



University of
**Southern
Queensland**



15 April 2024

Academic Affairs Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program

Student Information Booklet

WHAT IS THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The Academic Affairs Division engages in world class research in a number of areas including Nursing, Engineering, Physical Sciences, Astronomy and Space Sciences, Chemistry, Environmental Science and Management, Microbiology, Agriculture, Land and Farm Management, Crop and Pasture Production, Engineering, Clinical Sciences, Human Movement and Sports Science, Nutrition and Dietetics, Public Health and Health Services, Psychology, Historical Studies, Biological Sciences, and Information and Computing Sciences.

Much of this research is conducted in collaboration with researchers from the University's three research institutes – Institute of Resilient Regions, Institute of Life Sciences and the Environment, and Institute of Advanced Engineering and Space Sciences, as many of your course examiners are also members of these institutes.

The Undergraduate Research Scholarship program is your opportunity to work with world-class researchers gaining invaluable research, professional and academic skills. You will have the opportunity to establish academic and/or industry connections and discover a passion for research, before engaging in higher degree studies (i.e., PhD or Masters of Research).

The Undergraduate Research Scholarship program will run for 10 weeks and can commence at anytime from May 2024 to the end of November/December 2024. Some projects will be situated in the University while others will be situated in a research institute/centre. Some will be co-located across both the University and a research institute/centre.



Photos by UniSQ Photography

WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

Engaging in the Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program will allow you to:

- find out about research opportunities for higher degrees;
- develop new skills that may enhance your employability;
- access research networks and make connections with other staff and postgraduate students;
- be supervised by world class researchers;
- access research facilities and experiences that may not be possible in your degree; and
- explore how work-based learning may be used to obtain credit towards your degree.



Photos by UniSQ Photography

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program is open to undergraduate students who are:

- Enrolled in an Undergraduate program (TPP students are not eligible for these scholarships);
- have completed at least 8 units of study (at UniSQ) but have **not** completed all units of study in their program (i.e., students who are eligible to graduate are **not** able to apply for this scholarship);
- are studying in a program relevant to the selected research project/s;
- have a high level of academic achievement as indicated by a GPA of 5.5 or above; and
- have a genuine interest in undertaking postgraduate HDR studies (PhD or masters).

Students who have just completed all courses in their undergraduate program and who are eligible to graduate are not eligible to apply for this scheme.

Please note: There may be projects where the above criteria have been modified as these projects are part of large research grants. Any changes will be noted on the projects themselves and will be located just before the project description section for each project.

WHERE WILL THIS RESEARCH BE UNDERTAKEN?

Some research projects will require you to work on campus, other projects will be able to be completed off campus and online. Some projects may require a mixture of on campus and field-based activities. This information will be outlined on the project itself. Any student who resides overseas will only be able to apply for projects that can be completed online.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP VALUE

There are up to ten (10) scholarships available. Each scholarship is worth \$2000. Some scholarships supported specifically through research centres and institutes may be funded at a different amount. This information will be outlined on the project itself. The scholarship will be paid as a lump sum upon commencement with the expectation that should you not complete the scholarship, funds will be repaid to the University.

TIME INVOLVEMENT

You will be expected to actively participate in an existing research project or undertake a substantial piece of research under supervision. You may be required to work up to 3 days per week. Different projects will require different time commitments so make sure you discuss this with any potential supervisors before you apply for a project.

Projects will be 10 weeks in length and will commence in May 2024 but must be concluded by December 2024. Different projects will have different start and end dates so please make sure you talk with any potential supervisors about this before you apply for a project.

You may also be required to undertake additional training such as safety, laboratory and/or ethics training. All information relating to time requirements and any other requirements will be included on the project itself.



Photos by UniSQ Photography

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Choose a project from the booklet of available projects.
2. Contact the Project Supervisor to obtain more information about the project prior to submitting your application. Applications without evidence that the Project Supervisors has been contacted and you have actively engaged in project discussion will not be considered.
3. Submit the completed application form to the Associate Dean (Research) AssociateDeanResearch@unisq.edu.au by **CoB on 10th May 2024**. Only one application can be submitted, however more than one project may be identified as a second and third option.
4. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by **20th May 2024** by the Associate Dean (Research).

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed by a panel that will include the Associate Dean (Research) and at least one other key research stakeholder. Scholarships are awarded on a competitive and merit basis with consideration of the following:

1. Completing an Academic Affairs related undergraduate program (TPP students are not eligible to apply for these scholarships);
2. The academic standing of the applicant.
3. Project availability;
4. Prior and active engagement with the Project supervisor; and
5. Reasons for wanting to participate in the program.

PROGRAM CREDIT

You may be able to apply for credit toward your degree depending on what you are studying, the type of project you are working on, and the length of the project. If you wish to explore this option, please contact your **relevant program coordinator** for more information as credit is subject to degree rules and the structure of your program.

FINAL REPORT

At the completion of the scholarship, you will be required to engage in a short 10 – 15 minute seminar presentation about your project. You will also need to provide a report to the Associate Dean (Research) that has been approved by your project supervisor regarding your experience of the project. A template will be provided to assist with this reporting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

It is your responsibility to seek independent advice regarding tax liability or impact on Austudy payments that may arise receiving the scholarship. The Undergraduate Research Scholarships are equity and merit-based scholarships. Scholarships/stipends will be tax free provided you meet conditions listed [here](#).

If any of these conditions are not met, it will be taxable and PAYG will need to be withheld by the University. It is your responsibility to advise the University if you do not meet these conditions at the time of accepting an offer. If you are receiving Austudy or Centrelink benefits it is advisable that you contact Centrelink to determine if the Scholarship will impact upon your benefits before applying.

SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

More information about the Scholarship conditions is available in the Scholar Conditions document.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

If you require more information, please attend the information session on Monday, 22nd April 2024 at 10.30am via MS Teams, all information for the information session can be [University Scholarships | UniSQ](#). Alternatively you may contact Professor Andrea Lamont-Mills, Associate Dean (Research) via email: AssociateDeanResearch@unisq.edu.au



University of
Southern
Queensland

[unisq.edu.au](https://www.unisq.edu.au)

info@unisq.edu.au