

NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships 2026 Submission Guidelines

The University of Sydney has an internal timeline and application process for the NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships in 2026. The instructions on how to submit your application for assessment are included in this document.

1) Timeline

- **8 April 2026** – Applications Open in Sapphire
- **5:00 pm 27 April 2026** – University of Sydney internal deadline for submitting Mandatory documents and Minimum data in Sapphire for consideration for **academic review**.
- **5:00 pm 13 May 2026** – NHMRC deadline for Minimum data to be entered into Sapphire.
- **5:00 pm 26 May 2026** – University of Sydney deadline for submitting Mandatory documents. If these documents are not submitted by the deadline your application may not be considered for submission to NHMRC by the University of Sydney.
- **9:00 am 1 June 2026** Applicants must confirm they have made changes based on administrative feedback, and have certified and submitted their application in Sapphire.
- **5:00 pm 3 June 2026** – Applications Close in Sapphire.

NOTE:

Mandatory Documents received by 5:00 pm 26 May 2026

The University will complete an administrative review by 29 May. Applicants must confirm amendments have been made, and that they have certified and submitted their application in Sapphire by 9:00 am 1 June.

If the applicant's confirmation is not received by 9:00 am 1 June, while every effort will be made to proceed, the University cannot guarantee that the application will be submitted.

Mandatory Documents received after 5:00 pm 26 May 2026

Every effort will be made to provide an administrative review. However, administrative review is not guaranteed, which may result in the application not being submitted.

Regardless of when administrative review is provided to the applicant, the deadline for confirming that amendment has been made, and certifying and submitting the application in Sapphire remains as 9:00 am 1 June.

If the applicant's confirmation is not received by 9:00 am 1 June, while every effort will be made to proceed, the University cannot guarantee that the application will be submitted.

Late Applications

Any new application and mandatory documents submitted after 5:00pm on 28 May 2026 will not be endorsed by the University of Sydney.

2) Commencing an Application

Before commencing an application, please ensure you determine that you are eligible for the NHMRC Postgraduate Research Scholarships and read all the application documents provided by the NHMRC. These documents are available through Grant Connect, which can be accessed via the below link.

<https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=ee06e1ac-9055-4679-aa46-37e997d12bc1>

All applications must be submitted using Sapphire which can be accessed at the below link. This page also includes basic tutorial videos on how to use Sapphire and a Help section.

<https://healthandmedicalresearch.gov.au/>

3) Minimum Data

Once you have commenced an application in Sapphire, all minimum data fields must be completed by 13 May 2026. Failing to meet this deadline will result in the application not proceeding. Using placeholder text (including in the application title), such as “text”, “synopsis” or “xx” may render your application ineligible by NHMRC. Minimum data fields for Postgraduate Scholarships are outlined in section 7.3.1 and Appendix C sections 3, 6.2, 6.4 and 6.5 of the Postgraduate Scholarship 2026 Guidelines.

IMPORTANT: Ensuring compliance with minimum data requirements is the **sole responsibility of the applicant** and will not be included in any administrative or academic review that may be undertaken by the University. Applicants are advised to pay particular attention to the NHMRC guidelines for “application title.”

4) Mandatory Documents for Academic Review

If you submit minimum data in Sapphire and provided all mandatory documents to the Scholarships Office by 5:00 pm on 27 April 2026, your application may be considered for academic review*. Academic review is facilitated and managed by Faculties. If approved for academic review, an experienced academic, aligned with your research area, will review your application and will provide you with feedback and advice on your application.

*Please note that not all applications received by the deadline will be selected for academic review.

The following documents must be submitted to scholarships.office@sydney.edu.au in order to be considered for academic review:

- Proof of Citizenship or Permanent Residency
- Application Details and Declaration Form
- Professional Registration Papers – required only if you are applying to receive the Priority Stipend
- Grant Proposal in Word version
- Curriculum Vitae (including a list of your publications)
- Application Summary, Application Report and Profile Report - these documents are generated from Sapphire.

5) Mandatory Documents for submission to NHMRC

You must submit mandatory documents to the Scholarships Office by 5:00 pm on 26 May 2026 in order for your application to be considered for submission to NHMRC.

6) Eligibility

The Scholarships Office will conduct eligibility check on as many applications as possible and provide feedback to help reduce the risk of applications being deemed ineligible by the NHMRC. Please note that it remains the applicant's responsibility to assess their own circumstances against the eligibility criteria of the scholarship prior to applying in Sapphire. If you are a recipient of, or have accepted, an Australian Government funded Research Training Program (RTP) stipend scholarship for the degree applied for, whether before application, during peer review, prior to commencement, or during the grant period, you are not eligible for the NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships.

7) Certifying your Application

If your mandatory documents are not submitted to Scholarships Office by 5:00 pm on **26 May**, and you have not confirmed that all amendments have been completed and your application certified and submitted in Sapphire by 9:00 am **1 June 2026**, your application may not be submitted to the NHMRC by the University.

IMPORTANT: Provision of minimum data, mandatory documents, confirmation that required amendments have been completed, and certifying and submitting the application in Sapphire by the required deadline does not guarantee that your application will be approved by the University for submission to the NHMRC.

8) Questions

If you have any questions or need any assistance with the NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship application process, please email scholarships.office@sydney.edu.au or call (02) 8627 8112.