

DOCTORAL PROGRAM INFORMATION DAY FAQ

1. HOW DO I WRITE A RESEARCH PROPOSAL?

This will depend on the expectations of the discipline. Usually, a three page proposal with a research question, methodological approach and the citing of some key researchers should be undertaken. Refer to the learning support page at monash.edu.au/lls/hdr/write/5.3.html

2. HOW LONG SHOULD THE PROPOSAL BE?

Consult with the relevant department.

3. DOES MONASH PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO FIND A SUPERVISOR?

Generally no, however Business and Economics will assist. Other applicants should refer to: monash.edu/research/profile/find where you can search by Faculty, name or area of interest.

4. WHAT IS THE DURATION OF THE PHD?

The project should be conceived from the outset as achievable within three years.

5. WHEN CAN I START MY PHD?

As PhD you can start at any time. However, some academic departments may expect you to undertake some coursework units. Check the preferred commencement dates at monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply/accept/scholarship/commencement-date

6. WHAT IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS?

There are four simple steps to follow:

- check your eligibility
- obtain an invitation to apply and/or find a supervisor
- prepare your documentation
- submit an application

monash.edu/graduate-research/future-students/apply

7. MY MASTER IS BY COURSEWORK ONLY – CAN I APPLY FOR THE MONASH DOCTORAL PROGRAM?

Generally, we require the completion of a masters with a minimum 25 per cent research component. You may still be considered if you have demonstrated other research experience such as a publication in a peer reviewed journal. Subject to approval, you may be required to undertake a Master by research course for one year with the possibility of having it count towards your PhD. Some faculties such as IT, Education, Medicine and Science provide the opportunity to undertake a Graduate Certificate/Diploma in Research as a means to qualify for the PhD program.

8. I HAVE NOT COMPLETED A THESIS IN MY MASTER'S BUT I HAVE UNDERTAKEN RESEARCH AS PART OF MY EMPLOYMENT, CAN I BE ADMITTED INTO A PHD?

The university has a policy to take into account research experience. You will need to provide documentation of your research and supporting evidence of the quality of the research by your employer or an academic.

9. HOW LONG IS THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PHD?

Normally between two to four months but this will vary from department to department.

10. IF I HAVE A FINANCIAL GUARANTEE LETTER FROM MY GOVERNMENT, WILL I BE GUARANTEED AN OFFER?

No, Monash only assesses application on the basis of academic merit and research experience.

11. DO I USE AN ONLINE OR PAPER-BASED APPLICATION?

All applications for the PhD must be completed via the online system. You can apply online at monash.edu/phd

12. DO MY ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS AND TESTAMUR NEED TO BE TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH?

Yes, you need both the original as well as an English copy.

13. DO I NEED TO ATTACH A CV TO MY APPLICATION?

Yes, it is a mandatory requirement.

14. WHO CAN CERTIFY MY DOCUMENTS?

Refer to: study.monash/how-to-apply/international-student-applications/certifying-documents

15. CAN I USE AGENTS TO HELP SUBMIT MY APPLICATION TO COMMENCE A PHD?

Yes, you may appoint an agent by nominating an agent in the “agent section” of the online application.

16. DO YOU PACKAGE THE ENGLISH BRIDGING PROGRAM WITH THE PHD OFFER?

Yes, but not for the Faculties of Arts or Law. This is only applicable to students applying for admission only. Scholarship applicants will not receive a packaged offer with an English Bridging program.

17. WILL MONASH ISSUE A CONDITIONAL OFFER SUBJECT TO MEETING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT?

Conditional offers may be made subject to meeting the English language requirement. This is only applicable to students with a government scholarship applying for admission only. Monash University scholarship applicants will not receive a conditional offer.

18. MY GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP ONLY PROVIDES FUNDING FOR THREE YEARS- DO YOU ISSUE AN OFFER LETTER FOR THREE YEARS?

Your offer will be for four years to cover your Visa requirements and any potential extensions.

19. WHEN ARE MONASH UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS RELEASED?

Approximately six weeks after the relevant closing date.

20. CAN I DO FIELD WORK IN INDONESIA DURING MY DATA COLLECTION PHASE?

Yes, it is possible with the approval of the Graduate Research Committee and if the data collection is relevant to your research.

21. CAN I TEACH AT MONASH WHILE I AM DOING MY RESEARCH?

Generally, your student visa allows for part time work in Australia. However, Monash does not guarantee to provide work on campus, although some research students do tutoring for their academic department.

22. CAN I BRING MY CHILDREN?

Monash welcome partners and children, but you need to check with your sponsor to seek approval for this arrangement.

23. WILL MONASH HELP TO FIND SCHOOLS FOR MY CHILDREN?

Generally no- but you may contact student services to seek advice on schools and other family support information.

24. AFTER I JOIN PHD AND IF-DUE TO UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES – I CANNOT COPE CAN I OBTAIN A TESTAMUR OR CERTIFICATE?

You will not get an official testamur, however you can get an unofficial record of any professional development activities you have completed or an official academic transcript.

25. WHAT HAPPENS IF MY SUPERVISOR CHANGES TO ANOTHER UNIVERSITY DURING MY STUDY?

Monash has a policy that each candidate has a minimum of two supervisors so you should not need to change university.