scholarship rounds per year for International applicants and one scholarship round per year for Domestic applicants (incl. UWA International graduates).

The International rounds are typically: February – March; and July – August.

The Domestic round (incl. UWA International graduates) is typically: September – October.

Current scholarship round

The currently open scholarship round is:

- Scholarship Round 1, 2020 - for domestic applicants and UWA international graduates

This round of scholarships is for Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents, New Zealand citizens, and UWA international graduates only.

Applications open from 1 September 2019 until 31 October 2019 for commencement in the first half of 2020.

A full list of scholarships available in this round, is located in Appendix 2.

Key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 1 September 2019</td>
<td>Applications open for Round 1, 2020 of RTP Scholarships, UPAs, and other UWA postgraduate research scholarships in iAthena.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00 WST Thursday 31 October 2019</td>
<td>Online applications close.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00 WST Friday 8 November 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for applicants to submit the Scholarship Application Confirmation, supporting documents and English test results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:00 WST Friday 22 November 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for referee reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before 20 December 2019</td>
<td>Graduate Research School will notify successful and unsuccessful applicants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March 2020</td>
<td>Deadline for recipients to start their HDR, unless a later start date is approved. Offers will lapse if not taken up before 30 June 2020.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- meet the requirements for entry to the nominated degree including satisfying the requirements of the UWA’s Policy on Adequate Research Preparation and English language requirement;
- be currently enrolled, or intend to enroll in a HDR with at least 66% research component, at UWA;
- not expect to receive another equivalent award or scholarship to undertake the proposed study which is greater than 75% of the stipend rate; and
- be available to take up the scholarship if offered, by the advertised date. Special approval may be granted on written application, for a later commencement date for those candidates with unavoidable commitments. However any award or scholarship offered will lapse, if not taken up before the advertised date (see Key dates).

English language requirement:

All applicants to the HDR program, including Australian applicants, must satisfy the requirements for English language competence set down by the Board of the Graduate Research School.

Scholarship applicants need to meet the English language requirement by the scholarship document deadline.

UWA does not accept statements of English proficiency from employers, other tertiary institutions or GRE tests as evidence in meeting the above requirements. UWA does not accept TOEFL "MyBest" scores.

Degrees where the language of instruction is in English are not typically accepted as meeting the English requirement (unless that degree was taken in Australia, United Kingdom, New Zealand or the United States of America).

Selection criteria

Scholarships are awarded by the UWA Higher Degree by Research Scholarships Committee to eligible applicants after a competitive selection process on the basis of:

a) academic achievement as evidenced by their academic record; and
b) research potential based on academic referee reports, relevant research experience and publications, if applicable.

In the competitive selection process, priority may be given to students who are enrolling as internal students in an HDR for the first time, and students who have not:

a) already completed a Research Doctorate or equivalent;
b) already completed a Research Masters degree or equivalent, unless intending to undertake a Research Doctorate;
c) previously held an Australian Postgraduate Award, Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) or an Australian Government-funded Postgraduate Research Award (excluding an IPRS and International RTP) previously, unless it was terminated within six months of the commencement of the benefit;
d) previously been awarded, or currently be in receipt of, a scholarship stipend.
Scholarships are usually awarded to applicants who intend to enrol as full-time internal students based on a campus of UWA, for most or all of their candidature and scholarship tenure. Approval may be given for a part-time award (domestic students only), where an applicant is able to demonstrate compelling social reasons, such as a medical condition or primary care commitments, which would prevent full-time study.

**How to apply**

**Step 1: Contact**

Contact the HDR Pre-candidature Support Office in the relevant Faculty, to confirm your eligibility and that appropriate supervision, facilities, and resources are available for your research. Applicants intending to undertake specialist degrees may be required to fulfil additional admission requirements.

- Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: hdr-fable@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences: hdr-ems@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences: hdr-hms@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Science: hdr-science@uwa.edu.au

**Step 2: Apply**

Scholarship applications at UWA are submitted via the University’s online portal - iAthena.

Detailed system instructions and application requirements are located in Appendix 1.

Once the application is submitted, it is not possible for the applicant to make changes or upload additional documents and your application will be considered on the evidence provided.

**Step 3: Print**

When the application is submitted, the iAthena portal will automatically generate a confirmation document. This document “Scholarship Application Confirmation” must be printed and signed by the applicant. By signing this document, the applicant is agreeing to the declarations outlined in the application. This document needs to be forwarded to the UWA Graduate Research School.

**Step 4: Mail**

The application is not complete and will not be considered until you:

- deliver in person; or
- post by mail; or
- send by courier; or
- use the services of a UWA International Agent* to forward;

the required supporting hardcopy documents to the UWA Graduate Research School.

