

# NDARC HDR Scholarships: PhD, MRes and MPhil

*Position Title: Higher Degree Researcher  
Date Written: August 2019*

*Faculty / Division: Faculty of Medicine  
School / Unit: National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre*

## ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

UNSW is currently implementing a ten-year strategy to 2025 and our ambition for the next decade is nothing less than to establish UNSW as Australia's global university. We aspire to this in the belief that a great university, which is a global leader in discovery, innovation, impact, education and thought leadership, can make an enormous difference to the lives of people in Australia and around the world.

Following extensive consultation in 2015, we identified three strategic priority areas. Firstly, a drive for academic excellence in research and education. Universities are often classified as 'research intensive' or 'teaching intensive'. UNSW is proud to be an exemplar of both. We are amongst a limited group of universities worldwide capable of delivering research excellence alongside the highest quality education on a large scale. Secondly, a passion for social engagement, which improves lives through advancing equality, diversity, open debate and economic progress. Thirdly, a commitment to achieving global impact through sharing our capability in research and education in the highest quality partnerships with institutions in both developed and emerging societies. We regard the interplay of academic excellence, social engagement and global impact as the hallmarks of a great forward-looking 21st century university.

To achieve this ambition we are attracting the very best academic and professional staff to play leadership roles in our organisation, and the very best Higher Degree Research students to build sustainable, high-quality research capacity.

## Values in Action: Our UNSW Behaviours

UNSW recognises the role of employees in driving a high performance culture. The behavioural expectations for UNSW are below.



Values in Action  
Our UNSW Behaviours



## OVERVIEW OF NDARC'S HIGHER DEGREE RESEARCHER (HDR) PROGRAM

UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia's finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

The National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) was established at the University of New South Wales by the Commonwealth Government in 1986 to extend the knowledge base required for effective treatment of individuals with alcohol and other drug related problems and to enhance the overall research capacity in the drug and alcohol field. The Centre is highly regarded, both nationally and internationally, for its contribution to drug and alcohol research.

Since NDARC's inception, more than 70 students have successfully completed a HDR program of research at the Centre (Ph.D. and Masters), with a success rate of over 90%. Currently NDARC has 21 HDRs enrolled, including 3 Aboriginal students (14% of our HDRs) and 14 female students (67% of our HDRs). NDARC students and staff publish in general medical and health journals, and the most influential specialist drug and alcohol publications.

NDARC's research is multi-disciplinary in nature and of high practical relevance to governments and policy agencies, communities, providers of clinical services and non-government organisations. HDR graduates have many career opportunities in a range of organisations, including Australian and international universities, the WHO/UN, the delivery of clinical services, and with policy agencies such as NSW Health, NSW Family and Community Services and in local health districts.

NDARC provides a highly supportive study environment with excellent facilities including desk space, regular training opportunities, computer access and statistical support.

There are a number of pathways into higher degree research, and NDARC staff are keen to support entry for potential students from a range of backgrounds and with varied educational qualifications. NDARC is particularly committed to building research capacity among Aboriginal researchers and encourages consultation with us about different HDR pathways that may be available. If you have queries about this, please feel free to email [NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au](mailto:NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au) and an appropriate centre staff member will contact you to talk about your options.

### NDARC'S HDR SCHOLARSHIPS

NDARC is offering scholarships to students who wish to undertake higher degree research on drug and alcohol related projects that align with NDARC's core workplan areas:

- Prevention and early intervention
- Clinical research
- Physical and mental comorbidity
- Epidemiology of substance use and harms
- Justice health and drug policy
- Indigenous health
- Health economics and biostatistics
- Family, communities and society

The scholarship amount awarded to full-time HDR students is \$30,000 per annum, tax exempt. PhD scholarship duration is 3.5 years (with the capacity to apply for an extension to 4 years if required). MRes and MPhil scholarship duration is 2 years. In addition up to \$10,000 will be available for professional development activities and up to \$5,000 available for other associated research costs across the period of candidature. There is opportunity for additional paid employment.

## Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must:

- (a) meet UNSW requirements for enrolment in a Higher Degree Research Program:  
<http://med.unsw.edu.au/postgraduate-research>
- (b) meet residency and visa requirements
- (c) not be concurrently enrolled in a separate HDR program at either UNSW or another university during the tenure of the NDARC-based candidature

Consideration will be given to full and part-time, and international, applicants (consult UNSW's guidelines for eligibility and tuition scholarship options for international students)

Evidence of previous research or study (e.g. honours or masters degrees) is desirable for entry into a HDR although not essential, as is experience in the drug and alcohol sector or related fields, such as psychology, public health, criminology, sociology, medicine, pharmacology, health economics and biostatistics.

Successful candidates are required to enrol in the HDR program through the School of Public Health and Community Medicine (SPHCM) in the Faculty of Medicine.

Successful applicants will receive support via NDARC's [HDR training and development program](#).

Knowledge of UNSW's EEO/AA principles and policies will be required.

## How to apply

Complete the [application form](#) and provide all requested attachments to [NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au](mailto:NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au).

Note that applicants must nominate a supervisor on the application form. The supervisor must be an NDARC Academic and it is expected that applicants will have made contact with the proposed supervisor prior to submission of an application. If you are unsure about an appropriate supervisor, please email [NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au](mailto:NDARC.HDR@unsw.edu.au) and we will discuss this with you.

### **To apply, applicants must submit the following by email before midnight Sunday 10 November 2019:**

- Completed application form
- Academic Transcripts (including explanation of grading systems)
- English Proficiency documents (for LOTE applicants)
- Publications
- Research Proposal
- Proof of contact with proposed supervisor
- CV

Applications open: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Applications close: Midnight, Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Interviews: Applicants must be available for interview on Friday morning, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Program start: Typically commencement will begin in Term 1 2020, meaning HDRs would need to be enrolled by 17 February 2020. Later start dates are negotiable.

*It is not the intention of this advertisement to limit the scope of possible HDR research projects or enrolment options, but to highlight the most important aspects of NDARC's HDR program. The aspects mentioned above may be negotiated within the confines of UNSW's HDR policies and procedures.*