

Monash Residential Services - The Role of a Resident Advisor (Entrepreneurship)

Context

The first four Mission Goals of Monash Residential Services are to provide and develop an environment within each location on campus that:

- Provides care, support and enrichment for the residential community in academic, cultural, personal, social and recreational matters;
- Has regard for the individual and group needs of the residential population, bearing in mind the multicultural nature of each residential location and the wider Monash University community;
- Recognises and values diversity (e.g. nationalities, beliefs, abilities, talents, interests, etc);
- Creates opportunities for mutually beneficial interaction between the members of the residential community

[\(<http://www.monash.edu/accommodation/contact/about-us>\)](http://www.monash.edu/accommodation/contact/about-us)

Monash Residential Services [MRS] gratefully acknowledges that there are current residents who demonstrate a strong commitment and willingness to undertake and be involved in a range of voluntary activities, programs and initiatives that contribute to the enhancement of community life in their Hall or Site and wider residential community.

As volunteers, Resident Advisors cannot be rostered 'on-call' – their contribution to their hall is entirely voluntary - and is essentially a community support, engagement and development role which demonstrates a strong commitment to actively participating in enriching and promoting community life within their Hall and wider residential community. As an acknowledgement of the contribution to residential communities made by Resident Advisors, a MRS Resident Advisor Scholarship may be offered to residents.

[\(<http://www.monash.edu.au/students/scholarships/mrs-residential-advisor.html>\)](http://www.monash.edu.au/students/scholarships/mrs-residential-advisor.html)

Eligibility for scholarship

To be eligible applicants must:

- Be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or holder of a permanent resident visa or humanitarian visa, or
- Be an international student, and;
- Be a current full-time undergraduate, honours, or postgraduate student enrolled at a Monash campus in Australia (subject to special consideration from the Director, Monash Residential Services), and;
- Be a current resident with Monash Residential Services, and;
- Have been appointed a Resident Advisor with Monash Residential Services

Retention of Scholarship

To retain a Resident Advisor scholarship, the holder must:

- Remain in residency with Monash Residential Services

- Maintain a full-time enrolment, variation to this is subject to special consideration from the Director, Monash Residential Services; written permission must be sought from the Director for a RA scholarship to be granted/retained should a RA move from a full-time to a part-time enrolment;
- Not be in breach of any current *Monash Residential Services – Conditions of Residency* (refer <http://www.monash.edu/accommodation/current-residents/regulations-and-policies/conditions-of-residency>);
- Maintain a minimum of a pass weighted average mark of 50% (Fifty percent);
- Maintain the support of the Residence's College Head as an appropriate, designated community leader in their Residence – as a result of ongoing conduct and contribution to their residential community and MRS more broadly.

Expectations of a Resident Advisor

Resident Advisors are expected to uphold and model exemplary behaviour and conduct and be an example to others as well as an ambassador for their Residence and Monash University. The conduct of Resident Advisors is expected to be at an exceptional level at all times within Residence as well as when the resident is (reasonably perceived as) representing or engaging in activities associated with their Residence or MRS.

Resident Advisors are expected to complete any requirements outlined in the application form for Resident Advisors, including, but not limited to:

- Completing accredited Mental Health First Aid Training
- Obtaining a Victorian *Working with Children Check (Volunteer)* card
- Completing Monash University Equal Opportunity (Students) online training
- Fulfilling any designated MRS Required Training Commitments – as outlined in the application and appointment process.

Resident Advisors contribute to the creation of a Residential Support Team within their Hall. The *Expectations* set out below are a means to achieving the above Mission Goals and are to be fulfilled in collaboration with, and support of, the whole of the Residential Support Team of each residential hall or MRS site. The central expectation is that RAs will be the model resident – actively promoting the values and expectations of MRS in their actions (both formal and informal). RAs are expected to inform their College Head of information which is important to the residential community and/or has the potential to impact the experience of residents or the reputation of MRS – RAs must disclose to their College Head or other appropriate person(s) at MRS, any personal conduct or situation(s) outside of MRS, within the University or wider community, which has the ability to influence the reputation of the RST and detrimentally impact MRS.

In addition to this training, holders of the RA (Entrepreneurship) positions will be expected to demonstrate and develop:

- A passion about entrepreneurship and startup enterprises,
- Experience in the organisation and facilitation of events and working on projects in teams,
- An ability to communicate confidently and clearly with student audiences and Monash staff (academic and professional)
- Present confidently and being tactfully persuasive – ability to pitch an idea well.
- Active across student clubs, societies, interest groups.
- Identify as having leadership qualities.
- Relevant skills including but not limited to some of the following: creativity, design and digital media skills, marketing and selling skills, connectedness in the Monash community, knowledge on entrepreneurship, confidence in presenting, facilitation skills, project management skills.

RAs (Entrepreneurship) will register and complete (or have previously completed) the Monash University:

- Trainings and programs as deemed appropriate to the position and role offered by the Generator
- Relevant MRS training for Resident Advisors.

The Generator Overview

The GENERATOR was started in 2016 and aligns directly to one of the five goals in the [Focus Monash Strategic Plan 2015-2020](#) to make the university enterprising.

