Check your eligibility today

☐ You are an Australian citizen or permanent resident;
☐ You have been awarded a PhD in the last 3 to 6 years; or have obtained an Eligibility Exemption from the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) or equivalent if your PhD was awarded earlier.
☐ Your proposed area of research is in a field of research at a participating university with an Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) four digit Field of Research (FOR) rating of 5. For a comprehensive list of FOR codes by university, visit the Australian Research Council’s website;
☐ You are able to commence your research by 30 June following the year of application;
☐ Your proposed research will contribute to the future of Australia in one of the Foundation’s three focus areas;
☐ Your proposed research includes international opportunities to develop your leadership skills and global networks, such as study tours for the purpose of research, attending a short course or conference, an internship or volunteering;
☐ You are able to supply two letters of reference, and a letter of support from the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research);
☐ You are able to attend a national selection panel held in Sydney.

Westpac Scholarship Program

We believe that the best way to advance Australia over the coming century is to invest in the next generation of leaders: the gifted visionaries, the bold reformers and ambitious innovators.

The Westpac Scholarship Program will help achieve this by funding 100 scholarships and fellowships every year, forever.

The $100 million Westpac Bicentennial Foundation

The Westpac Scholarship Program is an initiative of the Westpac Bicentennial Foundation. The Foundation is celebrating Westpac’s 200th anniversary in 2017 with a $100 million gift to future generations of Australians.

With the sole aim of educating and advancing Australians, we’ll ensure those with a passion to contribute to our nation’s growth and prosperity have every chance to do so.

Scholarships to shape our future

We’ve centred our scholarships around three focus areas we believe are at the heart of Australia’s future growth and prosperity, and central to our own focus as an organisation:

Technology and innovation: digitisation is changing almost every element of everyday life. We want Australia to stay at the forefront of this revolution.

Australia-Asia ties: Australia is uniquely positioned to share in the rapid rise of Asia, with our deep cultural, political and economic relationships. We want to strengthen those bonds.

Positive social change: Social entrepreneurship is fast becoming a distinctive part of the nation’s social, economic and political fabric. We want Australia to keep drawing strength from this phenomenon.

Introducing the Westpac Research Fellowship

Westpac Bicentennial Foundation is partnering with Australia’s leading research universities to offer four Westpac Research Fellowships valued at up to $460,000 over three years.

This unique fellowship supports outstanding researchers conducting ground-breaking work at one of Australia’s leading research universities.

Co-created with our partner universities, the Fellowship focuses on the specific needs of our research Fellows, resulting in a uniquely holistic approach to supporting their research.

Fellowship recipients will be exceptional people, chosen for their intellectual ability, leadership qualities, and commitment to the community. Their research will have the potential to make a difference to Australia’s future in one of our three focus areas.

A new holistic approach to supporting your research

The Fellowship aims to free you from the need to apply for multiple sources of funding, allowing you to focus on your research. It includes:

1. Salary support for your position
   The Fellowship will fund your fulltime salary and on-costs for a period of three years from the date of award.

2. Opportunity for professional development and global experiences
   Leadership demands an ability to view situations and circumstances from a variety of perspectives. The Fellowship provides the opportunity to add a global context to your research and undertake professional development. This may include attending conferences, courses, travel for research, an internship or volunteering.

   “This is the perfect springboard for academics who want to secure our country’s long-term peace and prosperity.”
   Dr Nicholas Farrelly
   Fellow, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, The Australian National University
   Westpac Research Fellowship Ambassador

A fellowship is just the start

Money can help launch a vision but it takes a network of inspired and inspiring people to sustain it. That’s why every Westpac Research Fellowship recipient is invited to join the Westpac Scholars Alumni program.

This program offers more than just membership of a network that will help your career. It’s an incredible platform enabling you to join a diverse group of inspiring peers and mentors, providing opportunities for practical support.

Growing by 100 scholars a year across our five scholarship programs, this network will connect those with bold ideas to build a better future for all Australians.

Our Partner Universities

The Westpac Research Fellowship is offered at four leading Australian universities:

– The Australian National University
– The University of Melbourne
– The University of Queensland
– The University of Sydney

Your proposed program of study can be in any field of world class standing at one of these universities, and must be relevant to the Foundation’s focus areas.

“ We’ve been delighted to work with Westpac to develop these fellowships, which will enable excellent researchers of the next generation to focus on building a stellar research career. This fellowship provides crucial support to outstanding researchers, giving them the best possible chance to succeed in the long term.”

Professor Julie Willis
Pro Vice Chancellor (Research Capability), University of Melbourne