



## 2024-25 Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship

### Frequently asked questions

Find out more about the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation (the Foundation) and our scholarships on our [website](#) or by [contacting us](#) on: [srw.foundation@anu.edu.au](mailto:srw.foundation@anu.edu.au).

#### 1. Who is eligible for the Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship?

The Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner Scholarship (the scholarship) is available to high performing Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian Public Service (APS) employees between APS 4 and SES band 1, who have a minimum of three years' service in the APS. Service does not have to be continuous, or with a single agency.

Read more about the application process on our [website](#).

#### 2. What programs can I study while on the scholarship?

Scholars can study any postgraduate program at The Australian National University (ANU) or Charles Darwin University (CDU). This includes Graduate Certificates and Graduate Diplomas, Master by coursework, Master of Philosophy (MPhil) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programs.

#### 3. What does the scholarship include?

The Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship is a one-to-three year full-pay scholarship.

Scholars receive financial support from their agency, paid either as salary (at the scholar's substantive grade) or as an equivalent financial payment. Taxation, superannuation and other employment conditions continue to apply, as per the relevant enterprise agreement. The Australian Public Service Commission provides advice to scholars' agencies regarding the drafting of the Deeds of Agreement.

Scholars will have the opportunity to participate in a range of leadership development and networking activities and events provided by the Foundation. In addition, scholars can apply for access to the following:

- **Professional Development Fund:** During the scholarship or the first year post-completion of the award, all Pat Turner coursework and HDR scholars can apply to access the Foundation's Professional Development Fund for up to A\$5,000 for professional development activities to assist with maintaining cross-institutional links and supporting their transition back into the APS. Scholars must have approval from their APS agency and the Executive Director of the Foundation before receiving all or part of the funding.
- **Data Access Fund:** During their first year of scholarship and prior to their confirmation of candidature, MPhil and PhD scholars can apply to access the Foundation's Data Access Fund for up to A\$10,000 to partially meet some of the costs which may be associated with accessing data from Australian Government agencies or other approved sources. Scholars must complete a Data Feasibility Assessment and gain approval from their APS agency and the Executive Director of the Foundation before receiving all or part of the funding.
- **International Travel Fund:** PhD scholars can apply to access the Foundation's International Travel Fund for up to A\$40,000 for overseas travel related to their research, to be used during the award. The scholar must have their overseas component approved by their ANU/CDU academic supervisor and the Executive Director of the Foundation before receiving part or all of the funding. The funding can be used for travel expenses, accommodation, and other costs associated with living overseas while continuing their PhD program, in accordance with the [ANU Travel Policy](#).

Refer to the ANU Conditions of Award for [Higher Degree Research](#) and [postgraduate coursework](#) for further information.

Scholars enter into a Deed of Agreement with their agency, which details the entitlements scholars receive while completing their study.

For more information, download the Scholarship Applicant Information Pack from our website.

#### 4. How long is the scholarship?

The scholarship is for one to three years, depending on the length of the program you intend to study. The scholarship will be awarded for the time it will take to complete the program full-time. For example, if you choose to study a Master of Economics at ANU, this is a two-year full-time program, so your scholarship would be for two years. PhD scholarships are for three years, with a possible extension of up to 12 months.

#### 5. Can I undertake studies at a university other than ANU or CDU?

To be eligible for the scholarship, you must be enrolled at either ANU or our partner institution, CDU. If you are undertaking a PhD/MPhil, you may be able to have members of your academic supervision panel from another university. You will need to discuss this with your panel chair/primary supervisor.

## 6. What are the key dates in the application process?

The key dates for your Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarship application depend on which program you want to undertake (research or coursework) and when you want to begin your study: semester one (PhD, MPhil or coursework) or semester two (coursework only). Refer to the key dates on our [website](#) for deadline details.

### Scholarship application and selection stages

	Semester 2 2024 (Coursework only)	Semester 1 2025 (All applicants - coursework and research)
<p><b>Stage 1 - apply to ANU and/or CDU</b></p> <p>Candidates submit a completed application to ANU or CDU for admission into a postgraduate coursework or Higher Degree Research program</p>	Applications due to the university 31 December 2023	Applications due to the university 31 March 2024
<p><b>Stage 2 – agency application</b></p> <p>Upon receiving a letter of offer from ANU/CDU, candidates submit a completed SRW 2024 Application Form to their APS agency (contact your agency for exact timeframes). Agencies conduct internal selections.</p>	Applications due January/ February 2024  (check with your agency)	Applications due May/ June 2024  (check with your agency)
<p><b>Stage 3 – SRW Foundation shortlisting and interviews</b></p> <p>Agencies send endorsed nominations to the Foundation. The Foundation shortlists candidates for interview.</p>	April 2024	August 2024
<p><b>Stage 4 – Outcomes</b></p> <p>Successful candidates offered a scholarship.</p>	May 2024 (for commencement in July 2024)	September 2024 (for commencement in February 2025)

## 7. Do I use the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarships Application Form when I apply to ANU or CDU?