A hardcopy of the original version and a hardcopy of the English translated version (if applicable) of all documents need to be provided (excl. thesis). These documents need to be certified as true copies by an appropriate authority in your country.
The “Scholarship Application Confirmation” and supporting hardcopy documents need to reach the Graduate Research School by the advertised date (see Key dates). Packets which are postmarked or couriered on or before the deadline may be accepted upon receipt.

* Certified copies of supporting documents emailed by a UWA International Agent directly to UWA are acceptable and in this case, hardcopy documents are not required to be sent.

In the instance, where supporting hardcopy documents have already been received in a previous round, only the Scholarship Application Confirmation is required and this can be signed, scanned and emailed. Do not send original documents.

**Step 5: Check**

Applicants can access iAthena to check the status of their application, via the “**Application status from previous rounds**” field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBMITTED</th>
<th>Application has been submitted; documents not yet received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EVIDENCE RECEIVED</td>
<td>Scholarship Application Confirmation and hardcopy supporting documents received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHECKED</td>
<td>Application and hardcopy supporting documents have been checked by GRS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFEREE REPORT</td>
<td>Once a referee report is received, the date of receipt is recorded. If there is no date recorded, this means that the referee has not yet submitted their report.</td>
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</table>

**Step 6: Results**

Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified at the email address provided (see Key dates).

Successful scholarship applicants will receive an offer for scholarship and candidature. A separate application for candidature is not necessary.

Scholarship applications are applicable at UWA only and remain the property of UWA. Applicants who wish to apply at other Australian universities should seek information from the university concerned.

Scholarships awarded at UWA cannot be taken up at another university.

**Contact and further information**

Email:

- Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: hdr-fable@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Engineering & Mathematical Sciences: hdr-ems@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Health & Medical Sciences: hdr-hms@uwa.edu.au
- Faculty of Science: hdr-science@uwa.edu.au
- International Scholarships: internationalscholarships@uwa.edu.au
- Domestic Scholarships: researchschols@uwa.edu.au
Web:
- English language requirement: study.uwa.edu.au/PG-lang-req
- iAthena: iathena.grs.uwa.edu.au
- UWA International Education Agent: uwa.edu.au/study/International-students/find-an-international-agent
- Referee report for scholarship applicants: word version / fillable pdf version

Address:
Mail/Courier
Graduate Research School
The University of Western Australia
M358, Locked Bag 5005
Perth WA 6009
Australia

Physical
Graduate Research School
The University of Western Australia
Room G13, Hackett Hall
35 Stirling Highway
Perth WA 6009
Australia
iAthena system instructions

1. User registration

If you are currently enrolled at UWA, select **Current UWA Students** and enter your UWA Student Number and UWA Pheme Password.

If you are not currently enrolled at UWA, select **Non-UWA Students and Former UWA Students**. Enter a valid email address. All future correspondence will be sent to this email address.

2. System requirement

It is recommended to use either Chrome, Firefox, or Safari web-browsers. Do not use Internet Explorer.

Do not copy and paste directly from Word, either type directly into the space or paste from a text editor, such as Notepad.

3. Transfer from a previous round

An application from a previous round can be transferred into the current round. Request this via email to your Faculty HDR Support Office. The transferred application will include all uploaded documents and referee reports. The application is then available to edit and re-submit. If the required supporting documents have been received, there is no need to resend these documents again, however you will be required to submit a revised Application Confirmation.

