



Australian Government
Department of Education

National Industry PhD Program

Program Guidelines

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1. Program objectives and outcomes

- 1.1. An Industry PhD is a doctoral program designed with an industry application. Under appropriate academic and industry supervision, PhD Candidates often undertake a co-designed research project with university and industry participation. The National Industry PhD Program (Program) equips PhD Candidates with the skills and experience to better translate university research into research impact which can lead to commercialisation outcomes, and the strong capability to work at the interface of research and industry, and across the sectors in future.

The Program consists of two streams:

- **Industry Linked PhD stream:** This stream is for outstanding PhD Candidates to undertake research projects co-designed by university and industry, with opportunities to be embedded in industry settings.
- **Industry Researcher PhD stream:** This stream is for highly capable industry professionals who are supported by their employers to undertake PhD projects in partnership with a university.

- 1.2. The objectives of the Program are to:
- Develop talented PhD Candidates into researchers who can work in both industry and academic settings,
 - Support industry professionals to develop expert research skills and support the next generation of industry researchers and leaders,
 - Contribute to and strengthen industry-focused innovation and development through greater university-industry collaboration, and
 - Support PhD Research Projects co-designed between university and industry, aligning with Australian Government (Government) priorities.
- 1.3. A third-party service provider (Service Provider) will be appointed by the Department of Education (Department) to manage the administration of the Program.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Ongoing support under the Program requires:

2.1.1. One or more PhD Research Projects

2.1.2. One or more PhD Candidates

2.1.3. One or more Industry Partners

2.1.4. One or more Participating Universities

Eligible PhD Research Project

- 2.2. To be eligible for the Program, a PhD Research Project must be a research project that is suitable for PhD Candidates to undertake with a potential industry application. PhD Research Projects can be either single projects for one PhD Candidate, or multiple projects for more than one PhD Candidate.

Eligible PhD Candidate

- 2.3. To be eligible for the Program, a PhD Candidate must:
 - 2.3.1. Be undertaking a PhD (defined as Level 10 Doctoral Degree (Research) or Doctoral Degree (Professional) qualification as described in the Australian Qualifications Framework) for which at least two-thirds is required as research work
 - 2.3.2. Be a domestic or international PhD Candidate
 - 2.3.3. Be supported to participate in the Program by a Participating University
 - 2.3.4. Be awarded an Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Fees Offset for the duration of their Industry PhD candidature by a Participating University
 - 2.3.5. Not have previously completed a PhD program at the time of application.

Additional eligibility criteria for Industry Linked PhD Candidates

- 2.4. A PhD Candidate must be awarded an Australian Government RTP Stipend scholarship (or similar scholarship, with the minimum funding amount equivalent to the RTP Stipend base rate) for the duration of their Industry PhD candidature by a Participating University.
- 2.5. A PhD Candidate may be enrolled on either a full-time or part-time basis, subject to the agreement between the Participating University and the Industry Partner. Part-time PhD Candidates are those undertaking less than 75 per cent of an equivalent full-time student load.

Joining the Program within the first year of PhD Candidature

- 2.6. A PhD Candidate who has already commenced their first year of study is eligible to apply to join the Program, subject to the approval of their Participating University and their agreement that all other requirements of this program have been met. To be eligible, a PhD Candidate must be informed by their Participating University that they have been enrolled in the Program within twelve months of their initial PhD commencement date.
 - 2.6.1. Twelve-month eligibility will be calculated from the closing date of the applicable round. The closing date for each round will be advertised by the Service Provider.
 - 2.6.2. Exceptions may be considered under exceptional circumstances. Any such exceptions must be approved in writing by the Department.

Additional eligibility criteria for Industry Researcher PhD Candidates

- 2.7. A PhD Candidate must have their employer's agreement to participate in the Program. Their employer will be an Industry Partner for the Program duration.
- 2.8. A PhD Candidate will undertake study and work concurrently with time spent on each activity to be agreed between the Industry Partner and the Participating University. It is expected that both the study and work components will contribute to the PhD.

