

The Research Training Program (RTP)

Implementation of the Research Training Program (RTP)

From 1 January 2017 the Australian Government is replacing Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA), International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (IPRS) and the Research Training Scheme (RTS) with a single program called the *Research Training Program (RTP)*.

- Universities must transfer all APA, IPRS and RTS recipients to the new Research Training Program by 1 January 2017.
- Current support programs will not be continuing beyond 1 January 2017.
- Each university must transition each continuing student:
 - onto an RTP Scholarship in a form that does not disadvantage the student
 - provides at least equivalent support to that provided, or that would have been provided, through the three predecessor Australian Government programs.

Current Award	New Award	Student cohort	Monash Award Value
RTS	RTP Fees Offset	Domestic	Fee range estimate: \$28,900 - \$41,500*
APA	RTP Stipend	Domestic & International	2017 Stipend rate: \$26,682
IPRS	RTP Fees Offset	International	Relevant 2017 advertised course fees

*Fee range value will be indexed annually.

Communication to students

All students subject to transition will be contacted in writing within the next week, outlining the specific changes as they relate to the individual student.

What we have to do

The Government now requires Universities to advise students of the estimated annual value of support they are receiving from the Australian Government via the Research Training Program. With regards to RTP Fees Offset (formerly RTS) this is a new requirement and Monash has decided to provide students with an estimated fee range, as per the table above.

Important to note

- There continues to be no payable tuition fees for students awarded an RTP Fees Offset (formerly RTS and IPRS).
- The transition does not impact on current student Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).
- No action is required by the student or graduate research administrative or supervisory staff.
- There are no changes to the Monash funded scholarships – Monash Graduate Scholarship (MGS) and Monash International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (MIPRS), Monash Equity Scholarship (MES) and all other prestigious Monash scholarships.

Acknowledgement of Australian Government support

As part of the new arrangements there is a legislative requirement that you acknowledge the Australian Government's support in any published materials related to your research. This relates to any time, both during and after completion of your research. Materials include items such as books, articles, newsletters or other literary or artistic works which relate to your research project.

The acknowledgement must include the mention of your support through an "Australian Government Research Training Program Scholarship".

Resources and support

- [FAQs](#) have been developed to help support staff and students during this transition phase.
- An [RTP Scholarship Policy \(interim\)](#) webpage has been developed as a central point of information for staff and students.
- The [Department of Education & Training website](#) contains FAQs for administrators and students and other supporting documentation relating to the Research Training Program.
- A dedicated email address (mge-rtp-enquiries@monash.edu) has been set up to assist staff and students with queries relating to the implementation of the RTP.