

POLICY FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH CANDIDATES

Section	Office of the Provost
Contact	Dean, Research
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Next Review	November 2025
Approval	SLT 21/07/91
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Purpose:

To provide a set of expectations of resources and support for postgraduate research candidates at Massey University (excluding supervision).

Background:

Massey University provides postgraduate research candidates with resources and support. Research degree candidates enrolled in postgraduate research of 90 or more credits should expect a minimal level of resources and support, as outlined in this policy.

This policy outlines principles and expectations for research resources and support in order to ensure

- Integration and engagement of postgraduate research candidates in a research community;
- Facilitation of the successful completion of postgraduate research;
- Equity of resources and support for the diverse cohort of postgraduate research candidates at Massey University.

The policy is guided by principles of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga, with an expectation that postgraduate researchers will be shown respect and care as part of a research community at Massey University.

Policy:

Candidates will require differential levels and types of resources and support, dependent upon different contextual factors, for example, their discipline, research participants or methodologies. Therefore, it is important that each individual candidate works with his or her supervisors to develop clear understandings of the necessary and available resources and support for research within the academic unit. The head of unit must agree to this provision of resources and support, and this is checked again at the confirmation event (for doctoral candidates) and through regular progress reporting.

Postgraduate research candidates have access to Massey University student services, including academic and study skills, library services, career and employability services, health and counselling, disability services, sports and recreation, and chaplaincy and religious services. Candidates can also access support services tailored for Māori, Pasifika and international students. Postgraduate research candidates are represented on governance committees for Massey University through the Massey University Student Association.

Researcher Development

Postgraduate research candidates will have opportunities to engage in an induction programme and ongoing researcher development facilitated by the Graduate Research School, and in academic units and Colleges. Research candidates can also expect orientation and induction into the academic unit in which they are being supervised, including, for example, a tour of facilities, introduction to key academic and professional staff, and meeting other research students.

Massey University postgraduate researchers have access to the University's researcher development programme, with opportunities for workshops, networking and support in relation to knowledge and intellectual abilities; personal effectiveness; research governance and organisation; and engagement, influence and impact. The Graduate Research School's researcher development programme is supported online through Stream, social media, videoconferencing and a website, and many workshops are recorded for ongoing access. Doctoral candidates may also engage in teaching-related development for accreditation by the Advance HE. The Graduate Research School also hosts social networking opportunities and competitive events like the 3- Minute Thesis (3MT).

Physical Space

Research candidates will have access to dedicated research spaces relevant to their studies, such as office spaces, creative studio spaces, or laboratories. Physical spaces at the University comply with Occupation Safety and Health standards, and will be in close proximity to academic staff and research activity (wherever possible). Candidates may be in a shared space, and will have 24-hour access to their work spaces (unless there are overriding Health and Safety and unavoidable security issues). In units where there are common room facilities for staff, postgraduate research students may access those facilities, unless separate facilities are provided. Having access to physical environment for research fosters a productive and convivial research community.

Consumable and Electronic Resources

Postgraduate research candidates will have access to University telecommunications and videoconferencing facilities, for research purposes, alongside hardware and software required for the conduct of their research (as agreed in their enrolment application). Doctoral candidates will be provided with access to computing resources for their research use, which may be shared facilities on campus or by remote access. Office consumables, supplies and photocopying facilities may be provided by the academic unit, as required for their research.

Financial Support

Postgraduate research candidates may have access to funds for research-related expenses, as determined and managed by the academic unit. The amount of funding will be discipline-specific, based upon research costs and resource availability. A range of competitive postgraduate research scholarships, fellowships and awards are also available, and information is provided through the University's Scholarships Team in the Graduate Research School and website.

Audience:

Doctoral and Master's research students
Doctoral and Master's research supervisors
Postgraduate coordinators and administrators
Heads of Academic Units and Research Centres

Document Management Control:

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