How to apply for postgraduate research in 6 steps

1. **COMPLETE HDR SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL**
   To get an indication of your admission eligibility and competitiveness for a scholarship (if applicable), complete the HDR self-assessment tool online.
   research.unsw.edu.au/hdr-self-assessment-tool

2. **FIND A RESEARCH AREA**
   Before applying for a postgraduate research program, match your area of interest with those offered by our schools. A list of research areas can be found on the back page of this guide or at unsw.to/researcharea. Each research program has specific entry and eligibility requirements. For more information:
   - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD): unsw.to/research-doctor-philosophy-phd
   - Master of Philosophy (MPhil): research.unsw.edu.au/master-philosophy

3. **FIND A SUPERVISOR**
   Before submitting an application, you must independently contact a UNSW researcher and secure their agreement to supervise your work. The results of the self-assessment tool also need to be forwarded to your potential supervisor. Proof of correspondence needs to be included in your application.
   If you’re having difficulty finding a researcher, contact the school’s postgraduate research coordinator (see back page of this guide).
   Search help: unsw.to/researcher

4. **DEVELOP A RESEARCH PROPOSAL**
   Your proposal needs to be sufficiently detailed to enable the University to determine if it is possible to provide adequate supervision and resources to support your research.

5. **PREPARE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**
   Required documents may include your supervisor’s agreement, research proposal, resume, all transcripts (degree results), names of referees and English language test results. Documents must be in English or include a certified English translation.
   Further information: unsw.to/research-documentation

6. **SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ONLINE**
   After completing these steps, you can lodge your application.
   International students need to apply for admission and scholarships at least six months before their planned starting semester.
   APPLY HERE: apply.unsw.edu.au

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**FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Offers**
If successful, you will be sent a full or conditional offer. Please read your offer letter carefully before accepting. You will then need to enrol for the correct semester and have your enrolment form approved by your school.
To accept your offer: my.unsw.edu.au

**Fees and costs**
For the duration of the degree, international students are required to pay tuition fees. While domestic candidates are not required to pay tuition fees, some programs may include additional costs for laboratory kits and field trips.
More information: unsw.edu/research-fees

**Scholarships**
Many scholarships are available for postgraduate research programs, from UNSW Australia, the Australian government, industry partners, and organisations from other countries.
More information: unsw.edu/research-scholarships

**English requirements**
All applicants must meet the UNSW English Language admission requirement.
More information: unsw.edu/research-english-policy

**Student visa information**
Most international students require a student visa to study in Australia. The Department of Immigration and Border Protection is responsible for issuing student visas to Australia.
More information: rc.unsw.edu.au/

**Accommodation**
UNSW students have many options, from on- and off campus university accommodation to private housing.
More information: rc.unsw.edu.au/

**Transport and facilities**
The main UNSW campus is on 38 hectares in Kensington, which is close to Sydney’s CBD and other major attractions. It has many shops and services, including cafes, banks, medical and dental centres, a bookshop, supermarket and post office.
More information: student.unsw.edu.au/

**Support services**
Student Development International can help with accommodation, visa issues, cultural support, advice on learning in a new environment and professional development.
More information: student.unsw.edu.au/international

**Student wellbeing**
UNSW cares about a student's personal wellbeing as well as their academic success. A range of services to support this are available on campus.
More information: unsw.edu.au/life

**Graduate Research School**
The GRS is the central administration and support unit for all higher degree research candidates at UNSW.
Research applications: +61 2 9385 5500
E: domestic.grs@unsw.edu.au
E: international.grs@unsw.edu.au
More information: unsw.edu.au/graduate-faqs
Biomedical Engineering
Contact: Dr Megan Lord
E: gsbme.pgc@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/biomedical-engineering
Research areas
Bionics, biomonitoring and modelling
• Biostable implantable bionics
• Ambulatory monitoring
• Telehealth management of chronic disease
• Image processing
• Computational modelling
Biomaterials, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine
• Biosynthetic polymers
• Tissue engineering and regenerative medicine
• Cell and tissue responses to medical devices
• Nanomolecular medicine