Eligible Industry Partner

- 2.9. To be eligible for the Program under the Industry Linked PhD stream, an Industry Partner must:
 - 2.9.1. Be a business or organisation with an Australian Business Number (ABN) registered with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) or an Australian Company Number (ACN) registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC); and
 - 2.9.2. Undertake Research and Development (R&D) activities.
- 2.10. To be eligible for the Program under the Industry Researcher PhD stream, an Industry Partner must be a Body Corporate that:
 - 2.10.1. Is partnered with a Participating University to receive a grant to support a PhD Research Project for this stream;
 - 2.10.2. Employs a PhD Candidate that:
 - 2.10.2.1. Will be eligible for the RTP Fees Offset for the duration of their PhD candidature in the Program;
 - 2.10.2.2. Has not previously completed a PhD program at the time the PhD Candidate applies to participate in the Program;
 - 2.10.2.3. Will enrol in the year they are offered a position in the Program; and
 - 2.10.2.4. Will be in the first year of their PhD, or if they have already commenced another PhD program, received approval from their higher education provider to transfer across to the Program.
 - 2.10.3. Undertakes R&D activities.

Eligible Participating University

- 2.11. To be eligible for the Program, a Participating University must:
 - 2.11.1. Be listed as a higher education provider under section 16-15 (Table A providers) or section 16-20 (Table B providers) in the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.

3. Program duration

Program duration for Industry Linked PhD Candidates

- 3.1. The Program duration for a full-time candidate will be a minimum of three years, and up to a maximum of four years, subject to the Participating University's scholarship policies and agreement with the Industry Partner. The Program duration will match the candidate's RTP Stipend (or a similar scholarship's) period of support. Refer to clause 5.1. in relation to the embedment requirements in the Participating University setting.
- 3.2. PhD Candidates may choose to undertake their PhD Research Project on a part-time basis, as agreed between the Participating University and Industry Partner. The Program duration for part-time candidates will be a minimum of six years, and up to a maximum of eight years.

- 3.3. The PhD Candidate's period of support will be increased for any periods of leave approved by the Participating University in relation to clause 5.6. in these Guidelines. The Program duration is calculated from the PhD commencement date.

Program duration for Industry Researcher PhD Candidates

- 3.4. The Program duration is for up to four years. PhD Candidates will continue to work and study concurrently with hours to be agreed between the Industry Partner and Participating University. Refer to clause 5.3. in relation to the embedment requirements in the Participating University setting.
- 3.5. While the Program duration is for up to four years, if agreed by the Participating University and Industry Partner, the duration can be extended to up to eight years (refer to clause 4.20).

4. Funding and support

Funding for Participating University

- 4.1. For each full-time Industry Linked PhD Candidate, Participating Universities will receive a grant of \$11,614 per annum contributing to administrative costs. This grant will be provided for up to four years, matching the RTP Stipend (or a similar scholarship's) period of support awarded to the candidate by the Participating University.
- 4.2. For each Industry Researcher PhD Candidate, Participating Universities will receive a grant of \$11,614 per annum contributing to administrative costs. This grant will be provided for up to four years.
- 4.3. The Participating University must inform the Service Provider if the relevant Industry Partner no longer meets the relevant requirements set out in clause 2.9 and 2.10.
- 4.4. The Participating University must use the administrative component for administrative costs associated with the Program (such as salary costs for administrative support staff, providing a workspace for the PhD Candidate, or travel expenses of the PhD candidate relating to the Program) and must not pass this grant on to the PhD Candidate as stipend support.

Funding and support for Industry Linked PhD Candidates, including Industry Partner contributions

- 4.5. Full-time PhD Candidates will receive a Stipend Top-up to assist with living costs for the Program duration, funded from the following sources:
 - 4.5.1. A minimum of \$10,000 per annum from the Industry Partner
 - 4.5.2. \$6,968 per annum from the Government.
- 4.6. These amounts are in addition to the RTP Stipend (or similar scholarship) received by candidates, as awarded by the Participating University. The RTP Stipend rates are specified on the [Department's website](#).

Further optional contributions made by Industry Partner

- 4.7. An Industry Partner may choose to provide a Stipend Top-up above the rate, as specified in clause 4.5.1. Industry Partners and Participating Universities must ensure that any Stipend Top-up amount is consistent with relevant clauses and limits, as set out in the *Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Research) 2017*.
- 4.8. An Industry Partner may contribute additional funding to support other PhD Research Project costs.

Payments for PhD Candidates joining the Program within the first year of candidature

- 4.9. PhD Candidates joining the Program within the first year of their PhD candidature (refer to 2.6 for eligibility) will receive the Government's Stipend Top-up contribution based on the initial PhD commencement date, regardless of the Program commencement date. The Industry Partner's Stipend Top-up contribution will be based on the Program commencement date.

