



Australian
National
University

GAME CHANGE FUND SUPPORTING CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. INTRODUCTION

Each year the *Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions (ICEDS)* may offer an award known as the Game Change Fund Supporting Climate Change Research (“the award”).

The objective of the award is to provide game-changing support to the emerging generation of bright PhD scholars from rural and remote areas to contribute to game-changing climate change research, adaptation and mitigation outcomes.

Funding for this award has been provided by a group of donors, the Game Change Enablers, led by Graham Waters, Anne-Marie Waters, and Ray Kiley.

2. BENEFITS

Value: The total value of the Award is stated in the letter of offer. The Award will be paid in fortnightly instalments for the duration of the award as stipulated in the letter of offer.

Association: The recipient of the award will become a Game Change Scholar aligned with the ANU Institute for Climate, Energy and Disaster Solutions. ICEDS is a research-driven and member-focused organisation that advances innovative and interdisciplinary climate, energy and disaster solutions across the ANU. The recipient will become a student member of ICEDS and will have the opportunity to connect with other HDR students and academics in their area(s) of interest. The recipient will also be supported and expected to contribute to ICEDS activities and events, by showcasing their own research and engaging with other members.

3. DURATION

The standard duration of a full-time award will be:

- a) For the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) three years; less
 - (i) periods of enrolment already undertaken for the PhD degree; and/or
 - (ii) such shorter period as is stated in the letter of offer.

b) Extension

A recipient may apply for an extension of the award by completing the [Manage my Degree - HDR](#) form. The maximum period of extension is six months and an extension may be sought only where the research has been delayed by circumstances beyond the scholar's control and is related to the research and is not of a personal nature, at the discretion of the Game Change Fund and ICEDS.

4. PROGRAM LEAVE

Periods of program leave must be taken in accordance with the Research Awards Rule.

a) Unpaid Program Leave

A recipient may apply for unpaid program leave on personal grounds. If the leave does not exceed a total period of 12 months during the duration of the Award, the recipient may resume the Award at the completion of the leave.

Program leave exceeding a total of 12 months will only be considered where there are exceptional circumstances beyond the control of the recipient and must be approved by the Delegated Authority in the College.

Unpaid program leave is aggregated and awarded only in one-week blocks for a full-time recipient and two-week blocks for a part-time recipient.

A recipient must apply for unpaid program and scholarship leave by completing the relevant section of the Manage my Degree - HDR form in ISIS.

5. ELIGIBILITY

The Award will be available each year to a prospective or continuing, PhD student who meets the following **Eligibility Criteria**:

- a) a domestic¹ and/or international² student; and
- b) recently enrolled or enrolling full-time (or part-time, with approval) in a program of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Australian National University (applicants who have commenced their PhD within the last 12 months are eligible to apply); and
- c) undertaking a PhD project related to climate change, supported by a developed project brief; and
- d) is a student from a traditionally underrepresented background, meeting one or more of the following considerations: identifies as Aboriginal Australian or Torres Strait Islander; is from a rural or remote area; is from a Pacific Island Nation; or is from a disadvantaged background or has experienced financial hardship.

Applications that don't meet these criteria will not be considered. Priority may be given to applicants under 35 years of age.

6. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications shall be called for with a closing date as set by the *Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions (ICEDS)*. Applicants should submit the following documents:

- a) A complete application form. Applications that do not meet the Eligibility Criteria will not be considered.
- b) Applicant's CV.
- c) Supporting documents relating to the Selection Criteria, including:
 - (i) 1-2 written reference letter(s) from supervisors and/or other relevant sources; and
 - (ii) Academic transcript(s); and
 - (iii) Any other relevant supporting documents.

These documents are to be emailed to ICEDS prior to the closing date.

The award will be offered to a student by an external Selection Committee (governed by ICEDS) consisting of a least three persons from the following group(s): academics who have a background in climate change research and/or decision-making; and/or experts in community development and/or policy; and/or members of civil society interested in transformational change.

¹ A student who is an Australian citizen, a New Zealand citizen, the holder of an Australian Permanent Resident visa or the holder of an Australian humanitarian visa

² A student who is not an Australian or New Zealand citizen or the holder of Australian permanent resident status, and is required to hold a visa to study in Australia and liable for international student fees (ISF) payable to the University either by the student or a sponsor

The Selection Committee reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit.

7. SELECTION

Selection will be made on the basis of the following **Selection Criteria**:

- a) Relevance and applicability of the project to solve challenges presented by climate change. Applications must show that climate change responses (adaptation or mitigation or their interaction) are a core component of the proposed research; and
- b) The potential for the prospective PhD Scholar to actively engage with decision-makers with regards to their research project; and
- c) Academic merit, potential and performance based on their academic records, referee reports and other supporting documents; and
- d) The applicant's background and reasons for seeking the scholarship including the applicant's demonstration of how the scholarship could be a game-changer for their own development.

8. CONCURRENT HOLDING OF AWARDS

A recipient of the award is permitted to concurrently hold other scholarships, awards, grants and bursaries subject to the terms of the corresponding section in the conditions of award of the other scholarship/bursary/grant/award that they are holding.