4. Completing the online application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q. 1</th>
<th>Scholarship selection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select one of the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scholarships &amp; Enrolment in a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) - if you are not already enrolled in a HDR and you want to apply for enrolment and scholarships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scholarships Only (current UWA Doctoral and Masters students only) - if you are already enrolled and want to apply for scholarships.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q. 2</th>
<th>Personal details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enter your UWA student number if you are a current or former UWA student, or you have previously received an offer but not enrolled.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applicants who have completed a degree with a previous name must provide documentary evidence of their change of name.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q. 3</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Enter your permanent home address, postal address and current residential address and indicate if you will need to move to Perth to take up the scholarship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Check if the following is required</strong> - If you do need to move to Perth from within Australia, you may be eligible for a Relocation Allowance, subject to proof of your move to Perth and on production of receipts for travel and removal expenses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. 4</td>
<td>Course selection</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select the course for which you are applying. HDR scholarships are only available for the research degrees listed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If applying to transfer candidature from a HDR at another university, you will need to upload a UWA Research Proposal and Coversheet. Refer to the web-page on partially completed HDR program.</td>
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<th>Q. 5</th>
<th>English proficiency</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indicate how you have satisfied the requirements for English language competence.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>If you are seeking assessment on an individual basis, or a waiver, you will need to upload a statement explicitly requesting this.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UWA does not accept statements of English proficiency from other universities or employers to meet this requirement. Previous study in English does not automatically meet this requirement, unless that study has been in Australia, New Zealand, United States of America or United Kingdom.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Q. 6</th>
<th>Education history</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List all previous and current tertiary studies (completed and incomplete) and upload official academic transcripts and degree certificates for each program.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documents in a language other than English, must include an official certified translated version.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current or former UWA students do not need to upload UWA academic transcripts.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<th>Q. 7</th>
<th>a) Proposed school and supervisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You should be aware which school the proposed research and supervisor belongs. You can confirm this by visiting the UWA Profiles and Research Repository web-site. A scholarship awarded in one faculty may not be transferable to another faculty.</td>
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<tr>
<th>b) Proposed research topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide a title and 1 paragraph summary of your proposed research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upload a PDF summary of no more than 2 pages of your proposed research. The summary should include background to the topic, aims of research, significance of the research, methodology you will use and a brief reference list.</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th>c) Research through employment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide a summary of any research experience gained through employment or internship.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q. 8</th>
<th>a) Publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List any peer reviewed research articles published in academic journals, within the last five years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include the paper’s title, sequence of authors as shown in the paper, first and last page numbers, name, volume and date of journal. For papers accepted but not yet published, a copy of the notification of acceptance by the journal’s editor is required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upload the abstract or first page of each publication. If you are not the sole author, upload a brief statement from the publication’s first author outlining your contribution to the paper. A template is available if required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>b) Conference participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List any oral presentations delivered or conference papers accepted at academic conferences, within the last five years.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Q. 9 | Prizes, patents and grants |
If you been awarded any prestigious international or national prizes within the last five years, include them here. There is no need to include University or Erasmus scholarships.

Q. 10 Formal professional qualifications

List any professional qualifications obtained and upload evidence of membership with professional bodies, if applicable.

Q. 11 Resume

Upload a resume that details your educational qualifications (including any incomplete degrees) and full employment history.

If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), upload a curriculum vitae that details your educational qualifications (including any incomplete degrees) and full employment history, summarising any occupational or practical experience of relevance to the program.

Reference letters

Upload reference letters from employers detailing the research undertaken and results achieved during the period of employment. Do not include references for non-research related employment.

Q. 12 Personal statement

If new to UWA, provide a statement (no more than 300 words) of your personal aims. Why do you want to come to UWA? What do you hope to achieve? How will the qualification gained at UWA help you?

If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), provide a statement (no more than 300 words) outlining your reasons for applying for the program.

Q. 13 Referees

Applicants need to nominate two academic referees who are willing to provide a reference. Referees should have informed, personal, and professional knowledge of your academic ability and be able to exercise judgement of your research potential.

If applying for the Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (01890/54590), Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Clinical Psychology (01870/54570), or Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology (01880/54580), you must also ask two academic referees to provide reports using the Reference Request System administered by the Heads of Departments and Schools of Psychology Australia (HODSPA).

When your application is submitted, an automated email request from the iAthena portal, will be sent to the email address provided.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to follow up missing referee reports.

If in the event, the referee does not receive the email request, a form can be downloaded from the GRS website (word / fillable pdf). Once complete, it needs to be emailed to the relevant Faculty HDR Pre-candidature Support Office.

Q. 14 Prior education statistical details

Provide details of all previous education program attempted and the final year of enrolment.
We would like to know how you found the information about the available scholarships at UWA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q. 15</th>
<th>Declarations and authorisation to access academic transcripts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>By submitting your application, you are agreeing to these declarations, be sure you read these carefully and seek advice if you do not understand the content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When you are ready to submit your online application, enter your UWA Student ID or email address and iAthena password and press the Submit button.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
The Faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences requires a soft copy of the thesis from your qualifying degree, regardless of which language the thesis is written. Email this directly to the Faculty HDR Support Office, clearly identifying your name & marked iAthena application.
Appendix 2

Scholarships available in Round 1, 2020

A full list of scholarships available in this round, is located within the iAthena application portal. The list includes a hyperlink to the UWA Scholarships database, where further details on each scholarship can be sourced.

- **Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship**  
  This scholarship funded by the Australian Government, includes a full-time stipend of $30,000 per annum.

- **University Postgraduate Award (UPA)**  
  This scholarship funded by UWA, includes a full-time stipend of $30,000 per annum.

- **Hackett Postgraduate Research Scholarship**  
  Domestic applicants in any discipline, includes a stipend of $40,000 per annum, with $5,000 overseas travel allowance. Available only for commencing students.

- **Jean Rogerson Postgraduate Scholarship**  
  Domestic applicants in any discipline, includes a stipend of $38,000 per annum. Available only for commencing students.

