Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship 2018-2021

1. Background

The Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship (2018) is an Indigenous Student Success Program initiative approved by the Indigenous Student Success Program Governance Committee in December 2017. The purpose of the Scholarship is to strengthen University of Tasmania Aboriginal community engagement through supporting a senior Aboriginal person to undertake a research project of importance to Tasmanian Aboriginal people and community.

The objective of the Scholarship is to build and grow the Tasmanian Aboriginal scholarly knowledge base. Topics of research for this scholarship can include, but are not restricted to, research relating to Tasmanian Aboriginal people/s, organisations, political activism, language, history, culture and/or country.

The 2018 Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship is an elite scholarship, offered to attract high quality candidates who have the capacity to make a significant contribution to Tasmanian Aboriginal knowledge.

2. The Scholarship

The Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship (2018) is funded by Indigenous Student Success Program funding. The Scholarship is offered as a full time scholarship at the rate of $40,000 per annum for three years, with potential for a 6 month extension for approved candidates. Sick leave and maternity leave as per University guidelines are also available. The successful candidate may also suspend the scholarship up to a period not exceeding 12 months in total.

The Scholarship holder will enrol in the research higher degree aligned with their academic record and relevant experience. Doctoral candidates will require a minimum admission of upper second class honours, or equivalent. Candidates for a Masters of Research will require a Bachelor degree or equivalent and their candidature may also include a University study preparation period, not exceeding 6 months, to support research skills development. This program will be determined by the candidate and their primary supervisor.

The successful candidate will be supervised by University of Tasmania academic staff and may be based at any of the three University’s Tasmanian campuses.
3. **Advertising**

The Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship (2018) will be advertised for a 4 week period by:

- Listing on the University of Tasmania Scholarships Web Page
- Listed on the University of Tasmania Riawunna Page
- Listing on the University of Tasmania Aboriginal Business Research/Postgraduate Page
- Being circulated to Aboriginal organisations for distribution to community members

4. **Special Conditions**

Applicants for the scholarship need to meet the Commonwealth Government’s three tiered criteria for Aboriginality.

The research topic must be directly relevant to Tasmania Aboriginal people and/or community.

5. **Eligibility Criteria**

The following eligibility criteria apply to this scholarship:

- Applicants will be accepted from Doctoral or Masters of Research applicants;
- Applicants for the scholarship need to meet the Commonwealth Government’s three tiered criteria for Aboriginality;
- The research topic must be directly relevant to Tasmania Aboriginal people and/or community;
- The degree must be undertaken on a full-time basis;
- Doctoral Applicants must already have been awarded an upper second class honours degree or hold equivalent qualifications or relevant and substantial research experience in an appropriate sector;
- Masters of Research Applicants must already have been awarded a Bachelor degree with lower second class honours or hold equivalent qualifications or relevant and substantial research experience in an appropriate sector.

This scholarship is only open to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants as per Exemption 13/09/033 from Equal Opportunity Tasmania

6. **Application Process**

Applicants can apply for the Senior Indigenous Research Scholarship (2018) through completion of an on-line application form, detailing their topic and proposed research.
7. **Selection Process**

(a) A Selection Committee consisting of the Dean of Graduate Research (or nominee), the University of Tasmania Aboriginal Leadership team, plus two members of the Strategic Plan for Aboriginal Engagement Steering Committee will determine the successful application based on:

- The scholarly quality of the research program proposed;
- The perceived importance of the topic to Tasmanian Aboriginal people/community;
- The applicant’s demonstrated research and analytical skills;
- The demonstrated capacity of the candidate to successfully complete the proposed research;
- Knowledge of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community;
- Experience of working within the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community.

(b) As part of the assessment process, the committee may arrange interviews for the applicants either in person or by telephone.

8. **Commencement Process**

The successful applicant will be supported by the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Aboriginal Research and Leadership to make the transition into a research program at the University of Tasmania. This will include negotiating with, and on behalf of, the Scholarship holder:

a) Office space and infrastructure support in the appropriate school  
b) Enrolment into the appropriate research higher degree  
c) Engagement of a supervisory panel  
d) A research support package inclusive of, but not restricted to thesis allowance, relocation allowance, field work and conference presentation support.