



bushfire&natural
HAZARDSCRC

Postgraduate Scholarships Application Process

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC postgraduate scholarships are available for students pursuing research higher degrees in the bushfire research fields, in line with Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC projects. Both Full and Top Up scholarships and project support funding are available for outstanding students, with preference given to the provision of top up scholarships. Current funding amounts are:

- Full Scholarships of up to \$28,000 per annum for three and a half years.
- Top Up scholarships of \$10,000 per annum for three and a half years to holders of Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) and University Research Scholarships.

This document contains important information for applicants about Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships. The application form must be used when applying.

1. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarship

1. Applicants must be eligible for enrolment in their chosen course and university. *It is recommended that students obtain relevant postgraduate information from their university before pursuing a scholarship inquiry;*
2. Applicants must be enrolled at an Australian or New Zealand University with a commencement date no later than 1 February 2016;
3. International Students may apply for a Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Scholarship providing they are enrolled at an Australian or New Zealand University with a commencement date no later than 1 February 2016, and can provide their own separate funding for University tuition fees and living expenses as Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Scholarships are not provided to cover these expenses;
4. Applicants must have (or expect to receive) an Honours degree of class 2A or better (and/or equivalent);
5. Applicants must be studying full time (under exceptional circumstances part-time student applications will be considered);
6. Applicants must be from a participating university (in exceptional circumstances this may be reviewed); and
7. Applicants must have developed a project proposal that is in line with Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC research projects; accompanied by identified support from Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end users (see application form).

2. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

Scholarships are available for study at a range of universities, preferentially but not exclusively the following Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Research Partners:

Australian National University	University of Adelaide
Central Queensland University	University of Melbourne
Charles Darwin University	University of New England
Deakin University	University of Southern Queensland
James Cook University	University of Sydney
La Trobe University	University of Tasmania
Macquarie University	University of Western Australia
Monash University	University of Western Sydney
Queensland University of Technology	University of Wollongong
Swinburne University	Victoria University
RMIT University	

3. ABOUT END USER SUPPORT

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC research is heavily driven by the needs of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end user agencies. Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end users are principally fire, land management and emergency services agencies in Australia. Support from senior staff in Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end user agencies is a crucial part of the postgraduate application and assessment process.

The support process is designed to ensure that the project is in line with agency needs – and must be undertaken at the start of the project development stage. More than providing support for the application, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end users may be able to provide in-kind support for research project expenses – such as access to personnel provision of vehicles, postage and survey support. Further to this, CRC supported student are encouraged to maintain contact with end user agencies over the life of the project.

Applicants must contact the relevant project leader to discuss the process and most appropriate agencies for obtaining end user support before any application is submitted.

4. HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must use the application form included in this information kit to work through the application process. If eligible to apply, applicants must then:

- Identify the relevant link to Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC research projects (or projects) relevant to the research or field of interest;
- Make contact with the relevant Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Project Leader (or leaders) and discuss your proposal project and its role in the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC's program;
- Prepare an Expression of Interest consisting of the following:
 - Information about the your research background
 - Undergraduate results
 - Information about yourself (CV)

- 1-2 page outline of their proposed research
- Once the expression of interest has been received by the Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC, it will be assessed by the Research Office Management Team. The Research Office team meet weekly to discuss the progress of scholarship applications. If further information is required to assess the EOI then this is requested from the applicant. Once assessment has been completed, the applicant is advised either that they can progress to application stage and submit a formal application form, or that they have not been successful.
- If advised to progress to a full application, make contact with the appropriate 'end-user' contact within the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC (contacts will be provided by the project leader) and identify how the research outcomes will benefit Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC end users and what opportunities there are for end users to provide financial/in kind support for the project; it is important that all student projects have strong end user support and engagement; **SUPPORT FROM END-USERS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION – DO NOT SUBMIT THE APPLICATION IF THERE IS NO LETTER/EMAIL OF SUPPORT ATTACHED.**
- Identify at least two supervisors; at least one supervisor should be from a university that is part of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC. Read the 'Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Intellectual Property Agreement' in this information kit, this document forms the basis of the Student Agreement that students must sign on receipt of Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarship; and
- Send the completed application form with revised proposal along with a copy of a CV to the Research Manager.

5. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Your application will be assessed by the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Research Office. Applicants will be notified of the outcome within six weeks.

If the application is successful, students will be provided with a Letter of Offer from the Research Director of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and copies of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Intellectual Property Agreement to sign and return.

6. BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGREEMENT

Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships are provided on the basis of a number of conditions outlined in the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC's Intellectual Property Agreement. On receiving a scholarship students are required (in consultation with their university and supervisor) to sign the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Intellectual Property Agreement that covers student IP, participation in CRC activities and research and expectations of both the CRC and students.

