

## Doctor of Professional Engineering (DPEN) -

	External
<b>Start:</b>	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)
<b>Fees:</b>	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place Research Training Program (RTP) - Fees Offset scheme
<b>Standard duration:</b>	Part-time candidates normally complete in 6 years. Students have a maximum of 8 years part-time to complete this program.

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## 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 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 and/or for professional practice.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting [www.aqf.edu.au](http://www.aqf.edu.au).

## Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Completion of a relevant Australian university four year Bachelor degree in the area of Engineering with a GPA of at least 5.0 or above, or equivalent.
- be able to demonstrate, or be in a position to produce their own substantial, original professional contributions in an appropriate Engineering field.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

## Program fees

### Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

### International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

### 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**

This program is a 24-unit program made up of eight single-unit academic courses and 16 units of independent research.

## **Program completion requirements**

Award of a Doctor of Professional Engineering requires the successful external examination of the student's dissertation of research outcomes, work based research project/s and professional learning.

## **Required time limits**

Candidates will normally complete the program within six years of part-time study. Students have a maximum of eight years (part-time) to complete this program. A pro-rata reduction in the maximum time period will apply to students who are admitted to a program with advanced standing.

## **IT requirements**

Access to an up-to-date computer is necessary. On-campus students can access appropriately equipped laboratories, but should consider acquisition of their own computer. External students should be able to access a computer with the following [minimum standards](#) as advised by the University. All students should have access to email and the Internet via a computer running the latest versions of Internet web browsers such as Internet Explorer or Firefox. The University has a wireless network for on-campus students' computers. In order to take advantage of this facility and further enhance their on-campus learning environment, students should consider purchasing a notebook/laptop computer with wireless connectivity. A notebook/laptop may be required for some courses.

## **Exit points**

Candidates who complete four of the listed courses from Schedule A may satisfy the requirements for the [Graduate Certificate of Advanced Engineering](#), in which case they could exit with that award.

Candidates who complete seven of the listed courses from Schedule A plus [ENG8001 Engineering Research Methods](#) from Schedule B may satisfy the requirements for the [Master of Adv](#)