Training provision for Industry Linked PhD Candidates

- 4.10. PhD Candidates will be provided with a 12-week training program during their candidature to equip them with skills and tools to:
 - 4.10.1. understand the importance of creating positive impact with their research;
 - 4.10.2. uncover the problems that potential partners want to solve, and learn how to identify and engage with potential industry, government, and community partners; and
 - 4.10.3. enhance their industry engagement and collaboration skills to build connections with their Industry Partners.
- 4.11. The Service Provider is responsible for the delivery of the training program, focusing on building PhD Candidates' capability and skills to work on research impact, translation, commercialisation, and industry-university collaboration. The training program will be informed by best practice and advice from experts across the university, industry, and government sectors.

Funding and support for Industry Researcher PhD Candidates, including Industry Partner Contributions

- 4.12. The Industry Partner is required to commit to supporting the employee (as the PhD Candidate) to undertake study and work concurrently, while paying full salary and benefits for the Program duration, and is responsible for all other relevant expenses, including (but not limited to) workplace accommodation, equipment, and materials as required.

Funding for Industry Partner under the Industry Researcher PhD Stream

- 4.13. The Industry Partner will receive \$46,458 per annum for the Program duration to support the provision of higher education to their employed PhD Candidate, including for one of the following purposes:
 - 4.13.1. To support PhD Candidates to complete their PhD Research Project; and
 - 4.13.2. To support the Industry Partner with releasing PhD Candidates and other employees of the Industry Partner for periods of time for the purposes of assisting PhD Candidates to complete their PhD Research Project.
- 4.14. A participating Industry Partner will not be eligible to receive more than \$185,832 in total of industry component payments for a single PhD Candidate for the duration of the PhD Research Project.

Funding payments and process

- 4.15. Each year, the Stipend Top-up specified in clause 4.5.2 and the Industry Partner funding specified in clause 4.13 will be provided in proportion to the period for which the PhD Candidate has been supported through the Program.
- 4.16. For the Industry Linked PhD stream, upon funding approval and compliance with eligibility criteria:
 - 4.16.1. the Service Provider will pay the Government Stipend Top-ups and administrative component to Participating Universities
 - 4.16.2. Industry Partners will pay their co-contributions to Participating Universities
 - 4.16.3. Participating Universities will pay Stipend Top-ups directly to PhD Candidates.
- 4.17. For the Industry Researcher PhD stream, upon funding approval and compliance with eligibility criteria:
 - 4.17.1. the Service Provider will pay the university administrative component to Participating Universities
 - 4.17.2. the Service Provider will pay the industry component of the grant to the participating Industry Partner.

Rates for Part-Time PhD Candidates

- 4.18. All funding amounts specified in Section 4 of these Guidelines are set at 50 per cent of the full-time rate for part-time PhD Candidates.
- 4.19. As an example, an Industry Linked PhD Candidate would receive a minimum \$5,000 Stipend Top-up from an Industry Partner, and a \$3,484 Stipend Top-up from the Government per annum, for up to eight years. The Participating University will receive \$5,806 per annum for each part-time PhD Candidate under this arrangement.
- 4.20. For the Industry Researcher PhD stream, if agreed by both the Participating University and the Industry Partner, the subsidy can be paid at \$23,228 for up to eight years. The Participating University will receive \$5,806 per annum for each part-time PhD Candidate under this arrangement.

Indexation of amounts

- 4.21. Aside from the co-contributions (refer to 4.5.1, 4.7, and 4.8) from Industry Partners, all funding amounts specified in Section 4 of these Guidelines are for the 2024 grant year and will be indexed in future years in accordance with Part 5-6 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.

Taxation

- 4.22. Under section 51-10 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, scholarships paid to full-time candidates for educational purposes are treated as exempt income. Scholarships paid to part-time candidates are not treated as exempt income under this act. While Industry Linked PhD Stipend Top-ups are intended to be paid for educational purposes, it is recommended that Program participants seek taxation advice from relevant experts in relation to their personal taxation circumstances.