No. The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarships Application Form is used for your agency's internal process and for consideration by the Foundation's selection panel only. You will need to apply through the [ANU](#) or [CDU](#) websites for your chosen program.

Once you have submitted your program application to ANU or CDU, please complete the [Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarships Application Form](#) and send it to your agency Learning and Development or Diversity team. You also need to [email](#) your university application number to the Foundation.

## 8. Can I take up a scholarship if I am not based in Canberra or Darwin?

Scholars based outside Canberra or Darwin are required to comply with the external status policies of ANU or CDU.

The onus is on the scholar to ensure they understand course requirements prior to application, and comply with the relevant policies relating to external study.

For all scholars, including those undertaking higher degree research, external status may still entail minimum attendance requirements in Canberra. Compliance with these policies will require consideration of access to research facilities and resources, risk assessment, regular contact with the supervisory panel; mandatory coursework requirements; and agreement of the Chair of the Supervisory Panel and College.

Beyond Foundation-supported travel to Foundation signature events, external scholars are required to fund their own travel to Canberra to fulfil the requirements of their program.

Further information on external study is available here for [ANU higher degree research students](#). CDU has a [flexible approach](#) to online study, which you can read more about on their website.

## Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner PhD and MPhil

### 9. How do I apply for a PhD or MPhil program and how long does it take to complete an application?

When you apply for a PhD or MPhil at ANU, you will apply directly to the [college or school](#) offering research in the area you want to study. ANU has a number of colleges and research schools, so the PhD/MPhil application process can vary depending on the college or school where you apply.

If applying to ANU, begin by looking at the general process of applying for a Higher Degree Research program available on the [ANU website](#).

Once you have done this, contact the college/s that offer research in your area of interest, as well as any academic supervisors you want to work with, seeking a conversation.

If you are applying for a PhD or MPhil program at CDU, you will need to identify your research field and topic, and find an academic at CDU who is willing to supervise your work. Information on research themes, potential supervisors and how to apply can be found here on the [CDU website](#).

Be sure to allow enough time to prepare your research application so that it is fully complete and submitted to the relevant university by 31 March.

## 10. How do I know which college and/or school to apply to?

For ANU you should apply to the [college or school](#) that most closely aligns with your proposed research topic. Be aware your research topic may intersect multiple research schools or colleges, so you may want to contact multiple areas in the university who could have an interest in your topic. For example, your research topic could address a legal question in relation to public policy. This may fit under both the ANU College of Law and the Crawford School of Public Policy (ANU College of Asia and the Pacific).

For CDU, we recommend you explore the [Research Institutes and Centres](#), as well as the key [HDR themes](#), to identify where your research will best fit, and contact a suitable academic supervisor for a discussion.

## 11. How do I find a supervisor?

You can find researcher profiles and contact details on the ANU and CDU websites.

- For supervision at ANU you can browse the researcher database [here](#).
- For supervision at CDU you can browse the researcher database [here](#).

## 12. Does my PhD/MPhil supervisor have to be from ANU or CDU?

Most PhD/MPhil scholars are guided by a supervisory panel of two or more supervisors. Your primary supervisor should be from the institution where you are studying, but you can approach secondary or other supervisors from different universities.

You will need to check with the college or research centre where you are planning on studying to find out their requirements.

## 13. How important is the choice of supervisor(s) for a PhD/MPhil?

You must have identified a primary supervisor, who has agreed to oversee your PhD/MPhil before applying for the scholarship.

Supervisors are an important part of guiding you through both your research and writing your PhD/MPhil. Supervisors will also provide you with feedback on your research proposal, which will help your overall application.

Even if you are required to complete a large coursework component first before your PhD/MPhil, you must identify your primary supervisor as part of your application.

## 14. How do I know if my topic is of national significance and strategic importance to the Australian Public Service?

You should discuss your ideas with your supervisor/senior executive to find out if your proposed topic is of interest to your agency. Your potential academic supervisor can also help you refine your topic for your application.

## 15. What do I prioritise – securing support at my agency or defining the PhD/MPhil research question and approaching a supervisor?

We recommend starting with the research question and identifying a supervisor. However, you should let your agency and your Learning and Development team know you intend to apply to help coordinate timelines of the application process.

## Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner postgraduate coursework

### 16. How do I apply for a postgraduate coursework program?

You need to identify a course and submit your application through the relevant university application portal:

- ANU: <https://programsandcourses.anu.edu.au/Search>
- CDU: <https://www.cdu.edu.au/study/essentials/how-to-apply/postgraduate>

Once you have applied to the relevant university, you also need to fill in the [Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarships Application Form](#) on our website and follow the [application process](#).

## General FAQ

### 17. Where can I get help to apply or enrol?

#### *Australian National University*

For help with your ANU application, you can contact the college or school you're considering applying to, or speak with your potential academic supervisor. You can also contact the Foundation team for general advice on your application.

You can read guides for enrolling on the [ANU website](#). You can also get assistance to enrol by calling the Student Central Team on 02 6125 5111 or by emailing [student@anu.edu.au](mailto:student@anu.edu.au).

#### *Charles Darwin University*

For help with your CDU application you can [email](#) the research degrees team at CDU or [request a call](#) about your application. You can also contact the Foundation team for general advice on your application.

You can read guides for enrolling on the [CDU website](#). You can also get assistance to enrol by calling the Student Central Team on 1800 061 963 or by emailing [student.central@cdu.edu.au](mailto:student.central@cdu.edu.au).

## 18. How many scholarships are available each year?

There are usually around six scholarships awarded per year, but this may vary.

## 19. If I'm awarded a scholarship, can I change my academic program later?

Scholars must seek prior approval from their agency before any change to their academic program, as any change may result in a variation of scholarship duration.

## 20. I don't meet the three years' service requirement, but I will at the start of the scholarship. Can I still apply?

Yes. You need to meet the three years' service requirement at the start of the scholarship, not when you apply.

## 21. I am a member of the Australian Defence Force, can I apply for the Pat Turner scholarship?

This issue is currently under consideration. Please contact the Department of Defence Learning and Development team for an update.

## 22. Can I reapply for the scholarship if I was unsuccessful in a previous year?

Yes. Some successful scholars apply more than once for this program. If your scholarship application isn't successful, you can request feedback after the selection process and refine your application for the following year.

## 23. I have already started a program at ANU/CDU, can I still apply for the Pat Turner scholarship?

Yes. If you have already completed part of your program you can still apply for the scholarship. If successful, the scholarship would apply for the remainder of your program.

## 24. Do you continue to be an APS employee while on scholarship?

Yes. While on scholarship you will remain an APS employee, bound by the APS Code of Conduct. Scholars and their agency enter into a Deed of Agreement stipulating the agency's conditions of release for you to participate in the scholarship.

Sir Roland Wilson Pat Turner scholarships are full-pay scholarships. Scholars receive financial support from their agency, paid either as salary (at the scholar's substantive grade) or as an equivalent financial payment. Taxation, superannuation and other employment conditions continue to apply, as per the relevant enterprise agreement. The Australian Public Service Commission provides advice to scholars' agencies regarding the drafting of the Deeds of Agreement.

## 25. Is the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation part of ANU or the APS?

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation is a [statutory body](#) of The Australian National University. A Board consisting of ANU, Charles Darwin University and APS representatives is responsible for the governance, management, strategic direction and performance of the Foundation.

You can read more about our Board on our [website](#).

## 26. Who funds the Foundation and the scholarships?

The Foundation was established in 1998 by a donation from the Wilson family. The Pat Turner Scholarships are funded through contributions from participating APS agencies with in-kind support from the ANU and the Foundation.

## 27. Who is Pat Turner AM?

The daughter of an Arrernte man and a Gurdanji woman, Pat Turner AM was raised in Alice Springs. As CEO of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), she is at the forefront of community efforts to Close the Gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Pat has over 40 years' experience in senior leadership positions in government, business and academia including being the only Aboriginal person, only woman and longest serving CEO of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Commission (ATSIC).

Amongst her many appointments, she also spent 18 months as Monash Chair of Australian Studies, Georgetown University, Washington DC, and was inaugural CEO of NITV. Pat is the Coalition of Peaks Convenor and Co-Chair of the Joint Council on Closing the Gap.

Pat holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Canberra where she was awarded the University prize for Development Studies.

## 28. Who was Sir Roland Wilson?

Sir Roland Wilson was a renowned academic, economist and public servant. Born in Tasmania in 1904, Wilson was a Rhodes scholar and completed PhDs at both Oxford University and the University of Chicago. After a short academic career, he joined the Australian Public Service in 1932. He served as Commonwealth Statistician, then and as the Secretary of the Department of Labour and National Service where he contributed to Australia's economic approach to World War II. In 1951, he was appointed Secretary of the Treasury. Wilson remains our longest serving Treasury Secretary with 16 years' service. Wilson was awarded a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 1941, a Knight Bachelor in 1955, and Knight Commander of the British Empire (KBE) in 1965.