- **Dean's Excellence in Science PhD Scholarship**  
  The Faculty of Science is offering a limited number of prestigious scholarships to academically outstanding international and domestic students working with leading researchers to help bring about meaningful change to the world and humanity in key areas of scientific research. The scholarship package comprises a stipend of $40,000pa; a research travel/conference allowance of $5000pa; and a research/operating and thesis submission allowance of $5,000pa. Overseas student health cover and tuition fees are covered for international applicants. Further information is on the Faculty of Science website.

- **Forrest Research Foundation Scholarship**  
  Forrest Research Foundation Scholarships are available for commencing domestic and international PhD applicants at the five Western Australian universities. UWA Forrest Scholars receive a scholarship package comprising a Research Training Program (RTP), or equivalent stipend valued at $30,000pa; an accommodation allowance valued at $20,697pa (in 2019); and a relocation and research travel allowance of $13,000. Overseas Student Health Cover and tuition fees are covered for international applicants. Applicants need to apply for PhD enrolment and scholarship through iAthena, and also complete the separate online application form on the Forrest Research Foundation website:

- **Robert and Maude Gledden Postgraduate Scholarship**  
  The Robert and Maude Gledden Postgraduate Scholarship is awarded to domestic applicants for research in applied science, more particularly relating to surveying, engineering, mining or cognate subjects ($38,000pa stipend, with $5,000 overseas travel allowance). The Gledden scholarships are typically awarded to PhD students enrolled in the Faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences and/or the Faculty of Science, however applications from students with relevant research projects in other faculties will also be considered. Applicants must submit a 100 word statement explaining the relevance of their proposed research to the terms of the Gledden Trust.

- **Bruce and Betty Green Postgraduate Research Scholarship**
Domestic applicants in the disciplines of Mathematics or Science, includes a stipend of $38,000 per annum.

- Richard Walter Gibbon Medical Research Scholarship
  Domestic applicants for research into Parkinson’s disease or cancer, includes a stipend of $38,000 per annum, plus $2,500 per annum research/conference allowance.

The following scholarships have specific eligibility criteria.

Scholarships for research in agriculture, biological and molecular sciences:

- Investigation of Alternative Insect Pollinators for Australian Horticulture
- Keiran McNamara World Heritage PhD Top-Up Scholarship
- PhD Scholarship in Soil Science (Isotopes and Molecular Ecology)
- PhD Scholarships in Chemistry (Molecular Electronics)
- Phytochemistry of new hybrid plants to aid plant breeding programs PHD Scholarship
- Quantifying ecosystem services of Dung beetles across Australia PhD Scholarship

Scholarships for research in engineering and mathematical sciences:

- ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre for Transforming Maintenance through Data Science PhD Scholarships
- Automotive Engineering Graduate Program Scholarships
- Deep Ocean Thermodynamics and Climate Change PhD Scholarship
- Experimental Analysis and Simulation of LNG Boil-off-Gas PhD Scholarship
- Foundation Solutions for Offshore Renewable Energy Installations Scholarship
- Galaxy transformation in the local universe PhD Scholarship
- Intelligent Algorithms for Prognostics and Optimised Sensor Deployment PhD Scholarship
- Micro-scale imaging of tumour using micro-elastography PhD Scholarship
- Next Generation Gas Separations via Innovative Adsorption Technologies PhD Scholarship
- Terahertz Spectroscopy PhD Scholarship

Scholarships for medical research:

- Abbie Basson Sarcoma Research Top-Up Scholarship
- Emergency Medicine (JO and JR Wicking Trust Funded) Ad Hoc Scholarship
- End Rheumatic Heart Disease Centre of Research Excellence (END RHD CRE) Masters and PhD Student Scholarships
- Iron in Women’s Health: The IRONWOMAN Study PhD Scholarship
- Peter and Anne Hector Award
- Rachel Kierath Scholarship in Paediatric Cancer Research
- Iron in Women’s Health: The IRONWOMAN Study PhD Scholarship
- Stan & Jean Perron Top-Up Scholarships (Child Health Research)
- William and Marlene Schrader Postgraduate Scholarship (domestic applicants only) for biomedical engineering, financial need statement required.
Other scholarships – various disciplines:

- Minerals Research Institute of Western Australian (MRIWA) Director Postgraduate Scholarship
- Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA) Postgraduate Scholarships (Odwyn Jones Scholarship and MRIWA Research Scholarship (female applicants only))
- Theresa Symons Philosophy Top-Up Scholarship (domestic applicants only, 250 word financial need statement and 5000 word essay)

Travel Scholarships – various disciplines:

- Breast Cancer Research Travel Scholarship
- Graduate Women WA Women in Science and Mathematics Scholarship (1 available) Available to commencing domestic female applicants in the disciplines of science and mathematics.
- The University Club of Western Australia Research Travel Scholarship (1 available) Available to commencing domestic applicants in any discipline
- UWA and Graduate Women WA Research Scholarship (1 available) Available to commencing female applicants in any discipline