5. Program Conditions and Rules

Embedment of PhD Candidates

- 5.1. Industry Linked PhD Candidates are required to spend between 20 per cent (Full Time Equivalent (FTE)) and 50 per cent (FTE) of the Program duration embedded in the Industry Partner's setting.
- 5.2. PhD Candidates are expected to undertake work concerning research into, or investigation relevant to their PhD Research Project. It is also permissible to undertake work that has direct benefits for the PhD Candidate's professional development and should contribute to the overall aim of providing relevant skills and tools to equip the PhD Candidate to better translate university research, with the strong capability to work across the research and industry settings.
- 5.3. Industry Researcher PhD Candidates are required to spend between 20 per cent (FTE) and 50 per cent (FTE) of the Program duration embedded in the Participating University's setting.
- 5.4. The amount of time spent within the industry and university settings will be agreed by the Participating University, Industry Partner, and PhD Candidate. The undertakings may take place remotely, online and in physical co-location, as appropriate.
- 5.5. If not outlined in the application process (refer to Section 7), case-by-case exceptions to the 20 to 50 per cent (FTE) range will be considered and subject to the approval of the Department.

Leave conditions

- 5.6. For Industry Linked PhD Candidates receiving RTP Stipends, the Participating University must ensure that PhD Candidates are entitled to, at a minimum, the leave conditions and entitlements set out in the *Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Research) 2017*. Participating Universities that provide leave conditions and entitlements additional to those set out in the *Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Research) 2017* are strongly encouraged to continue those arrangements.

- 5.7. For Industry Linked PhD Candidates receiving RTP Stipend equivalent scholarships, the Participating University must ensure that PhD Candidates are entitled to the leave conditions and entitlements set out in university scholarship policies and rules.
- 5.8. For Industry Researcher PhD Candidates, the Participating University must ensure that candidates will have access to leave conditions and entitlements as specified in the collaborative agreement between the Participating University and Industry Partner.

Other conditions

- 5.9. The Industry Partner must provide an Industry Supervisor for the PhD Research Project. The Industry Supervisor should have extensive experience working in the research area as well as business sector knowledge and meet appropriate PhD supervisor requirements as specified by the Participating University. The allocation of the official supervisory panel is the responsibility of the Participating University.
- 5.10. In the case that the Industry Partner is unable to provide an Industry Supervisor, an Industry Advisor should be appointed to support the PhD Research Project by the Industry Partner, in agreement with the Participating University.
- 5.11. The Industry Partner must provide sufficient access to appropriate facilities and infrastructure to support the PhD Candidate and commit to supporting the candidate for the full Program duration, subject to satisfactory progress in the PhD Research Project.
- 5.12. The Participating University and Industry Partner must make judgements and provide effective professional development and support to PhD Candidates to ensure the successful completion of the PhD Research Project.

6. Application Process

- 6.1. The Service Provider will manage the application process. Calls for applications will be made twice a year, on the first business day of February and July. Applications will be open for a term of six (6) weeks. The Service Provider will advertise application rounds widely and provide detailed information on submission requirements.
- 6.2. Participating Universities and Industry Partners may find suitable partnerships independently. However, the Service Provider may also support the matching of PhD Research Projects with potential Participating Universities or Industry Partners when needed.

Industry Linked PhD Project application process

- 6.3. For the Industry Linked PhD stream, an application process will be used to invite proposals for collaborative individual and multiple PhD Research Projects, developed jointly by Participating Universities and Industry Partners.
- 6.4. The application must be submitted by the Participating University to the Service Provider, with appropriate documents to outline the Industry Partners' support and contributions.

Industry Researcher PhD Project application process

- 6.5. For the Industry Researcher PhD stream, an application process will be used to invite proposals for individual and multiple PhD Research Projects developed jointly by Industry

Partners and Participating Universities, with an in-principle agreement to admitting a PhD Candidate should the funding be approved.

- 6.6. The applications must be submitted by the Participating University to the Service Provider.

Conditions for multiple PhD Projects

- 6.7. Multiple PhD applications can include PhD places for Industry Linked PhDs or Industry Researcher PhDs. Applications will be required to clearly specify the number of places requested, and for which stream.
- 6.8. An application can come from a single Participating University with one Industry Partner, or multiple Participating Universities with several Industry Partners (such as a consortium for a Doctoral Training Centre).
- 6.9. An application must be submitted by the Participating University, or if from a consortium, the Lead University.

Withdrawing an application

- 6.10. Participating Universities and/or Industry Partners (as appropriate) must notify the Service Provider in writing if they wish to withdraw an application.

