

# UC PhD Industry Internship Program

## INDUSTRY PARTNER INFORMATION

Research Internships are offered to The University of Canberra's (UC) PhD Candidates as part of UC's PhD Plus by participating in the PhD Plus Industry Internship Program.

[PhD Plus is UC's Doctor of Philosophy](#), students are offered "plus" elements which are designed to boost their post PhD careers through industry placements, research projects, skills development, industry mentoring and networking opportunities.

Internships provide PhD candidates with valuable learning experiences as well as opportunity for industry to inform their research.

### Benefits

For the HDR candidate	For the supervisor	For the industry partner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and demonstrate transferable skills</li> <li>• Translate research into practical solutions</li> <li>• Build professional networks</li> <li>• Enhance post-PhD career options and employability</li> <li>• Obtain "real-world" work experience</li> <li>• Add to your CV</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build new and maintain existing industry partnerships</li> <li>• Expand future collaborations</li> <li>• Build industry engagement</li> <li>• Attract future HDR candidates research talent to research group</li> <li>• Supervise candidate in real world</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to high-level expertise and innovation</li> <li>• Connect with UC experts</li> <li>• Opportunity to apply cutting-edge research and knowledge to solve a real-world problem</li> <li>• Build connections with researchers for future collaborations</li> <li>• Access to future recruitment talent</li> </ul>

## Types of Internships

	Unpaid/voluntary	Industry-funded	Co-funded
<b>Aim</b>	HDR candidate to build networks, develop and demonstrate transferable skills and engage with industry or profession.	Complete research project and provide solution to real-world problem. HDR candidate to build networks, develop and demonstrate transferable skills and engage with industry or profession.	Complete research project and provide solution to real-world problem. HDR candidate to build networks, develop and demonstrate transferable skills and engage with industry or profession.
<b>Duration</b>	1-6 months*	3-6 months* Encouraged minimum 60 days#	3-5* months Minimum 60 days#
<b>Sourced by</b>	HDR candidate	HDR candidate or University (Enterprise Partnerships, WIL Advancement, and/or Faculty)	HDR candidate or University (Enterprise Partnerships, WIL Advancement, and/or Faculty)
<b>Paid/Unpaid</b>	<b>Unpaid**</b>	<b>Paid</b> Payment may vary, as negotiated with Industry partner. Suggested funding arrangement: \$3,000-\$5,000 per month stipend to PhD candidate	<b>Paid</b> \$3,000 per month stipend to PhD candidate Candidate can apply for additional funds to cover e.g. WWVP, security clearance, airfare, or car travel (one off to/from internship location if more than 50km outside ACT region##).
<b>Funding source</b>	N/A	100% Industry	Industry partner \$2,000 per month stipend  UC \$1,000 per month stipend + additional expenses as approved.
<b>Outputs and deliverables</b>	Tri-party written agreement: candidate, industry partner, UC.  Self-reflective piece, focussed on transferrable skills.	Completion of research project and report for industry partner.  Tri-party written agreement: candidate, industry partner, UC.  Self-reflective short piece focussed on transferrable skills.	Completion of research project and report for industry partner.  Tri-party written agreement: candidate, industry partner, UC.  Self-reflective short piece focussed on transferrable skills.

**Note:**

#Does not have to be consecutive days. 1 day = 7 hours. Minimum 420 hours

\*Six months FT is maximum time candidate can spend in internship. Periods of up to three months FT are most common.

\*\*Must meet the *Fair Work Act 2009* requirements for unpaid work

## What a PhD intern could do

- 3-6 months full time: can be taken in full time block/s or a set number of days per week
- Face to face or virtual
- Candidate can work on either a stand-alone project or on a section of a bigger project
- Work individually, collaboratively or in multi-disciplinary teams

## Examples of what a research internship could contribute to

- Establishing industry trials
- New product identifiers
- Medical product advancement
- Designing technology & software
- Machine learning
- Environmental modelling & research
- Research data analysis
- Developing methods, costs & limitations
- Communication engagement & strategy
- Conduct evidence-based research and development
- Apply design thinking and identify and solve real industry problems with recommendations to improve or develop solutions
- Test prototypes, develop or improve product or service design
- Collect data, develop protocols, test to market, and identify market segments
- Built algorithms, design, or improve apps
- Develop policies and frameworks
- Deliver programs

The activities undertaken by the PhD Plus Candidate during the Research Internship must be clear and agreed to by all parties prior to commencement of Internship within a project plan. The activities should be related to the PhD Plus Candidates area of research and, reflect both the interests of your organisation or project and offer professional development opportunities for the PhD Plus Candidate.

## Agreement/Contract

An Internship Agreement is finalised prior to Internship. The agreement sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Host Organisation, PhD Plus Candidate and UC. This includes students undertaking to comply with the Host Organisation's policies and procedures, IP requirements, agreeing to maintain confidentiality of information, and outlining the project tasks and time commitments and agreed arrangements.

## Insurance

PhD Plus Candidates are protected by UC's insurance while engaged in course-related activities such as an internship which is recognised and approved by UC PhD Plus Internship Program.

## Intent to Intern

For UC to be eligible to collect Government funding connected to industry engagement and to encourage early engagement with industry it is a requirement for PhD candidates undertaking internships with industry partners to complete, what we have called, “Intent to Intern” agreement within the first 18 months of candidature. This is a written agreement that states that the Industry Partner is in discussions about taking on a PhD Candidate for an internship. The form is available by request.

## Responsibilities

### Intern will:

- Provide expert support in a specialised research area for prior agreed project
- Assist with an area of research with investigation, compiling information and analysing and delivering results
- General Skills: data analytics, high level communication, innovative problem solving, technical competency (industry relevant), curiosity and positivity, adaptability, and reasoning

### UC will:

- Provide placement training for intern
- Provide academic supervisor and support for intern
- Can provide legal agreements and contract
- Provide co-funding opportunities (for eligible candidates/internships)

### Host will:

- Engage with candidate early on in candidature (first 18 months in form of Intent to Intern)
- Provide a project/part of project for the duration of internship with specific goals and objectives/research outcomes
- Provide a host supervisor for hands on supervision and guidance in the workplace for duration of project
- Provide a 3–6-month FTE internship position
- Full/part funding in form of stipend to Intern (see Funding Structure in Types of Internships table)
- Provide appropriate resources, equipment, and facilities for project outcomes
- Provide conditions similar to those that interns would experience during formal employment

For more information:

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/research/graduate-research/current-research-students/industry-engagement/phd-plus-industry-internship-program>

If you are interested in hosting an intern:

[graduateresearch@canberra](mailto:graduateresearch@canberra)

