

RIRDC Horse Program

CALL FOR POSTGRAD SCHOLARSHIPS AND INDUSTRY TRAINING AWARDS FOR 2007-08. Applications close on 31 July 2007

In 2007-08, funds to support postgraduate study and vocational work experience in the horse industry are available from the RIRDC Horse Program.

Types of scholarships available:

TYPE	DESCRIPTION
Postgraduate Research Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- for research leading to a Masters or PhD degree.- to be applied for by the student, nominating a supervisor
“Top-Up” Postgraduate Research Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- to augment an existing scholarship leading to a Masters or PhD degree- to be applied for by the student, nominating a supervisor.
Industry Placement Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- for applied research and training sponsored by a company leading to a Masters degree- to be applied for by the host company, where possible nominating the student and university supervisor.

General Information

- **Postgraduate Research (PhD/Masters) Scholarships**
- **Top-Up Scholarships**

Scholarship holders will receive the large majority of their training from universities or public/private sector research organisations. RIRDC 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 understanding of the Australian horse industry, and the issues it faces

RIRDC desires that their scholars gain training in the following general strategies:

- developing a broad understanding of the horse industry and of relevant, 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
 - leadership and liaison skills

Academic transcripts

The applicant should supply a full academic transcript.

Referee's Reports

RIRDC Horse Program scholarships and training awards require two separate referee's reports to be submitted in support of a candidate's application. The referee should forward the report direct to RIRDC: do not return it to the candidate.

It is recognised that the standard Confidential Referee's Report may not give sufficient or appropriate information for the RIRDC Scholarship and Training Awards. Referees should fill in the sections of the report relevant to the particular scholarship or award and attach additional information as required. Applicants are at a significant disadvantage if referees' reports are not received by the due date.

RIRDC relies heavily on academic referee reports when it makes decisions about scholarship and training awards. RIRDC requires judgement on the ability of applicants 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.

Operating funds

Supervisors of RIRDC postgraduate students receive \$3,000 in additional funding per annum for

use as operating funds. These funds can be used for purchasing laboratory consumables, attendance at conferences etc. As such, students are not eligible to apply for travel/conference funds from RIRDC through its travel/conference funding rounds.

Eligibility

To qualify for an RIRDC scholarship or training award, applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents and applications must be received on standard application forms. The award being applied for must be clearly identified.

All applications for scholarships and training awards must be accompanied by a letter of confirmation from your proposed supervisor supporting the application.

Specific Information:

Postgraduate Research Scholarship

RIRDC provides full scholarships to students with an outstanding academic record and who wish to develop a career in the horse industry. RIRDC also encourages applications from people already established in the horse industry to upgrade their skills through postgraduate training.

For more information and to apply for a postgraduate research scholarship:

- [Postgraduate Research Scholarship Information](#)
- [Postgraduate Research Scholarship Application](#)
- [Confidential Referee's Report](#)

Postgraduate Research "Top-up" Scholarship

RIRDC provides 'top-up' scholarships to students with an outstanding academic record who have gained another academic scholarship (e.g. APA/UPA). The 'top-up' program encourages these individuals to undertake their postgraduate study in an area of relevance to the Australian horse industry.

For more information and to apply for a postgraduate research "top-up" scholarship:

- [Postgraduate Research "Top-Up" Scholarship Information](#)
- [Postgraduate Research "Top-up" Scholarship Application](#)
- [Confidential Referee's Report](#)

Industry Placement Scholarship

RIRDC is seeking to develop partnerships between the horse industry and academic institutions (and other research organisations) to encourage research and innovation activities highly oriented to industry needs. The aim of industry placement scholarships is to provide the horse industry with high calibre graduates to work on projects that will improve any aspect of the industry's competitiveness. Their training will be designed and supervised by a company within the horse industry, in collaboration with a research institution.

For general information and to apply for an industry placement scholarship:

- [Industry Placement Scholarship Information](#)
- [Industry Placement Scholarship Application](#)
- [Confidential Referee's Report](#)

Postgraduate Research Scholarships Information

The RIRDC Horse Program will provide full scholarships to students with an outstanding academic record and who wish to develop a career in the horse industry.

The RIRDC Horse Program Postgraduate Research Scholarship encourages students to develop their research skills through undertaking a project relevant to the Australian horse industry.

Prospective students must develop a project concept with their proposed supervisor(s). Thus, application should be considered a collaborative process between the student and supervisor(s). Fields of research include those outlined in the Horse R & D 5-year plan, 2006-11 (<http://www.rirdc.gov.au/pub/hor5yr.html>) and

- Reduce the incidence and impact of diseases and parasites
- Reduce injury and breakdown of horses in work and training
- Improve productivity in breeding
- Improve the safety of industry participants and the welfare of horses, and enhance the environmental sustainability of the industry
- Promote the quality, quantity and effective communication of R&D for the horse industry

Scholarships will be made available for two years in the case of a Masters program and three years in the case of a PhD. The stipend in 2007-8 will be \$AUD30,000 pa.

Selection Criteria

- Ideally the student will have graduated with honours, or graduated with a higher qualification - the academic record of the applicant is appropriate
- The project addresses key research areas of the RIRDC Horse Program
- The project provides appropriate training for study to a Masters/PhD level

- There is demonstration that adequate academic supervision will be provided and collaboration has occurred between the applicant and supervisor(s)
- Comments contained in referee reports.

Operating funds

Operating funds may be provided for the support of the research work (generally, these funds will not exceed \$3,000 pa). A thesis allowance of \$500 in the final year is available upon submission of a bound thesis to RIRDC.

Operating funds provide 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.

NOTE: RIRDC will not be obliged to support research projects associated with the postgraduate scholarship.

Selection procedure

Applications will be assessed against the stated selection criteria by the RIRDC Horse Program Research Committee. Applicants may be required to attend an interview and will be notified shortly after of a decision being made. A scholarship agreement will be written between the research organisation, the applicant and RIRDC. Offers will be made 'in-principle', subject to the student being accepted in the degree at the nominated university.

Postgraduate Research Scholarships Application Form and Referee's Report

Download the [RIRDC PhD/Masters scholarship application and referee's report form](#)

Postgraduate Research 'Top-up' Scholarships

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage students gaining APA, university or other scholarships to undertake research involving the horse industry. It is expected applicants will have a keen interest in the horse industry and will use this award to develop research interests with a view to continuing research at PhD level.

Scholarships may be taken up in any area relevant to the RIRDC Horse Program's current research priorities, as identified in the current (<http://www.rirdc.gov.au/pub/hor5yr.html>). The scholarships will supplement other scholarships up to the level of the RIRDC Horse Program Postgraduate Scholarship: for 2007-8 this is \$AUD 30,000 per annum.

Selection criteria:

- Academic record relevant to the proposed project
- Be eligible for a university, APRA or other scholarship
- A research proposal that will provide training relevant to establishing a career in the Australian pork industry
- Project addresses key research areas of APL
- Project provides appropriate