



**Australian  
National  
University**

## **The Brian Robson Award**

### **CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Each year the Research School of Physics ('the School') in the ANU College of Science and Medicine ('the College') may offer one or more awards known as the Brian Robson Award ('the Award').

Funding for this Award has been provided by an endowment made to The Australian National University in 2025 by Emeritus Honorary Professor Brian Robson. Brian Robson holds an MSc, PhD and DSc from the University of Melbourne. He is an Emeritus Honorary Professor in the Department of Fundamental and Theoretical Physics at the ANU Research School of Physics. Over many decades he has worked at ANU, publishing in various fields from nuclear physics to particle physics and cosmology.

The objective of the Award is to assist international or domestic Honours students, postgraduate research candidates and early career researchers (ECR) working in the area of Theoretical Physics in the Research School of Physics to attend a conference or workshop, make a collaborative visit to an overseas institution or in an Australian university, host a collaborator, or organise a scientific event (workshop, summer school). It is the intention of the Research School and the donor that the Award is used to enhance career opportunities and experience of ECRs and students in theoretical physics, preferably in the research area of nuclear and particle physics.

#### **2. BENEFITS**

The value of the Award is stated in the letter of offer. The Award will be paid as a one-off payment, unless otherwise stated in the letter of offer.

If travelling internationally, the recipient is responsible for organising their passport, visa and insurance, and other costs involved in travel with undertaking the opportunity.

The recipient is responsible for making payment of all tuition fees by the prescribed date as set out by the University each session. Recipients of the Award are responsible for the costs of books, study materials, accommodation and all other costs of study.

#### **3. ELIGIBILITY**

The Award is available each year to

(a) a continuing domestic or international Honours student who is enrolled in PHYS-HSPC

Or

(b) a continuing domestic or international ANU PhD candidate who:

- a. is enrolled full-time in a program of study for the degree of PhD in the Research School of Physics; and
- b. is progressing as expected in their candidature, incl. all candidature milestones are up to date.

Or

The Brian Robson Award (2/2026)

(c) an ECR (less than 10 years since PhD award, not including recognised career disruption) who is employed at the Research School of Physics.

#### 4. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Nominations will be called for once a year. The annual submission date will be set by the Selection Committee at the beginning of each year. The Chair will then call for nominations with no less than two weeks' notice. Nominations may be made by supervisors, Heads of Departments, ECRs, HDR candidates and Honours students. Nominees must agree to being nominated.

Nominations must be submitted on the prescribed application form and include the following information:

- (a) nominee's CV including a summary of the academic record, professional recognition, publications or presentations;
- (b) proposed project/collaboration topic;
- (c) outline of the importance of the proposed project and how it will benefit the applicant and the Research School of Physics;
- (d) outline long-term links that may be established at a personal, industry or professional level;
- (e) dates of the proposed project; and
- (f) proposed budget, clearly stating the amount requested and the breakdown of expenses.

#### 5. SELECTION

Selection is made on the basis of:

- (a) alignment of the proposed research with the Research School of Physics priorities in the area of Fundamental and Theoretical Physics;
- (b) excellence of the proposed fundamental research;
- (c) impact on future collaboration;
- (d) applicant's track record relative to opportunity;
- (e) applicant's good citizenship and engagement with outreach activities, teaching and demonstrations;
- (f) equity and diversity considerations.

The selection committee will be chaired by Head of the Department of Fundamental and Theoretical Physics (or nominee). Members of the Selection Committee will be determined by the School Director. It will have no fewer than three staff members from the ANU. Nominators and award recipients will be notified of the outcome via email.

The selection committee reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit. The selection committee may also vary the number of Awards and/or offer the Award at other times in exceptional circumstances or based on the standard of applications or students (where funds allow).

#### 6. CONCURRENT HOLDING OF AWARDS

A recipient is permitted to hold other scholarships, awards, grants and bursaries concurrently with this Award, provided the terms of the other scholarship permits this also.

#### 7. DEFERMENT

The Award must be used within twelve months of it being granted. If the recipient is unable to use the Award within this period, the School Director has the discretion to approve that the funds awarded be:

- (a) held over, for up to twelve months, until a similar project can be found; or
- (b) forgone, and possibly awarded to the next person on the reserve list as recommended by the Selection Committee.

#### 8. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

To use the award the recipient must be a current Honours student, HDR candidate or staff member until the conclusion of the funded project

#### 9. SUSPENSION OF AWARD

A recipient may apply to the College 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 the Award where a recipient has:

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

The Award will be suspended when at least five 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 of the Award for the period of time that their Award is suspended.

#### 10. CESSATION OF AWARD

The Award ceases or should be surrendered:

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

whichever is earliest.

#### 11. 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, these will be recovered in accordance with the ANU Procedure - Overpayments.

#### 12. 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 for the Award.

#### 13. VARIATION TO CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis, section 0 of these Conditions of Award may be varied by the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Graduate Research) on the recommendation of the chair of the selection committee.

#### 14. 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 the Award may affect Centrelink benefits, see this website

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/>

#### 15. 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://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation>

#### 16. PUBLICITY

The recipient may be requested to participate in publicity for the Award from time to time. This may include publicity in the country 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 Research School of Physics or ANU Communications and Engagement (ACE).

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

#### 17. 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.

#### 18. CONTACT WITH THE AWARD OWNER

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

*Research School of Physics*

*College of Science and Medicine*

*Head of Department of Fundamental and Theoretical Physics* [hod.ftp.physics@anu.edu.au](mailto:hod.ftp.physics@anu.edu.au)

#### 19. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of the 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.

For HDR candidates, these Conditions of Award should be read in conjunction with the *Research Awards Rule 2021* and Higher Degree Research Policy and Procedures available from the [ANU website](#).

## 20. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES & RULES

ANU Student Financial Awards Policy - [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_007803](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_007803)

ANU Coursework Scholarships, Grants and Bursaries Procedure - [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_009607](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_009607)

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

HDR Scholarships Policy - [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_7926387](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_7926387)

HDR Scholarships Procedure - [https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP\\_7926390](https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_7926390)

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>