7. Selection Process

PhD Research Project Selection

- 7.1. When each application round closes, the Service Provider will conduct eligibility checks and refer all eligible applications to the Department for funding approval. If a Program application round is over-subscribed, an Independent Assessment Panel (IAP) will be established to conduct a competitive selection process for eligible applications. The Service Provider will provide a funding recommendation list to the Department based on the outcomes of the IAP process.
- 7.2. Funding recommendations and approval will be based on the following selection criteria:

Engagement between University and Industry Partner (25%)

Alignment with one or more of the following:

- 7.2.1. Potential for long-term collaboration between the University and Industry Partner.
Evidence of the project's benefit to both parties as well as potential innovation in future and a desire to create or expand the University and Industry Partner's working relationship.
- 7.2.2. (a) Strength and quality of engagement between the University and Industry Partner, including previous projects (where applicable), or interactions to date on the proposed project(s) OR

(b) Commitment to develop new or emerging collaboration between the University and Industry Partner (including partnerships with Small-to-Medium Enterprises (SMEs)) to be established and the potential to drive innovation through the project.

Research feasibility and strategic alignment (25%)

- 7.2.3. Viability of the project's design, duration, equipment, and supervisory team(s)/support.
- 7.2.4. Provision from the Industry Partner's resources for the project's design, development, and delivery, including staff time and cash and/or in-kind contributions.

Additional weightings are provided for alignment of the project with one or more of the following:

- 7.2.5. Australian Government priority areas, including the National Reconstruction Fund (NRF) priorities.
- 7.2.6. Located in a regional area outside of the Major Cities locations (as classified by the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\)](#)).
- 7.2.7. An Industry Partner that is an Australian-based for-profit organisation.

Project impact (25%)

- 7.2.8. Demonstrated understanding of how the project will lead to social, economic, technical, cultural and/or environmental impact.
- 7.2.9. Relevance of the project to the Industry Partner's (or Partners') commercial or translation opportunities, including the pathways used to encourage the translation of research into impact.

Capacity, capability, and resources to support the development of PhD Candidates (25%)

- 7.2.10. Suitability of plans to develop the PhD Candidate and provide appropriate professional development, particularly regarding research translation and/or commercialisation skills and knowledge, and/or the creation of innovative research/industry experience for the PhD Candidate.
- 7.2.11. Support and commitment from the Participating University and Industry Partner to ensure PhD Candidates will have appropriate access to facilities and infrastructure and receive appropriate support during their PhD, including additional stipend support above the minimum identified Stipend (for Industry Linked PhDs), and support to increase and enhance the potential of their future employment prospects, including through providing professional development and industry experience.
- 7.3. The Program seeks an appropriate balance in the funding provided to individual and multiple PhD Research Projects. During the selection process, the IAP and Service Provider will consider an objective of 30 per cent PhD places to be awarded to multiple PhD Research Projects, and 70 per cent of PhD places to be awarded to individual PhD Research Projects.
- 7.4. During the assessment process, the Service Provider may request additional relevant documents if the information provided in the application, particularly in relation to eligibility, is not in full. This will not change the nature of the application.

PhD Candidate selection

- 7.5. For the Industry Linked PhD stream, the Participating University will be responsible for the selection of eligible PhD Candidates, with the support of the Industry Partner if appropriate.
- 7.6. For the Industry Researcher PhD stream, the Industry Partner will be responsible for the nomination of eligible PhD Candidates, subject to meeting the Participating University's admission requirements.
- 7.7. In admitting PhD Candidates, the Participating University and Industry Partner may consider the following selection criteria:
 - 7.7.1. Experience relevant to the field of research, including any previous research work done
 - 7.7.2. Professional experience
 - 7.7.3. Academic excellence
 - 7.7.4. Motivation for undertaking an Industry PhD Research Project.
- 7.8. PhD Candidates can be identified either prior to, or following, the submission of an application.

8. Collaborative Agreement

- 8.1. It is a requirement of the Program that a collaborative agreement be established between the Participating University and Industry Partner. PhD Candidates are also required to agree to the terms of the collaborative agreement.
- 8.2. A [collaborative agreement template](#) is available on the Department's website. This template is voluntary and may be used as a negotiation starting point.
- 8.3. Participating Universities or Industry Partners can use an existing collaborative agreement template of a similar nature.
- 8.4. The collaborative agreement established must provide for how intellectual property rights created as part of the PhD Research Project should be handled and must allow the PhD Candidate to use and publish such intellectual property in their thesis or relevant publications.
- 8.5. For the Industry Linked PhD stream, the collaborative agreement must provide that the business or organisation will provide a yearly cash contribution of at least \$10,000 for up to four years for each full-time PhD Candidate, and at least \$5,000 for up to eight years for each part-time PhD Candidate.