The GENERATOR is an initiative that aims to foster an entrepreneurial mindset amongst the Monash University community in order to create more entrepreneurial graduates, and provide a supported pathway for successful early stage startups.

We do this by:

- Inspiring the potential for an entrepreneurial future.
- Developing entrepreneurial skills through multiple opportunities to engage in entrepreneurship activities – programs, events, competitions.
- A central place on campus (including a co-working space) to explore ideas and build them into marketable opportunities.
- A supported environment to build early stage startups in team.
- Building a strong entrepreneurial community at Monash.
- Creating linkages to existing entrepreneurship support pathways at Monash.
- Connectivity to the broader startup support ecosystem.

The Resident Advisor Entrepreneurship Overview

The particular focus of the Resident Advisors holding an entrepreneurship position is to become the resident representative in the promotion of entrepreneurship at Monash, fulfill the role of an ambassador for the Generator in promoting their programs, and assist in the development and implementation of entrepreneurship focused events and activities in the residences.

The MRS 'central' positions (rather than within individual residences) of RA (Entrepreneurship) provide an MRS wide focus and assist 'residential RAs' in the coordination of entrepreneurial programs within individual residences, as well as across MRS.

The Resident Advisors (Entrepreneurship) are expected to achieve outcomes in the following areas:

- Provide leadership and take initiative to develop innovative programs to promote entrepreneurship (2 events / programs per year).
- Advocate and promote within MRS in relation to the entrepreneurial activities and programs run by the Generator.
- Educate the MRS community about services within Monash which are in place to support the entrepreneurial pathway.
- To participate in the Generator Entrepreneurship Ambassador Program.

Entrepreneurship programs in conjunction with the Generator

- To participate in the Generator Entrepreneurship Ambassador program and attend monthly meetings at the Generator.
- To provide support at Generator promotional events including Orientation Week, Open Day, Winterfest, and Careers expo.
- To become involved in the planning and delivery of Generator events run by Entrepreneurship Ambassadors (eg. Pitch Nights and Ideation sessions)
- Act as a point of contact for all members of the MRS community relating to entrepreneurship promotion and support.
- To promote the Generator programs and activities through all relevant residential social media platforms.
- To plan and develop in conjunction with MRS team and the Generator entrepreneurship activities and events to take place in the residences.
- To represent the Generator in the residences and be willing to speak to audiences about what the Generator does and promote opportunities for an entrepreneurial career path (training provided)

Entrepreneurship Role Outline

All tasks as outlined below will be undertaken with support from the Manager Residential Support Engagement & Development and the Generator team.

- Meet with the Manager Residential Support Engagement & Development in November to develop a yearly action plan.
- Participate in the Generator Entrepreneurship Ambassador induction program to be held in November.
- Complete the training detailed above.
- Attend the Residents' Committee meetings and be involved in relevant sub-committees, and attend a monthly Entrepreneurship Ambassador meeting at the Generator
- Communicate effectively with the Generator team with key point of contact being the Community Manager.
- Broadly promote Generator events through posters and the MRS social media.

The Resident Advisor (Entrepreneurship) will be provided with operating guidelines by the Manager Residential Support Engagement & Development to assist them with tailoring their contribution to the specific needs of their residential community, and will be offered a full range of training relevant for their role.

Resident Advisors (Entrepreneurship) are not employees of MRS or the University and should ensure that they do not represent to students, staff or others that they are employees of MRS or the University. A resident's voluntary contribution to their Hall and wider residential community as a Resident Advisor does not carry any commitment by MRS or the University, for future employment opportunities.

Other items of consideration

- Monash Residential Services reserves the right at any time to advise residents they no longer require their voluntary contribution to the community as a Resident Advisor.
- All residents living at a Monash Residential Services site, whether they are residents or residents who have offered to be volunteer Resident Advisors:
 - are bound by the terms of their individual Residency Agreements;

- accept and acknowledge that they will abide by MRS Accommodation Fee Regulations, the Conditions of Residency and other regulations as are specified on the MRS web page.
- must pay all requisite fees at the times specified;
- ***accept all other such regulations as are specified in Resident Advisor online induction and to abide by the disciplinary authority of the College Head, MRS Site Managers or other appropriate persons.***

Rewards

In addition to the possibility of a MRS Resident Advisor Scholarship, the position of a Resident Advisor (Entrepreneurship) provides the opportunity to:

- Be part of a community and lead, foster and nurture entrepreneurial potential in that community.
- Assist new residents' transition to on-campus life through sharing your own experiences.
- Enable broad inclusion and participation through creative, experiential entrepreneurial events.
- Develop a broad range of skills including: Leadership skills, ability to pitch and sell, project management and implementation, collaborating in teams, digital skills, communication skills (public speaking and written)
- Undertake Generator training courses including pitching, ideation and presentation skills.
- Help make MRS a more innovative, entrepreneurial, exciting, inclusive and enjoyable place to live.
- Gain new perspectives on a diverse range of issues through working in a team and with residents from diverse cultures and backgrounds.
- Know you can 'make a difference'.