

**CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE AWARD OF A GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY ELEMENT/EXTERNALLY FUNDED  
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP**

Administered by  
*Griffith University*

**Name of Scholarship:** **Rio Tinto Aboriginal Postgraduate Research Scholarship (RTAPRS)**

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- 1 Awards will only be available to those who -
  - (1) have completed at least four years of tertiary education studies at a high level of achievement or equivalent
  - (2) are enrolling as full-time students in a **doctoral** degree in the **School of School of Dentistry and Oral Health** at Griffith University
  - (3) have not already completed a degree at the same level as the proposed candidature, or at a higher level
  - (4) are not receiving another equivalent award/scholarship/salary to undertake the proposed program
  - (5) are a student who fees are covered under the Research Training Scheme for tuition fees.
  - (6) A period or periods studying away from the University may be required for the purpose of conducting fieldwork and data gathering in rural and remote areas in Australia.

**CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

**Tenure**

- 2 **A scholar may hold the award for up to a maximum of two years ONLY in the case of research master's candidate or doctoral candidates.** The award is renewed on an annual basis subject to the maintenance of satisfactory progress by the candidate.
- 3 The maximum tenure of the scholarship will be reduced by any periods of study undertaken towards the degree prior to the commencement of the scholarship and during suspension of the scholarship.

**Residence Requirement**

- 4 Scholars must be located at Griffith University throughout their period of tenure, with the exception of periods of fieldwork.

**Stipend**

- 5 **In 2009, the stipend payable is \$30,000 per annum (refer 2.0 for tenure).** Income derived by way of a scholarship by a student receiving full-time education at a university may be exempt from income tax. It is the responsibility of the scholarship holder to assess the tax liability of their scholarship. The University will provide scholarship holders information from the Australian Taxation Office.
- 6 The stipend will be paid fortnightly into an account in a bank, building society or credit union. Payment will be made from the date of commencement of study, except where a scholar is already enrolled in the program, in which case payment may commence from the date of advice of the grant of the award.

**Leave Arrangements**

- 7 PhD students are entitled to -
  - a. 10 days paid recreation leave each year calculated on a pro-rata basis. Leave must be taken during the term of the award. No formal approval to take this leave is required however leave should be taken with the agreement of the holder's supervisor
  - b. up to two (2) weeks' paid sick leave (calculated on a pro-rata basis for each year of the scholarship tenure) within the tenure of the award. Claims for extensions of award may be made on the basis of periods of certified illness in excess of 10 days. Claims must be made within 30 days of the end of the period of illness claimed.
  - c. There is no paid maternity leave within the tenure of the award.

**Suspensions (Leave of Absence)**

- 8 Approval may be given for up to 12 months suspension during the tenure of the award, at the discretion of the Dean, Graduate Research School. The period of suspension may be extended by up to 12 months, at the discretion of the Dean, Graduate Research School, for reasons beyond the award holders control. Such periods of approved suspension will be added to the normal time for which the award may be held. Before an award is restored after a period of leave of absence, the holder may be required to satisfy the Dean, Graduate Research School that he/she is able to resume study. Requests to suspend an award for more than two years will not be approved.
- 9 Approval to suspend an award within the first six months will not normally be given. An application to suspend an award within the first six months may be considered if there are exceptional circumstances beyond the award holders' control. Such applications require the approval of the Dean, Graduate Research School.

**Employment**

- 10 Award holders are only permitted to undertake a strictly limited amount of paid employment: no more than nine (9) hours a week will be permitted between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

**Progress Reports**

- 11 In common with all research postgraduate candidates, an award holder is required to complete a progress report in respect of each year of candidature. Extension of award tenure each year will be dependent upon the maintenance of satisfactory progress.

#### **Transfer**

- 12 Awards are payable only while the award recipient remains enrolled in the **School of Dentistry and Oral Health under the supervision of Professor Ratilal Laloo** at Griffith University.

#### **Termination of Award**

- 13 An award will be terminated in any of the following circumstances -
- (1) at the end of the period of tenure provided for by the award
  - (2) on submission of the thesis
  - (3) if the University is satisfied that the course of study is not being carried out with competence and diligence or in accordance with the offer of award, and no suitable arrangements can be made for continuation of the degree
  - (4) if the award holder commences a period of suspension, or relocates remote from Griffith University (ie, Brisbane/Gold Coast), without the approval of the Research and Postgraduate Studies Committee
  - (5) when the student ceases full-time enrolment without indication of a date at which full-time enrolment will be resumed
  - (6) on cancellation of enrolment
  - (7) if the award holder does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of suspension, or does not make arrangements to extend that period of suspension
  - (8) if the University determines that a student is guilty of serious academic misconduct
- 14 If an award is terminated, it cannot be reactivated unless the termination occurred in error.

#### **SPECIFIC STUDENT OBLIGATIONS**

- 15 Award holders shall diligently, and to the best of their ability, apply themselves to the successful completion of the degree. Award holders must immediately notify the University in writing if the award holder -
- (1) leaves Australia other than for approved overseas study, approved suspension or approved recreation leave
  - (2) discontinues full-time study
  - (3) is absent for any reason for a period of fourteen days or longer from the award holder's place of study, except on approved recreation leave.
- 16 Where necessary, award holders shall abide by the National Health and Medical Research Council codes on human and animal experimentation guidelines established by the Australian government's Recombinant DNA Monitoring Committee, and the University's safety practices.

#### **CHANGE TO AWARD CONDITIONS**

- 17 The conditions of scholarship may change from time to time. The conditions applicable at the time of enrolment will be those provided to successful applicants at the time a scholarship is offered and accepted.

*August 09*