

## **Why do I have to provide a supporting statement for a potential vacation scholar?**

Applicants are required to contact potential project supervisors prior to submitting their Vacation Research Scholarship application to ask questions about the project and determine if the project might be a good fit for them – i.e., does it align with their current degree, their experience and research interests. It's also an opportunity for supervisors to determine if they think the student would be suitable to undertake the project and possibly a research degree in the future.

By providing a supporting statement you are not confirming/guaranteeing that the student will be awarded a scholarship, it's to ensure that when their application goes through the assessment process there is confirmation that they have contacted the supervisor and would potentially be a good fit for the project.

It also helps ensure that only students who are genuinely interested in research projects are submitting applications. Applications without a supporting statement from a project supervisor will not progress through to the assessment process.

## **Can I provide a supporting statement to more than one student?**

Yes, you can provide supporting statements for multiple students if you think they would be suitable to undertake a research project. All applications will be assessed in a competitive process coordinated by Research Student Services in conjunction with your Academic Unit Research Team and the relevant Dean of Research (or delegate). Supporting statements will be taken into consideration during the assessment phase. The Dean of Research (or delegate) will determine who the most suitable applicants are and who should be awarded scholarships. In some instances, scholarships can be awarded to multiple students for a particular supervisor/project, as long as there is scope for that on the project and adequate supervision can be provided.

## **Why can't I put forward a project after the closing date?**

As this is a competitive application and selection process, there are specific timelines that must be adhered to, to ensure an equitable process for all potential project supervisors and applicants.

## **What happens if a potential student misses the application closing date?**

Scholarships cannot be awarded to students who have not applied by the closing date. As this is a competitive application and selection process, there are specific timelines that must be adhered to, to ensure an equitable process for all applicants.

## **Can Non-UniSA students apply for a vacation scholarship at UniSA?**

Yes, domestic students from other Australian Universities can apply for Vacation Scholarships at UniSA. If awarded a scholarship, they will be set up in the UniSA system under the Visiting Research Student Placement (VISP) program to allow them access to UniSA resources such as email, internet, and library services.

## **I know a student who is interested in applying for a Vacation Scholarship, but they do not meet all the eligibility, can they still apply through this scheme?**

Only students who meet the full eligibility criteria can be awarded a centrally funded Vacation Scholarship. However, in some instances if an Academic Unit/Supervisor/Project has their own funding available, they may be able to provide a scholarship for a student who doesn't meet the full eligibility criteria. In this instance, the student can apply through our scheme and our team can administer the scholarship payments via the Scholarship Management System. Our team would require approved cost centre details to facilitate this. The payment value would have to be the same as for the centrally funded Vacation Scholarships (\$375.00 per week for a maximum of 8 weeks).

## **Does the Vacation Scholar have to fill in a time sheet or record their vacation scholarship hours?**

Vacation scholarship students are not an employee of UniSA so are not required to complete timesheets or formally record the hours spent working on their vacation project. There is an expectation that students undertake the Vacation scholarship on a full time (38 hours) basis from Monday to Friday within business working hours, however the exact timing and hours can be negotiated between the student and project supervisor.

Vacation scholars will be paid a weekly allowance of \$375, payable fortnightly in arrears from the date of commencement of the Scholarship. If there are any changes to the dates of the Vacation scholarship, please contact [research.students@unisa.edu.au](mailto:research.students@unisa.edu.au) as soon as possible so that payment schedules can be amended.