9. Termination, Suspension and funding support during unforeseen circumstances

Termination

- 9.1. A Participating University must terminate a PhD Candidate's Stipend Top-up and inform the Service Provider within fourteen (14) days if the PhD Candidate ceases to meet the eligibility criteria specified in Section 2 of these Guidelines, other than during a period in which a suspension or leave has been approved. In this circumstance, the Service Provider must cease payments to the Industry Partner.

Suspension

- 9.2. A PhD Research Project may be suspended due to unforeseen circumstances. The approval of a suspension period will be at the discretion of the Participating University, consistent with their scholarship policies and rules. A suspension may be appropriate if an Industry Partner ceases its operation, or if a PhD Candidate changes their employer.

When the Industry Partner ceases its business operation (for Industry Linked PhD)

- 9.3. If the Industry Partner ceases its business operation, it is the Participating University's responsibility to provide support to the PhD Candidate to facilitate completion of the PhD Research Project, including seeking a suitable replacement Industry Partner where possible.
 - 9.3.1. A PhD Candidate's Program support may be suspended for a period of up to six months to allow for a replacement Industry Partner to be found.
 - 9.3.2. If a suitable replacement Industry Partner cannot be found, the PhD Research Project, with required modifications, can continue under the supervision of the Participating University and other support such as the RTP Stipend or similar scholarships. Funding and support under the Program will only continue if the PhD Candidate has been supported in the Program for at least two years full-time equivalent or four years part-time. Case-by-case exceptions to the two-year rule may be considered and must be approved by the Department.

When the industry partner ceases its business operation, or if PhD Candidates' employment with the Industry Partner ceases (for Industry Researcher PhD)

- 9.4. If the Industry Partner ceases its business operation or if the PhD Candidate ceases employment with the Industry Partner while the Industry Partner receives the subsidy, it is the Participating University's responsibility to advise the Service Provider, and work with the PhD Candidate to find a reasonable solution to support the completion of the PhD Research Project with necessary modifications. The Industry Partner subsidy will be discontinued.

10. Performance reporting and monitoring

- 10.1. Participating Universities, Industry Partners and PhD Candidates will be required to participate in qualitative and quantitative surveys and data collections as directed by the Service Provider. The collections will avoid duplication of information that is currently collected by the Department through other mechanisms where possible.
- 10.2. The Department will evaluate the Program regularly to measure the outcomes and objectives achieved. Indicators used for evaluation may include (but are not limited to):
 - 10.2.1. PhD completion rates
 - 10.2.2. PhD completion timeframes
 - 10.2.3. PhD Candidate experience
 - 10.2.4. PhD graduate outcomes
 - 10.2.5. Industry Partner experience
 - 10.2.6. Level of support provided to PhD Candidates
 - 10.2.7. Effectiveness of the 12-week training program
 - 10.2.8. The role of the Service Provider
- 10.3. Participating University personnel (such as PhD supervisors), Industry Partner personnel (such as Industry Advisers/Supervisors), PhD Candidates, and the Service Provider are required to provide information to help with Program evaluation as requested by the Department.

Attachment A – Program roles and responsibilities

Industry Partner responsibilities

A.1 Industry Partners are responsible for:

- a. providing PhD Candidates with an industry experience and supporting candidates during the candidature relating to work within the industry setting (for the Industry Linked PhD stream).
- b. committing to supporting their employees as PhD Candidates to undertake study and work concurrently while paying full salary and benefits for the Program duration and meeting the costs for other relevant expenditure such as workplace accommodation, equipment, and materials as required (for the Industry Researcher PhD stream).
- c. providing an Industry Supervisor or Industry Advisor from its organisation
- d. supporting Participating Universities in undertaking the assessment of PhD Candidates (where appropriate)
- e. agreeing to and signing a collaborative agreement
- f. providing sufficient access to appropriate facilities and infrastructure to support PhD Candidates
- g. providing information to the Service Provider as required.

Participating University responsibilities

A.2 Participating Universities are responsible for:

- a. sourcing and selecting PhD Candidates for approved PhD Research Projects (for the Industry Linked stream)
- b. assessing PhD Candidates nominated by Industry Partners (for the Industry Researcher stream)
- c. providing ongoing academic supervision to PhD Candidates
- d. allocating the official supervisory panel
- e. supporting PhD research skills, orientation, professional development, and on-boarding
- f. agreeing to and signing a collaborative agreement
- g. administering payments to PhD Candidates (if needed) and monitoring and reporting expenditure
- h. monitoring PhD Candidates progress and ensuring adherence to the terms of the PhD agreement
- i. providing information to the Service Provider as required.

