

POLICY FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES AND SUPPORT FOR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH CANDIDATES

Section	Research, Academic and Enterprise
Contact	Dean, Research
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New Review	September 2020
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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 Vitae Researcher Development Framework (RDF), research development planner and online resources. The University's researcher development programme is mapped annually against the Vitae framework, 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 and a researcher development website, and many workshops are recorded for ongoing access. Doctoral candidates may also engage in teaching-related development for accreditation by the Higher Education Academy (HEA). 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 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. Doctoral candidates will be provided with access to a computer for their research use. Office consumables, supplies and photocopies will be provided by the academic unit.

Financial Support

Postgraduate research candidates will 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. A range of competitive postgraduate research scholarships, fellowships and awards are also available, and information is provided through the University's Scholarships Office and website.