9. DEFERMENT

The award cannot be deferred.

10. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

The recipient of this Award is required to remain enrolled full-time (or part-time, with approval) in an eligible program of study for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the Australian National University.

A part-time Award may be offered or approved if the recipient has reasons acceptable to the University that preclude full-time study for part or all of the course of study. In such cases the University must be satisfied that the reasons relate to caring commitments, a medical condition or a disability, or other circumstance which limits the recipient's capacity to undertake full-time study.

The recipient is required to complete the annual progress reviews and be assessed as making satisfactory progress toward all PhD milestones. The recipient is expected to engage with ICEDS with regard to research progress to discuss the value of the scholarship on a non-onerous schedule to be discussed with the recipient (likely 6 monthly discussions).

Research findings generated through the scholarship may be published in scientific journals or other publications, with appropriate acknowledgement to ICEDS.

An award cannot be transferred to another institution.

11. SUSPENSION OF AWARD

A recipient may apply to ICEDS for suspension of their Award. A suspension may be appropriate if a recipient is studying at another institution and receives an award for that study. In these circumstances the duration of the Award will be reduced by the periods of study undertaken towards the degree during suspension of the Award (unless the study was undertaken overseas as part of a Commonwealth Government financially supported international postgraduate research scholarship or award).

The University may suspend an award where a recipient has:

- a) outstanding fees; or
- b) an outstanding debt with the University; or
- c) outstanding PhD milestone/s; or
- d) been found to be in breach of a statute, rule of policy or procedure of the University.

The award will be suspended when at least 5 working days have passed since the University advised the recipient in writing that the milestones, debt and/or fees are outstanding, until the milestones have been met or the outstanding fees and/or debt have been paid. Under these circumstances, the recipient will forfeit payment for the period of time that their award is suspended.

12. CESSATION OF AWARD

The Award ceases or should be surrendered:

- a) if a student no longer meets the eligibility requirements;
- b) at the conclusion of the period outlined in section 3;
- c) on the date on which the recipient withdraws or ceases to attend the University other than for approved absences;
- d) if a recipient fails to enrol as required in section 10;
- e) if a recipient changes their program or course without permission to retain the Award;
- f) if a recipient breaches academic or behavioural standards set by the University under the ANU Discipline Rule (2021) and Academic Integrity Rule (2021).

whichever is earliest.

13. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

A recipient who is taking leave from their program, or changing their enrolment intensity from full-time to part-time, must submit the prescribed [Manage My Degree - HDR](#) form in a timely manner and, where possible, in advance in order to avoid receiving an overpayment of their award. In circumstances where an overpayment does occur, the overpayments will generally be recovered in line with the ANU Procedure - Overpayments.

14. PROVIDING FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

The Award is based on the information provided to the University. The Award may be withdrawn at any stage if incorrect, false or misleading information is provided or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the false information is unrelated to the assessment in offering the Award.

15. VARIATION TO CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis section 7 of these Conditions of Award may be varied by the Dean on the recommendation of the chair of selection committee.

16. TAXATION & CENTRELINK

Recipients are responsible for seeking taxation and Centrelink advice (if applicable) regarding their own individual circumstances. Awards may be regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For information on how your Award may affect your Centrelink benefits, see this website: <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/>

17. ACCOMMODATION

It is the recipient's responsibility to obtain residential accommodation. Information on student accommodation and application forms are available from the University

Accommodation Services. Information may be found on the Web at: <http://study.anu.edu.au/accommodation>

18. PUBLICITY

The recipient may be requested to participate in publicity for the Award from time to time. This may include publicity in the state or territory of residence or of schooling. Recipients may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the Award by publishing the names of the recipients. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through the *Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions (ICEDS)* or ANU Communications and Engagement (ACE).

Recipients will also be required to acknowledge funding from the Award should the outcome lead to publication.

19. DISCLOSURE AND DONOR CONTACT

For the purposes of reporting on the impact of awards, the name, program name and demographics (for example: age, country or town of residence) relating to a recipient of the Award may be disclosed to donors supporting the Award. This will not include recipient contact details. The recipient may be asked to write a personal note of thanks or to meet with donors. Any contact between a donor and a recipient will be facilitated by the ANU Advancement Office or an authorised representative of the University.

20. CONTACT WITH THE AWARD OWNER

All enquiries regarding the Award and changes, issues, or further information after acceptance should be made to:

Institute for Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions
Email: icedes@anu.edu.au

21. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of this Award is subject to The Australian National University Act 1991 as amended, and to the Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Resolutions of the University.

The Award does not carry any commitment by the University for future employment.

These Conditions of Award should be read in conjunction with the *Research Awards Rule* and Higher Degree Research Policy and Procedures available from the [ANU website](#).

22. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES, RULES & RESOURCES

HDR Legislation, policies and procedures - <https://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/assessments-exams/hdr-policies-procedures>

ANU Academic Integrity Rule - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00997>

ANU Discipline Rule - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00998>

ANU Student Code of Conduct <https://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/program-management/student-code-of-conduct>