PhD Candidate responsibilities

A.3 PhD Candidates are responsible for:

- a. understanding and adhering to the terms and requirements set out in relevant guidelines, conditions, collaborative agreements and policy documents by the Department, Industry Partner, and Participating University
- b. agreeing to and signing a collaborative agreement
- c. making satisfactory progress on the PhD Research Project as determined by the PhD Candidate's University Supervisor(s) and relevant university policies and procedures, with the support of the Industry Supervisor
- d. submitting participation reports (or surveys) as requested.

Service Provider responsibilities

A.4 The Service Provider is responsible for:

- a. promoting and administering the Program
- b. facilitating partnership building opportunities
- c. managing application processes
- d. undertaking eligibility assessments
- e. providing funding recommendations for the Department's approval
- f. advising funding outcomes to Participating Universities
- g. providing the 12-week training, development and learning courses to the Industry Linked PhD cohorts
- h. coordinating data collection and reporting processes as required
- i. dispensing funding to Participating Universities.

Department responsibilities

A.5 The Department is responsible for:

- a. selecting the Service Provider
- b. supporting the Service Provider in promotion of the Program
- c. reviewing funding recommendations submitted by the Service Provider and approving funding for the Program
- d. providing funding to the Service Provider for administration
- e. maintaining the Program Guidelines
- f. monitoring the performance of the Service Provider
- g. monitoring and evaluating the overall Program performance.

Attachment B – Program summary

	Key elements
Industry Linked PhD	<p><u>PhD Candidates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake PhD projects co-designed by university and industry, embedded in industry settings. <p><u>Industry Partners</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an Industry Supervisor and embedment location (whether physical, online and/or remotely). Contribute to Stipend Top-up. <p><u>Funding and Support</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible full-time PhD Candidates must be awarded a RTP Stipend (or similar), and in addition, will receive a Stipend Top-up, for up to four years: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> \$10,000 minimum per annum from Industry Partner \$6,968 per annum from the Australian Government (indexed as per section 4.21) Participating Universities will receive \$11,614 per annum (indexed as per section 4.21), for up to four years, for each full-time candidate. <p><u>Embedment of PhD Candidates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> PhD Candidates are required to spend between 20 per cent (FTE) and 50 per cent (FTE) of the Program duration in the Industry Partner’s setting. They will undertake work that has direct relevance to and/or will make contributions to the PhD Research Project. Professional development which increases PhD Candidates’ understanding of industry is also acceptable. The amount and method (online, physical co-location and/or remotely) of time spent within the industry setting will be agreed by all parties prior to commencement.
Industry Researcher PhD	<p><u>PhD Candidates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Industry professionals who are supported by their employers to undertake PhD Research Projects in partnership with a university. <p><u>Industry Partners</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support employees to undertake PhD study and agree that the employee’s full salary and benefits be maintained for the Program duration. <p><u>Funding and Support</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> PhD Candidate will retain their full salary and benefits while undertaking PhD study. Industry Partners will receive a subsidy of \$46,458 per annum (indexed as per section 4.21) for up to four years. Participating Universities will receive \$11,614 per annum (indexed as per section 4.21) for up to four years. <p><u>Embedment of PhD Candidates</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Researcher PhD Candidates are required to spend between 20 per cent (FTE) and 50 per cent (FTE) embedded in the Participating University’s setting. The amount and method (online, physical co-location or remotely) of time spent within the university setting will be agreed by all parties prior to commencement.

Attachment C – Definitions

Term	Definition
Australian Business Number (ABN)	is a unique 11-digit number that identifies businesses to the Government and community. An ABN is issued by the Australian Business Register which is operated by the Australian Tax Office (ATO).
Australian Company Number (ACN)	is a unique 9-digit identifier given by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) to a company upon registration under Australia's <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> .
Applicant	means a person who makes a formal application for the National Industry PhD Program.
Application	means a formal proposal to be considered under the National Industry PhD Program.
AQF	means the Australian Qualifications Framework Second Edition January 2013.
Body Corporate	means a person, association or group of persons legally incorporated in a corporation.
the Department	means the Commonwealth Department of Education.
Domestic PhD Candidate	means a person who is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) an Australian citizen; b) a New Zealand citizen (or dual citizenship holders of either Australia or New Zealand); c) an Australian permanent resident; or d) an Australian permanent humanitarian visa holder.
Embedment	means PhD Candidates undertaking work concerning research into, or investigation relevant to their PhD Research Project. The amount of time spent within the industry and university settings will be agreed by the Participating University, Industry Partner and PhD Candidate. The undertakings may take place remotely, online and in physical co-location, as appropriate.
Equivalent RTP Stipend	means a stipend scholarship provided to a PhD Candidate with the same duration and stipend rate as that received by an RTP stipend scholarship recipient at the base RTP stipend rate.
Independent Assessment Panel (IAP)	means the body established to assess eligible applications where the number of applications received in a round exceeds the number of places available.

