

## Postgraduate Research 'Top-up' Scholarship

### Overview

APL provides *Postgraduate Research 'Top-up' Scholarships* to students with an outstanding academic record who have gained another academic scholarship. The 'top-up' program encourages these individuals to undertake their postgraduate study in an area of relevance to the Australian pork industry.

Scholarships may be taken in any area relevant to APL's annual [R&D priorities](#). APL's [Research & Innovation Managers](#) are available to discuss potential projects and assist with finding research supervisors and corporate host organisations.

### Funding

The *Postgraduate Research 'Top-up' Scholarship* will supplement other scholarships to the level of the APL *Postgraduate Research Scholarship*, ie. equivalent to a stipend of AUD\$28 000 per annum plus operating funds up to AUD\$3000 per annum for Masters and AUD\$10 000 per annum for a PhD.

### Eligibility & Selection Criteria

To qualify for an APL scholarship, applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Selection criteria include:

- Academic record relevant to the proposed project
- Be eligible for an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA), university or other scholarship
- Project addresses APL's key R&D priorities
- Project that will provide training relevant to establishing a career in the Australian pork industry.

### Postgraduate Training

Scholarship holders receive the large majority of their training from universities and public and private sector research organisations. APL will give preference to scholarships with supervising universities/organisations that will take responsibility for delivering the following components of training:

- Appropriate scientific/technical skills
- Theoretical knowledge and background
- Academic presentations
- Research skills including experimental design and statistical analysis
- Academic, scientific writing skills
- A team of supervisors that includes at least some understanding of the Australian pork industry and the issues it faces.

APL will contribute to the training of its scholars with the following general strategies:

- Developing a broad understanding of the pork industry and of associated industries and agencies

- Providing skills for the modern researcher, including project management, understanding of the business environment, management of technology transfer, marketing skills, an appreciation of management of IP, and leadership and liaison skills.

### **Applications**

All applications must be submitted online through [PigNet](#) using the Research & Development Application.

All applications for scholarships must be accompanied by:

- A full academic transcript
- A letter of confirmation from the applicant's proposed supervisor supporting the application
- Two separate [Referee Reports](#).

### **Referee Reports**

APL requires judgement on the ability of applicant in many areas and, to assist referees, it is suggested that the table that appears in the report be completed. Referees may wish to expand on any of the areas covered or include additional strengths not covered in the table.

Referees are urged to handle these reports with appropriate care, accuracy and responsibility. Applicants are at a significant disadvantage if Referee Reports are not received by the due date.

### **Academic Transcripts**

It is recognised that some applicants will not be able to supply a full academic transcript covering the final year by the required date. An interim transcript should be attached to the application and a full transcript provided as soon as possible after the application has been lodged.

### **Operating Funds**

Operating funds may be provided for support of the research work for such costs as laboratory consumables and attendance at conferences. A budget for the proposed program should be included in the application. If appropriate, the operating funds may be used for overseas study. As such, students are not eligible to apply for travel/conference funding through an APL *Travel Award*.

A thesis allowance of AUD\$500 in the final year is available upon submission of a bound thesis to APL.

APL will not be obliged to support research projects associated with the *Postgraduate Research 'Top-up' Scholarship*.

### **Selection Procedure**

Applications will be assessed by APL's Research & Development Advisory Committee against the stated selection criteria. Applicants may be required to attend an interview and will be notified within 10 working days of a decision being made.

A scholarship agreement will be written between the research organisation, the applicant and APL. Offers will be made 'in-principle', subject to the student being accepted into the degree at the nominated university.

**Closing Date**

Applications may be received by APL throughout the year, bearing in mind that R&D priorities are set on a financial year basis.