# Call for Global PhD project proposals by

# National Tsing Hua University and Macquarie University

(a supervisor-led competition)

## Overview

* National Tsing Hua University (NTHU), Taiwan and Macquarie University (MQ), Australia are strategic partners in research and graduate research collaboration.
* The universities established a supervisor-led global PhD project proposal program to further deepen the cooperation and collaboration between their researchers and increase participation in the Global PhD program.
* The project proposals will be jointly prepared by supervisors from both universities
* The doctoral projects are intended to contribute to the development of world-leading research, education and impact supported by the National Tsing Hua University, and to the Macquarie University Strategic Research Framework. In particular, the scholarships are intended to help consolidate both universities’ position as sector leaders in international engagement.
* Scholarships will support research jointly supervised and delivered through a Global PhD degree programme (cotutelle).
* Up to 5 awards are available each year.
* Those projects that are successful for an award will be advertised for the recruitment of a doctoral student. The period of joint enrolment will be between 2 and 3 years, subject to agreement by both universities for each candidate’s case. The positions will be supported as per the scholarship conditions of award as advised by each institution.
* The funding is available to new domestic or international doctoral applicants starting their degree in September/October 2025 who meet the entry requirements of both universities.
* This call is initially open to mutual areas of research interest and priority at both Universities: the **Faculty of Science and Engineering and the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Science at Macquarie University** and **the College of Engineering, College of Life Sciences and Medicine and College of Humanities and Social Sciences at National Tsing Hua University.**
* Teams of supervisors who are eligible to supervise PhD candidates are welcome to apply.
* Macquarie supervisors should secure the permission of their Head of School or Head of Department before committing to the supervisory arrangement.

## How to apply – supervisory teams

Teams of supervisors jointly propose either a pre-defined research project in a specific area of research or two closely defined topics in which student-led projects would be recruited. This flexibility is intended to support schools who would not normally offer pre-defined doctoral projects while still ensuring that funding is directed toward research that supports strategic priorities.

Jointly prepared project proposals should be submitted by the deadline by the supervisor at each respective university as follows: at NTHU, applications should be submitted to [gac@my.nthu.edu.tw](mailto:gac@my.nthu.edu.tw). At Macquarie, applications should be submitted by email to [gr.globalprograms@mq.edu.au](mailto:gr.globalprograms@mq.edu.au)

#### The project proposal must include the following information:

1. **Project title and names of academics**
2. **Project/topic outline (max. 600 words)** with an indication of any innovative or distinctive features and written for a multi-disciplinary audience.
3. **Statement (max. 300 words) describing how:**
   1. the relationship between the universities, including research synergies, research environments, and strategic links can benefit the project,
   2. the project will enhance existing links and strengthen research collaboration beyond the scope of the PhD project.
4. **Statement (max. 500 words)** outlining the ways in which the partnership between Macquarie and NTHU facilitates a high-quality research training environment for the student. The statement should explain what materials, resources, equipment, archive or lab, and training groups, etc., the student will benefit from accessing, and why the particular supervisorial context created by the collaborative project will be beneficial.
5. **Confirmation that the application has the support of the authorised member of staff** at Macquarie, normally the Head of School or the School Director of Postgraduate Research (email is sufficient).

## Assessment of project proposals submitted by supervisory teams

The Assessment Panel will comprise a diverse group of research leaders and members of the Executive (or their nominees) from both universities. The assessment panel membership is 6-8 persons in total.

#### The project proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

* Project quality (weighted 60%)
* Value added to the project through multi-institutional collaboration (weighted 20%)
* Quality of research training environment (weighted 20%)

## Important dates

#### Call for joint project proposals by teams of supervisors

**11 November 2024**: Open Joint Call for project proposals

**12 December 2024,** **11:59 pm local time in both Sydney and Taiwan**: Deadline for project proposals

**Mid-December 2024**: Joint selection of projects by the assessment panel and announcement of successful projects

#### Call for student applications

**2 January 2025:** Opening of advertisements for student applications at both universities. Student must meet entry criteria of each institution and must not already hold a doctoral degree. Student submits their application one semester prior to enrolment at NTHU and student also submits a Cotutelle PhD application to MQ through the [application portal](https://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply)

**9 February 2025, 11:59 pm local time in both Sydney and Taiwan:** Closing date for applications from students

**Between 10-21 February 2025**: Joint Assessment Panel reviews and selects best applicants

**TBC 2025**: outcomes announced to students

**Enrolment in the program:** **September 2025** (fall semester at NTHU) and **October 2025** (Macquarie)

## Scholarship

The total joint enrolment period at both universities is no more than 3 years (36 months) and no less than 2 years (24 months). The student must spend a minimum or 12 months on campus at either institution.

Financial support to successful applicants to the Global PhD program has been agreed in the Cotutelle Framework agreement between the institutions.

At Macquarie University, a tuition fee scholarship is available to selected students for up to 3 years of joint enrolment and a living stipend is available usually for up to half of the joint enrolment period (and only when the student is physically at Macquarie Campus). The stipend rate in 2025 is AU $38,500 per annum, pro rata. View Macquarie [stipend rates in 2025.](https://www.mq.edu.au/research/phd-and-research-degrees/how-to-apply/scholarship-opportunities#:~:text=The%20MRes%20to%20PhD%20scholarships,annum%20in%202025%2C%20indexed%20annually.) The student is also eligible to receive international return airfare travel support for up to AU $4,000.

International Students may apply for a NTHU Tuition Fee Scholarshipfor the duration of the student’s enrolment at NTHU.

Taiwan Domestic Students may apply for a NTHU Tuition Fee Scholarship for the duration of the student’s enrolment at NTHU.

NTHU may provide a monthly stipend while the student is located on campus at NTHU up to 24 months.

## Need more information?

Macquarie University: contact [gr.globalprograms@mq.edu.au](mailto:gr.globalprograms@mq.edu.au)

National Tsing Hua University: contact [gac@my.nthu.edu.tw](mailto:gac@my.nthu.edu.tw)