Industry Advisor	means a person appointed by the Industry Partner to support the PhD Research Project as agreed with the Participating University.
Industry Contributions	means support (such as money or time) provided by an Industry Partner.
Industry Partner	means a single or multiple businesses or companies that will partner with a university and a PhD candidate to undertake a PhD Research Project.
Industry PhD	means a research project with an industry application undertaken by a doctoral candidate under appropriate academic and industry supervision.
Industry Supervisor	means a person who works for an Industry Partner and meets the appropriate PhD supervisor requirements as specified by the Participating University.
Intellectual Property (IP)	means any rights in any copyright work (including any work or item created in the future), invention (whether or not patent protection has been sought), design, circuit layout, new plant variety, trademark, know-how or trade secret
Lead University	means a Participating University in a consortium that is responsible for submitting an application for the Program, who will be the main point of contact for an application and, if the application is successful, will be responsible for receiving funding under the Program.
Kick-off Meeting	means the meeting to be convened by the Service Provider between all parties that establishes the formal commencement date in the Program.
Participating University	means a single or multiple universities that participate in the Program and must be listed as a higher education provider under section 16-15 (Table A providers) or section 16-20 (Table B providers) in the <i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i> .
Part-Time PhD Candidate	means a PhD Candidate who undertakes less than 75 per cent of an equivalent full-time student study load in the period for which RTP Stipend (or similar scholarship) support is received.
PhD Candidate	means a student enrolled and undertaking a Level 10 Doctoral Degree (Research) or Doctoral Degree (Professional) qualification as described in the AQF.
PhD Research Project	means a single or multiple research projects that are suitable for PhD Candidates to undertake with a potential industry application.
PhD Supervisor	means a person qualified to supervise a PhD research project as determined by a university participating in the program.



Research and Development (R&D) activities	means ‘creative and systematic work undertaken to increase the stock of knowledge – including knowledge of humankind, culture and society – and to devise new applications of available knowledge’ as defined by the <i>Frascati Manual 2015</i> maintained by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.
Research Training Program (RTP)	provides block grants to higher education providers to support students undertaking research doctorate and research master’s degrees.
RTP Fees Offset	is a type of RTP Scholarship to assist with course fees that would otherwise be payable by a higher degree by research (HDR) student.
RTP Stipend	is a type of RTP Scholarship provided to assist students with general living costs.
Service Provider	means an organisation contracted by the Department to administer the National Industry PhD Program.
Stipend Top-up	is an additional payment to assist PhD Candidates with general living costs.
Suspension	means a period of time during which a PhD Candidate is not receiving Program support.

Attachment D – Process overview

Semester 1 commencement

July - August	August - September	October - November	November - January	January - June
<p>Applications open</p> <p>Round opens 1st business day in July.</p> <p>Open for six weeks.</p> <p>Universities are required to submit applications.</p>	<p>Applications assessed</p> <p>Eligibility checks and independent assessment of applications conducted.</p>	<p>Applicants notified.</p> <p>Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified of outcomes</p>	<p>Preparing for project commencement</p> <p>PhD candidates identified and enrolled.</p> <p>Collaborative agreement finalised.</p> <p>Kick-off Meeting held.</p>	<p>PhD candidate commences</p> <p>Commence semester 1.</p>

Semester 2 commencement

February - March	March - April	May - June	June - July	July - December
<p>Applications open</p> <p>Round opens 1st business day in February.</p> <p>Open for six weeks.</p> <p>Universities are required to submit applications.</p>	<p>Applications assessed</p> <p>Eligibility checks and independent assessment of applications conducted.</p>	<p>Applicants notified.</p> <p>Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified of outcomes.</p>	<p>Preparing for project commencement</p> <p>PhD candidates identified and enrolled.</p> <p>Collaborative agreement finalised.</p> <p>Kick-off Meeting held.</p>	<p>PhD candidate commences</p> <p>Commence semester 2.</p>