

# Doctor of Philosophy (DPHD) - PhD

CRICOS code (International applicants): 088073M

	<b>On-campus</b>	<b>External</b>
<b>Semester intake:</b>	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
<b>Campus:</b>	Ipswich, Springfield, Toowoomba	-
<b>Fees:</b>	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme
<b>Standard duration:</b>	Can be studied full-time or part-time (full-time students normally complete in 3 to 4 years).	

## Contact us

of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 10. Graduates at this level will have systematic and critical understanding of a complex field of learning and specialised research skills for the advancement of learning

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 Philosophy is a 24-unit program made up of one unit of research training, one unit of approved postgraduate elective (coursework or research training as approved by the Associate Dean (Graduate Research School) on advice from the supervisory team), two units for a Research Proposal to support Confirmation of Candidature and 20 units of independent research within your selected area of study.

The award of the Doctor of Philosophy requires the successful examination of the student's thesis or research outcomes, work based research project/s and professional learning.

The Doctor of Philosophy comprises a minimum of 16 units, although students would normally complete 24 units, with the option to extend to 32 units if needed. Students are required to enrol in appropriate course(s) in Semester 1 and Semester 2 from date of admission through to the date that they submit their thesis for examination, or alternatively be on approved leave. Failure to enrol or not be on approved leave may result in the student's enrolment being cancelled. Students studying full-time will need to enrol in 4 units each semester (Semester 1 and Semester 2). Part-time students will need to enrol in 2 units each semester (Semester 1 and Semester 2).

The enrolment pattern of this program is required to reflect the following:

- Research Methodology Course (Schedule A) must be completed in the first four units of enrolment.
- Advanced Approved Course (Schedule B) must be completed within the first six units of enrolment.
- Research Proposal for Confirmation of Candidature (Schedule C) must be completed after the successful completion of Schedule A and Schedule B Courses and within the first eight units of enrolment.
- Independent Research Courses (Schedule D) to commence in parallel with Schedule A, B & C Courses as appropriate. After completion of 8 units, it is mandatory to have completed the Schedule C Course prior to enrolment further Schedule D courses.

Based on the research project (lab-based or non-lab based), the appropriate courses should be selected within Schedule C and Schedule D.

The proposed enrolment pattern for individual students will be checked by the Associate Dean (Graduate Research School).

## Assessment

A student is admitted to this program as a provisional candidate until successful completion of the Confirmation of Candidature process.

All students are required to complete successfully a Confirmation of Candidature through enrolment in [RES9510 Confirmation of Candidature \(Non-Lab\)](#) or [RES9511 Confirmation of Candidature \(Lab\)](#) course within the first eight units of the program. The purpose of the Confirmation of Candidature process is to ensure,

as far as possible, a student's steady progress towards the successful and timely completion of the PhD program. Students are expected to complete the Confirmation of Candidature within 12 months full-time, or 24 months part-time enrolment. The Confirmation of Candidature is completed in the courses [RES9510 Confirmation of Candidature \(Non-Lab\)](#) or [RES9511 Confirmation of Candidature \(Lab\)](#), and consists of two components:

- a written document; and
- an oral presentation to a review panel leading to a recommendation on Confirmation of Candidature.

The Graduate Research School will notify students by email when the Confirmation of Candidature is due.

Student progress will be monitored by compulsory Progress Reports. Students who are deemed to be making adequate progress will be awarded an ongoing grade. Those students who fail to submit a report, or who have been deemed to be making little or no progress may be awarded a Fail grade. When the progress is not satisfactory, the student would normally be placed on conditional academic standing and performance management processes will be implemented as per the Academic Standing, Progression and Exclusion Procedure. The Graduate Research School will notify students by email when Progress Reports are due.

The final assessment in the PhD program is the submission of PhD thesis that will be examined as per the Higher Degree Research (HDR) examination schedule outlined below.

**Program completion requirements outlined below**

## **IT requirements**

Students should visit the USQ minimum computing standards to check that their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet web browsers and to check the minimum and recommended standards for software.

## **Credit**

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

## **Recommended enrolment pattern - Full-time students who commenced prior to semester 2, 2017**

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Full-time candidates undertaking research in the following areas should enrol in [RES9502 Doctoral Research Project D \(Non-Lab\)](#)

- Engineering and Built Environment
- Health and Community (lab) i.e. sub-areas of Biomedical and Medical Laboratory Science, and, Psychology
- Sciences (lab) all sub-areas except Applied Data Science, and, Mathematics and Statistics.

**Recommended enrolment pattern - Full-time students who commenced in semester 2, 2017 onwards**

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the

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