Chemical Engineering
Contact: Prof Per Zetterlund
E: ptrscoord.ceic@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/chemical-engineering
Research areas
Polymers & colloids/health
• Advanced light controlled polymerisation
• Biofilm control and pathogen detection
• Immunotherapy and analysis for food allergies
Environmental technology
• Carbon dioxide capture
• Water treatment, resource recovery and reuse
Energy
• Conversion of carbon dioxide/photocatalysis
• Energy storage
• Materials modeling and design

Civil and Environmental Engineering
Contact: A/Prof Samsung Lim
E: s.lim@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/civil-engineering
Research areas
Infrastructure and construction
• Concrete and steel standards
• Soil condition management
• Sustainable construction modelling
Water and sustainability
• Clean water in developing nations
• Managing water as a resource
• Coastal erosion and climate change
Transport and geospatial
• Network congestion minimisation
• Ubiquitous positioning
• Autonomous driving

Computer Science and Engineering
Contact: A/Prof Sallib Kanhere
E: research@csse.unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/computer-science-engineering
Research areas
Data analytics and digital services
• Analytics of services and internet of things
• Declarative orchestration of cloud services
• Scalable processing for big data
Intelligent and autonomous systems
• Machine learning and reasoning in robotics
• Intelligent agents in robotics
• Medical image understanding
Software and systems
• Formally verified L4 microkernel
• Program analysis tools and compilers
• High-level language for GPU programming
Security and trustworthy system
• Energy-efficient sensing and communication
• Nano-scale wireless networking
• Network security hardware design
• Security mechanisms for Internet of things

Electrical Engineering and Telecommunications
Contact: A/Prof Vijay Sivaraman
E: vijay@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/electrical-engineering
Research areas
Energy systems
• Power electronics & drive systems
• Australian Energy Research Institute (AERI)
• Energy & environmental markets
Telecommunications
• 5G mobile and wireless networks
• Optoelectronic transducers and fibre devices
• Satellite systems
Nanomicro systems
• Quantum computing
• Micro-electromechanical systems (MEMS)
• Nano and micro-fabrication and integrated circuits
Signal processing, systems and control
• Highly scalable media compression, neuroimaging
• Paralinguistic and behaviour
• Automatic control systems

Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Contact: A/Prof Jay Katupitiya
E: pgcoord.mech@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/mechanical-engineering
Research areas
Combustion and solar thermal energy
• Engine combustion modelling
• Laser diagnostics in engines
• Concentrated solar thermal power
Advanced manufacturing
• Precision and nano technologies
• Multi-scale fabrication
• Sustainable manufacturing
Vibration and aero-acoustics
• Acoustic-structure interaction
• Noise control solutions

Mining Engineering
Contact: Dr Joung Oh
E: joung.oh@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/mining-engineering
Research areas
Mine geomechanics
• Ground support technologies
• Ground control – rockburst and coalburst
• Mine subsidence behaviour and prediction
Sustainable mining practices
• Mine site water, groundwater, seepage barriers
• Remote sensing
• Climate change - adaptation and mining, carbon management
Mining systems and mineral processing
• Froth flotation
• Longwall top coal caving
• Off earth mining

Petroleum Engineering
Contact: Dr Manolis Veveakis
Student Office
E: tetb.research@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/petroleum-engineering
Research areas
Next generation reservoir engineering
• Multiphysics (THMC) modelling
• Multiscale data assimilation
• Unconventional reservoir engineering
Unconventional geomechanics
• Instabilities across scales
• High temperature/pressure experiments
• Drilling and stimulation for extreme conditions
Integrated digital and conventional core analysis
• Micro-CT assisted petrophysical interpretation
• Multi-scale multi-phase flow
• Geodynamic pore-scale rock-ttyping

Photovoltaics and Renewable Energy Engineering
Contact: Prof Gavin Conibeer
Student Office
E: tetb.research@unsw.edu.au
W: engineering.unsw.edu.au/energy-engineering
Research areas
Advanced photovoltaic concepts
• High-efficiency tandem-on-silicon PV devices
• New PV materials (kesterites and perovskites)
• Third-generation PV concepts
Commercial photovoltaics
• High-efficiency silicon devices
• Defect imaging and passivation
• Commercial PV manufacturing
Distributed energy systems and policy
• Energy efficiency
• Energy resource modelling
• Energy policy