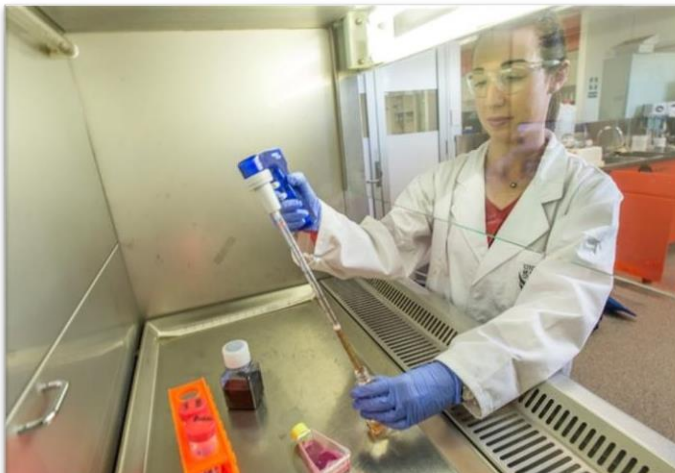




University of
**Southern
Queensland**

Academic Affairs Division
Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program
STUDENT INFORMATION BOOKLET



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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 June 2023 to the end of February 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.



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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.



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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 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 an 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 information sheet. Not all projects may be able to be completed off campus and online. Any student who resides overseas will only be able to apply for projects that can be completed online.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP VALUE

There is up to ten (10) scholarships available and funding of \$2000 for each scholarship. Some scholarships supported specifically through research centres and institutes may be funded at a different amount. This information will be outlined on the project information sheet. 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 June 2023 and must conclude no later than February 2024.

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 in your letter of offer.



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APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Choose a project from the list of available projects. A separate document containing this information will be provided to you.
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 by **CoB on 9th June 2023**. 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 **26th June 2023** by the Associate Dean Research.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed by a panel that will include the Associate Dean Research and other key research stakeholders. 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 Professor Andrea Lamont-Mills 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 Centerlink 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 contact Professor Andrea Lamont-Mills, Associate Dean Research via email: AssociateDeanResearch@usq.edu.au