In applying for a scholarship students must acknowledge that they have read and are aware of these conditions and be willing to enter into the more formal agreement with the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC on receipt of a scholarship. The Agreement is included in this information kit (Pages 3-7) *for your information*. Students are encouraged to seek independent advice from the university in which they are enrolled to clarify any questions relation to intellectual property before entering into the agreement with the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO APPLY

For information about Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships and to apply contact:

Dr John Bates
Research Director
Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC
Level 1 / 340 Albert Street
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002

Phone: 03 9418 5282
Email: john.bates@bnhcrc.com.au



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Postgraduate Scholarship Application Form

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
NAME			
EMAIL ADDRESS			
MAILING ADDRESS			
Phone number 1		Phone number 2	
2. AUSTRALIAN OR NEW ZEALAND PERMANENT RESIDENT?			
Are you an Australian or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident? <i>Australian and New Zealand citizens or permanent residents are eligible to apply for Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships. International students may apply if they are enrolled in an Australian or New Zealand University.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
3. BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AGREEMENT			
<i>Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships are subject to a number of conditions covering intellectual property, annual reporting and participation in Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC research projects, conferences and events. If you are offered a Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarships you will be asked to accept the conditions outlined in the document in consultation with the university at which you are enrolled.</i>			
Have you read the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Intellectual Property Agreement in this application kit?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO – <i>please read before proceeding further</i>
Do you accept the terms of the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Intellectual Property Agreement in this application kit?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
4. UNIVERSITY AFFILIATION			
Have you been accepted for enrolment into research Higher degree program?		<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
University (or universities) where enrolled (or to be enrolled) <i>Please note that preference will be given to students studying at bushfire affiliated universities.</i>			
University		Faculty/Department/School	
5. DEGREE			
Degree or course of study in which you are applying for a scholarship?			
<input type="checkbox"/> PhD			
<input type="checkbox"/> Masters – research only			
<input type="checkbox"/> Other			

6. OTHER SOURCES FOR FUNDING

What current (or future) scholarship/support will you receive for this course of study?

Award	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Australian Post Graduate Award	
<input type="checkbox"/> University Research Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

7. BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC SCHOLARSHIP

The Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC scholarship and or support that you are applying for

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> Top up Scholarship	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project support	<i>If applying for project support you must attach a detailed budget.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Details of undergraduate degree: <i>Institution, award, year</i>	
Have you completed an Honours degree and or equivalent (<i>Please provide: Title, results, supervisor</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Details of Honours project (or equivalent) <i>Title, results, supervisor</i>	

9. BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC PROJECT INFORMATION

Which Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Program and Project is your project linked to and <u>why</u> ?	
Have you contacted the relevant Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Project Leader(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO – You must contact the Project Leader to discuss your application before proceeding further. Please consult the website or contact Michael Rumsewicz for further information.
Have you contacted the relevant Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC End User(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

10. STUDENT PROJECT INFORMATION

Research project title: <i>Please note this will be used as the description throughout the life of the project and should accurately reflect your area of research.</i>
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<p>Brief project description: Brief outline of the project (100 word maximum)</p>	
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<p>Research questions: Brief outline of the central research questions of your project (100 words)</p>	
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<p>Detailed Project Description: Please attach a detailed project proposal including references (2 pages maximum) and send with this application.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Attached
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<p>Student CV Please attach a copy of your CV listing publications, Honours results and other research experience/projects.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Attached
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10. SUPERVISORS

Supervisors:
Please note – a Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC researcher must be a member of the supervisory panel.

Supervisor	Phone	Email
Supervisor 1 (main)		
Supervisor 2		
Supervisor 3		

11. PROJECT OUTCOMES

The Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC has a strong focus on End User focused research – research that meets the needs of fire and land management agencies in Australia.

<p>What will be some of the key outcomes of your research? (100 words maximum)</p>	
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<p>How will this make a difference to fire and land management agencies? (100 word maximum)</p>	
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<p>Have you (or your supervisors/or the project leader) contacted end user agency representatives discussed the research with end users and gained support for the project (e.g. letters/emails)?</p> <p><u>Evidence of support must be attached to the application</u></p>	<p>Names and contact details of supporting agencies</p>
<p>Other Supporting Comments</p>	
<p>Checklist</p>	
<p><i>I am an Australian or New Zealand Citizen or Permanent resident</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have read the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Scholarship Conditions document</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have contacted the relevant Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Project Leader(s) and discussed this project</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have outlined where this project links to the CRC's research program</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have outlined the outcomes from this research and the value to Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC End Users.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>End user support is attached</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have attached a detailed project description</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>
<p><i>I have attached a CV</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>

Thank you for your application.

Please forward your application (by email) and enquiries to:

Research Office Administration, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC

By Email: office@bnhcrc.com.au

Phone: 03 9412 9600