

Internships

Are internships mandatory for all PhD students?	Internships are encouraged for all PhD students.
Are students enrolled in industry-sponsored PhDs required to undertake an internship?	An industry-sponsored PhD program is considered an eligible internship.
Are international HDR students permitted to take an internship?	International students are eligible to undertake internships, but they must do so within the requirements of their visa. Accordingly, they must remain enrolled for the duration. On shore students will need to ensure they can accommodate an internship within their existing study requirements. Offshore students may have additional flexibility, but will not be eligible for the internship incentive.
Does the internship have to be undertaken during the PhD enrolment?	The internship must be undertaken during the PhD enrolment in order to be considered eligible; prior experience/internships are not considered as eligible.
Will an extension of enrolment or milestone deadlines apply to students undertaking internships?	There is no additional time for the enrolment; however, note that the internship format can be quite flexible, e.g., one day per week, remotely undertaken, etc. so long as the minimum 3 months/60 days is met.
I work in a cognate area to my PhD; can I claim this as my internship?	As long as the activity being undertaken is a research activity with an eligible research end-user and an internship agreement is in place within the first 18 months of enrolment (full-time equivalent), this would be an eligible internship.
Is there a maximum time for the internship?	There is no maximum time for the internship; however, students and supervisors are encouraged to manage time appropriately to ensure successful and timely completion of the PhD.
Who is an eligible research end-user for an RTP-eligible internship?	See https://www.tcsisupport.gov.au/glossary/glossaryterm/Research-end-user . Note the specific exclusions of other higher education providers, organisations that are affiliates, controlled entities or subsidiaries of higher education providers, and equivalents (international or domestic) of these exclusions.
Can internships be completed off-shore?	Yes, so long as they are occurring with an eligible research end user, for at least 3 months/60 days, and an internship agreement is put in place within the first 18 months of enrolment (full-time equivalent).
How are internships reported to GRS?	Internships can be reported at Milestones 1 or 2, and verified at Milestone 3; the Milestone report forms have been updated to reflect this. As this information is captured at each Milestone, the internship ultimately undertaken can differ from that proposed at an earlier Milestone.

How will internship contracts be managed?	GRS will have a Project Coordinator on staff to facilitate internship contracts. GRS has developed several template agreements to aid in securing internship agreements. Note that the ADVCR is the authorised delegate for sign-off of internship contracts.
What would be the arrangement relating to any potential IP generated during the internship?	This should be set out in the internship agreement. Curtin has prepared template agreements including relevant provisions for IP.
Will there be support to help find internships for students?	Initially, the focus from GRS is to ensure that the governance framework and process to manage internships is implemented university wide. There will be a Project Coordinator in GRS allocated to managing internships from this perspective. As we move forward and the process becomes embedded, there may be additional scope for this support. Through the Partnerships team within ROC, there will also be a stronger focus on incorporating internship opportunities in major partnerships and future partnership negotiations.
If an internship is paid, does this have the potential to affect scholarship/stipend payments to students?	<p>While it is unlikely that paid internships for a 60 day period will impact on scholarship/stipend payments, all students are encouraged to check any tax implications of this for their own due diligence. Students who are on externally funded scholarships are encouraged to check their scholarship terms to ensure there are no restrictions that would prevent the student undertaking the internship – both in terms of finances, or other considerations with the scholarship provider.</p> <p>Students who are enrolled on a scholarship may continue that scholarship and receive additional top up funding for their internship. Students may also receive funding directly from the internship provider by way of employment. In both cases, as long as there is no breach of scholarship terms, and the student has undertaken their own due diligence on potential taxation implications, both are acceptable.</p>

Grants and internship incentive

Are both Grants available to students, or can they only receive one of these?	Both Grants are available to all PhD and MPhil students. Please see the Grant guidelines and application forms for available amounts and full eligibility details.
Are the Grants competitive?	The Grants are not competitive, but applications must satisfy the eligibility criteria in order to be funded.
Can the Grants be accessed after Milestone 3?	Applications for either Grant must be received before Milestone 3, but could be used for eligible activities taking place after Milestone 3.

<p>Will there be any publication support for students in the new model?</p>	<p>The Dissemination Grant can be used for publication support. Dissemination Grant funds may be transferred to the School to support open access publication post-submission.</p>
<p>Can we expand the grant criteria to include a more general category? Such as general consumables, software etc.</p>	<p>The grant criteria have been designed to support core common requirements for students across all disciplines.</p> <p>It remains the responsibility of the enrolling areas to ensure that essential facilities, including appropriate access to equipment and local consumables are provided to the student.</p> <p>PhD students who undertake an eligible internship will be eligible for the incentive funding, which has no restrictions on use and should be used to support their activities in a manner deemed most appropriate for their program of research.</p>
<p>How are the grants paid, and what evidence is required to receive these?</p>	<p>Grants are paid as lump sums. Applications to the Grants can be made any time within the eligibility window and must be eligible activities as described in the Grant guidelines. Receipts are not required for applications to the Grants.</p>
<p>When would funds be elected to be transferred to the School?</p>	<p>Funds could be elected to be transferred to the School in instances where the student is unable to make the purchase on their own accord (e.g., for chemicals), or where the payment is anticipated to be made after the student's completion (e.g., to cover open access fees for publication accepted after a student completes). Students and supervisors are to consider what is the most appropriate to their situation.</p>
<p>Are students post 18 months enrolment/Milestone 2 eligible for the Internship Incentive?</p>	<p>Students post 18 months enrolment/Milestone 2 are not eligible for the Internship Incentive, unless they had an internship agreement in place within the first 18 months of their enrolment.</p>
<p>Do these changes apply to the MRes program?</p>	<p>No, research support funds for the MRes program have not changed. Students will remain eligible for the \$750 at the completion of M3. They will not be eligible for the new grants or internship incentive.</p>