

Doctor of Professional Studies (DPRS) - DProfSt

	External
Semester intake:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme
Standard duration:	3 years full-time, with the expectation that the degree will be completed in no more than 8 years part-time
Program articulation:	From:

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program objectives

On successful completion of the program, students should be able to:

- Identify work place issues, possible solutions and change initiatives
- demonstrate working at the leading edge of practice underpinned by theoretical understanding
- develop cognitive skills that demonstrates intellectual independence and a high level of critical thinking in generating original knowledge
- contribute to the advancement of knowledge relating to professional practice and leadership in their chosen profession
- apply knowledge to professional practice

Program aims

The aim of this program is to provide experienced professionals with doctoral level research opportunities (and some coursework as required) that will engage issues and develop original knowledge that is relevant and meaningful to their professional capabilities, helps to build capacity in their practice environments / communities and helps to contribute to their self-awareness and intellectual independence.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical v

Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme

All Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens commencing a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) program will have their tuition fees paid by the Australian Commonwealth Government under the Research Training Program (RTP) Fees Offset scheme. The RTP Fees Offset scheme covers program fees for an HDR student up to a maximum period of four years for full-time study or up to eight years part-time study for a Doctoral program, and up to a maximum period of two years for full-time or four years part-time for a Masters by Research program.

As part of the enrolment process, students are required to submit proof of citizenship or permanent residency status and transcripts of all previous academic study. This documentation enables the University of Southern Queensland to determine eligibility for an RTP Fees Offset place.

If a student's RTP Fees Offset entitlement expires before completion of the program, the student will be required to pay full tuition fees.

Students eligible for an RTP Fees Offset place are those who:

- have not used RTP Fees Offset funding in the previous three years; or
- have already used RTP Fees Offset funding and have successfully completed an HDR program. Once a student completes an HDR program, full entitlements of RTP Fees Offset are restored.

The Australian Commonwealth Government's contribution to program fees must be acknowledged on all published material relating to a research project via a statement identifying the support received through the RTP Fees Offset scheme.

Program structure

The Doctor of Professional Studies requires the completion of 24 units. The program structure comprises three sections:

- (1) Compulsory completion of the courses [WRP9000 Fundamentals of Professional Studies A](#) and [WRP9001 Fundamentals of Professional Studies B](#) comprising 4 units if the course or its equivalent has not been completed before. These courses provides a program of structured learning that prepares students in developing their research methodology, ethical considerations, reflective practice, project principles and learning planning and culminates in a learning portfolio (or equivalent) and project proposal for assessment and confirmation of candidature.
- (2) Optional elective postgraduate coursework. Students may elect to enrol in up to four units of advanced coursework, at postgraduate level, from the Arts courses or other courses at the University of Southern Queensland. The intention of this option is to include coursework in the structured work-based research project proposal that will enhance the student's capacity to make a significant contribution to original knowledge in their professional practice. Normally students will need to receive the prior approval of the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts before enrolling in the elective courses and necessary incorporation is agreed in relation to their work-based research projects.
- (3) Work-based research projects: up to 20 units [WRP9002 Work-Based Research Project](#). Students are required to complete independent supervised study in a work-based context that culminates in a dissertation (minimum 60,000 words) or equivalent body of work prepared for external examination. Students are required to enrol in [WRP9002 Work-Based Research Project](#) recurrently, subject to good progress, until the final work to be examined has been submitted.

After completion of the compulsory course [WRP9000 Fundamentals of Professional Studies A](#), students will be assigned an academic supervisor for the remaining study period. Students will also receive guidance and support from a team of academic consultants who are drawn from across the university and industry as aligned with the multi-disciplinary nature of each student's professional practice.

Program completion requirements

Award of a Doctor of Professional Studies requires the successful external examination of the student's dissertation of research outcomes, work based research project/s and professional learning (minimum 60,000 words).

