

EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY
RESEARCH SERVICES



Edith Cowan University
Support for Researchers

Graduate Research School (GRS)

About us

The Graduate Research School (GRS) provides leadership in research training to support Higher Degree by Research (HDR) candidates, their supervisors and Schools. We assist the timely graduation of high quality, independent researchers who have the capacity to contribute to the national and international research community.

How we support research at ECU

Our aim is to enhance the quality of the research experience of Higher Degree by Research students by providing a comprehensive face-to-face and online research skills training program, including workshops, seminars, academic events and social activities. We provide support and advice on strategic matters related to research training such as rules, policy, support and process updates to help improve performance and supervisor capacity. Staff are encouraged to visit the [Research Intranet - For Research Students](#) webpage for a comprehensive overview of services and support available to students and supervisors.

How we support HDR students

- **Integrated PhD** is a four-year PhD program incorporating a foundation year of specialised coursework to develop candidates' research skills, and three years of supervised research culminating in the submission and oral defence of a PhD thesis.
- **Research Training Workshops and Online Resources** help develop research and professional skills for candidates in early-, mid- and late- candidature. Includes research writing and communication, research methods, research management, thesis completion and examination, and careers. All online training is available under the GRS Programs BlackBoard site.
- **Research Student Support Coordinators** assist with queries regarding confirmation of candidature requirements, milestones, reporting, initiating change of supervisor form, policy and procedures support, referrals and general advice.
- **Research Advisers** provide support to HDR students in developing skills to effectively plan and carry out research. This service includes running specific research skills training workshops and where required providing one-on-one consultation.
- **HDR Communication Advisers** help research students improve their written and oral skills in order to successfully communicate their research. HDR Communication Advisers are available for one-to-one appointments in online and in-person consultations, and also provide 'English as an Additional Language' and other research-related workshops.
- **SOAR Centre** provides peer-to-peer support to HDR candidates by running one-to-one appointments and group workshops on a variety of topics to support students throughout their research journey. Staff are welcome to make an appointment.
- **Industry and PhD Research Engagement Program (iPREP WA)** is an ECU-led program in collaboration with all WA universities. The initiative connects industry with interdisciplinary teams of PhD candidates to work on authentic industry and community issues/problems. PhD candidates receive a \$4,000 scholarship for a seven-week industry placement.
- **Industry Engagement PhD Scholarship Schemes** link ECU scholarships with industry, government and community/not-for-profit partners, to provide opportunities for PhD candidates to work on

applied research projects and develop innovative research solutions for real-world industry, government, and community problems.

How we support Supervisors

The GRS supports HDR students as well as academic and research staff. This includes:

- **Supervisor Training Courses** run as face-to-face workshops and online to supervisors each semester. This course is mandatory for supervisors who are new to ECU (including academics who may have supervised at other institutions). Staff can register via the Staff Kiosk or Staff Development Calendar. The training introduces specifics of supervising HDR candidates at ECU, including:
 - The Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research;
 - Supervisor Compliance;
 - Governance;
 - Supervisor Development;
 - Resources and Support Services; and
 - New Initiatives and Opportunities.
- **PSAP [Principal Supervisor Accreditation Program](#)** provides a 'fast track' of comprehensive training for staff to become Principal Supervisors on an HDR student panel. Through workshops including 30+ expert speakers, individual mentoring, and creating a portfolio, tools and presentations, nominated academics in this year-long program can gain the equivalence of having guided a student to completion, and become eligible to be a Principal.

Further information

- Research Student Intranet: <https://intranet.ecu.edu.au/research/for-research-students>
- Information for Supervisors - supporting materials and policies: <https://intranet.ecu.edu.au/research/for-research-students/information-for-supervisors>
- [ECU Research Students Facebook Group](#)
- [GRS Programs BlackBoard](#)

Contact us

<http://intranet.ecu.edu.au/research/for-research-students/contact>.

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