

RPA IAS Cancer Survivorship Research Scholarship Guidelines

Terms and Conditions

Background

The Institute of Academic Surgery (IAS) is providing a 12-month RPA Cancer Survivorship Scholarship opportunity for a student who is currently enrolled or has received an unconditional offer for admission in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) at the University of Sydney. This new Scholarship aims to support individuals undertake research in cancer survivorship following treatment of bowel cancer, as well as develop and strengthen their research careers.

The 12-month Scholarship will provide funding support of \$36,000 to undertake research in their first and/or second year of study.

The successful applicant must abide by the Scholarship guidelines and will be required to sign an agreement. This will include such requirements as enrolment or an unconditional offer into a PhD at the University of Sydney, submission of progress reports at 6 and 12 months and the acknowledgement of the funding support provided by Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) in any publications and/or presentations relating to the research project funded through this Scholarship.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this Scholarship, you must:

- Be currently enrolled or have received an unconditional offer for admission to a PhD research degree at the University of Sydney;
- Have a research proposal related to the assessment of challenges, barriers and unmet needs in the management of bowel cancer;
- Have the support of a research supervisor who is a member of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and will guarantee to provide supervision and guidance for the duration of the Scholarship. The research supervisor will need to provide a letter of support as part of the application.

Application

- The application must include:
 - A research proposal (using the application form below) outlining the title, project plan, anticipated outcomes, timeline, track record and research support;
 - Full CV of the applicant;
 - Letter of support from the applicant's research supervisor;
 - Proof of enrolment in a PhD or if not yet enrolled in a HDR, proof of an unconditional offer.

Selection Criteria

- Applications will be peer-reviewed by an independent scientific panel from the RPA IAS.
- Applicants who are undertaking their first PhD degree will be prioritised when considering applications for the Scholarship.
- The Scholarship will be granted on the relevance and impact of the applicant's research proposal and research experience.
- The independent scientific panel will finalise the selection process.
- The assessment of the applications and decisions of the panel in awarding funds in this scheme will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Funding

- The Scholarship will run for 12 months for full-time students and 24 months for part-time students. A total of \$36,000 will be provided via stipends to the successful applicant, provided they meet the research requirements outlined below.
 - Full-time students will receive a total of \$36,000, paid in three equal instalments of \$12,000. The first payment will be made upon commencement of the Scholarship. The second and third payments will be made at 6 and 12 months providing the progress reports (template below) are assessed and deemed satisfactory by the Director IAS and the Primary Supervisor. Part-time students will be paid in three equal instalments of \$6,000 per year over a two-year period. The second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth payment will be made every 6 months for two years, providing the progress reports are assessed and deemed satisfactory by the Director IAS and the Primary Supervisor.
 - The stipend will be terminated should the Scholarship holder fail to maintain satisfactory academic progression, which will be determined by the Director IAS and Primary Supervisor.
 - The stipend payment will be made to each individual Scholarship holder into their nominated bank account.
 - The Scholarship is non-transferable to other areas of research.
 - Funds cannot be rolled over. No additional payments will be made.

Tenure

- The Scholarship shall be tenable for a period of 12-months (or 24-months for part-time students), commencing no later than 3 months from the date the award is announced.
- The applicant must have commenced their PhD activities no later than 3 months from the date the award is announced.
- Scholarship holders must promptly notify their academic supervisor and Director IAS of any changes to their enrolment including but not limited to attendance patterns, leave of absence, withdrawal and course transfer.
- A request to defer tenure of the Scholarship will only be considered subject to review by the IAS Executive Team.

Reporting Requirements

- Applicants must deliver the research project described in their application within the specified timeframe;
- Progress reports must be submitted to SLHD-RPAIAS@health.nsw.gov.au at 5 and 11 months (as well as 17 and 23 months for part-time students) using the template below. Each report will be assessed by the Director IAS and Primary Supervisor as either satisfactory or non-satisfactory. Satisfactory reports will enable the stipend payment;
- SLHD must be acknowledged for the funding support provided in any publications and/or presentations relating to the research project.

Termination

The requirements of the scholarship will be terminated if:

- The student withdraws from their PhD;
- The IAS concludes the recipient has not carried out the development of their project with competence and diligence, fails to maintain satisfactory progress or has committed serious misconduct.

Agreement

I hereby agree to abide by the conditions of the IAS Cancer Survivorship Research Scholarship

Applicant

Full name	
Signature	
Date	

Academic Supervisor

Full name	
Signature	
Date	

Scholarship Details

Intended commencement date	
Degree course	

Application

Please complete the following application to be considered for the IAS Cancer Survivorship Research Scholarship. Completed applications should be submitted to SLHD-RPAIAS@health.nsw.gov.au. Applications cannot be considered unless they are complete.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Director IAS via email SLHD-RPAIAS@health.nsw.gov.au

Application checklist

- All applications must be submitted electronically via email to SLHD-RPAIAS@health.nsw.gov.au
- Each submitted file should be named with the convention FirstName_LastName_Scholarship.pdf (e.g., John_Smith_Scholarship.pdf).
- Each application should be accompanied by the applicant's CV.
- Evidence of HDR enrolment or unconditional offer.
- The application form and resume must be submitted as a PDF version.
- Letter of support from the applicant's research supervisor.

SECTION 1. Applicant Personal Details

Title	
First name	
Last name	
Telephone (mobile)	
E-mail address	
Home address	
Contact address (if not as above)	

SECTION 2. Employment History and Qualifications

1. Current position (primary employment)

Position	Employer	Address

2. Academic qualification, most recent first

Degree	Institution	Date started	Date completed

3. Higher Degree by Research Registration: PhD at The University of Sydney

Degree	Field	Commencement date	Projected completion date

SECTION 3. Project Plan

Project title	
Project plan <i>Briefly explain your research question and project plan. Images or references must not be included</i>	
Anticipated impact <i>Please describe the significance of how your proposed research will improve outcomes following treatment of bowel cancer.</i>	

<p>Timeline Please provide a timeline for your research project</p>	
<p>Track record & research support Briefly describe your track record, including your current position and any contribution to the scientific community. Please explain how you will be supported to undertake this research.</p>	
<p>Top 3 publications Please provide your top 3 publications, each with a sentence explaining its importance</p>	

SECTION 4. Applicant Disclosure Statement

I certify that the information given in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

<p>Applicant full name</p>	
<p>Signature</p>	
<p>Date signed</p>	

Progress Report Template

Progress reports are to be completed at 5 and 11 months (as well as 17 and 23 months for part-time students).

Project title	
Project update <i>Briefly explain what you have achieved during your research scholarship.</i>	
Timeline <i>Please provide a brief timeline for your research project and whether you are on track to complete your project within the specified timeframes</i>	
Support Required <i>Please explain if any further support is required to ensure you can complete the scholarship within the agreed timeframes.</i>	

Applicant full name	
Signature	
Date signed	

Research supervisor full name	
Signature	
Date signed	