

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS 2012-2014

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

The University of Queensland invites applications for a limited number of Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in 2012, to be awarded to early career researchers of exceptional calibre wishing to conduct **full-time** research at the University in any of its disciplines. In particular, the scheme aims to attract outstanding recent doctoral graduates to the University in areas of institutional research priority.

A comprehensive, but not exhaustive, list of Schools, Institutes and Centres can be found at http://www.uq.edu.au/departments/unit_types.html?type=5.

Eligibility

All applicants must fulfil the eligibility criteria listed below:

- (a) An applicant must not have had more than five years full-time professional research experience or equivalent part-time experience since the award of a PhD, as at 30 June 2011.
 - *An applicant who does not hold a doctoral degree at the time of application may be offered an appointment if evidence is subsequently provided that a doctoral thesis has been submitted by 31 December 2011.*
- (b) Any applicant who is employed by The University of Queensland (UQ) at the time of application, or who has received a doctorate from UQ and has not subsequently held a position at another university or research institution (Internal Applicants), *must provide a compelling academic and/or social justification indicating why their research needs to be continued at postdoctoral level at this institution.* UQ Faculties and Institutes may apply this criterion based on their own strategic priorities, noting the emphasis of the scheme to attract outstanding early career researchers to the University. In some cases, Faculties and Institutes may determine not to accept proposals from Internal Applicants. Internal Applicants should therefore seek advice from the relevant Faculty/Institute Associate Dean (Research) or Deputy Director (Research) prior to submitting an application.

Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria will include the excellence of the researcher and the program of work to be undertaken. Applicants must have an outstanding track record relative to opportunity and have demonstrated capacity for undertaking original work. In addition, the selection process will also consider (a) the alignment of the proposed research with research areas of existing strength, or research areas that Faculties/Institutes wish to develop as priorities, and (b) the quality of the people with whom the Fellow will work.

Tenure

- (a) The period of appointment will be for **three** years only. In exceptional circumstances a shorter appointment may be offered.
- (b) The appointment is to be taken up as soon as possible after 1 January 2012. Deferral of the award commencement date beyond 29 February 2012 is subject to the approval of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) (or delegate), through the Research and Innovation Division. A commencement date later than 30 June 2012 is not likely to be approved, though the University is prepared to consider any such request on its merits.

Value of Award

- (a) The current salary range for the award is on a four-level scale from A\$65,463.41 – A\$72,949.71 per annum (**2011 Salary Scales**). Commencing salaries are based strictly on the number of full years' experience since receiving a doctorate. Salary scales are reviewed from time to time.
- (b) The appointee will be required to participate in a superannuation scheme to which both the appointee and the University will contribute.
- (c) An appointee will be entitled to an economy class airfare (or where appropriate, a first class rail fare) for him/herself and dependants
 - (i) for the journey to Brisbane when taking up the Fellowship, and
 - (ii) for the return journey, immediately after expiry of the full appointment period.

(The fares provided are for travel by the direct route: the cost of any variation must be borne by the appointee)

The appointee's School/Centre/Institute can make travel arrangements through the University's travel agent, Campus Travel.

- (d) The appointee will be entitled to reimbursement for relocation costs to a maximum level as outlined in the *UQ Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Conditions of Award 2012*. The appointee should discuss relocation costs with his/her School/Centre/Institute, as it will usually be necessary for quotes to be obtained.
- (e) Maintenance funds of \$10,000 in the first year of the Fellowship, and \$5,000 in each of the two subsequent years will be made available to the Fellow to support research costs.

These costs will be met by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the Fellow's Faculty/School/Centre/Institute, in line with the base salary funding arrangement.

Other Conditions

Conditions of Award are available from the R&ID website <http://www.uq.edu.au/research/rid/grants-internal-postdoc>.

Application form

Prior to applying, it is imperative that a prospective applicant contacts the Head/Director of the appropriate School, Centre or Institute to obtain more details of their research interests, **and to ascertain whether the School/Centre/Institute is prepared to support the candidate's application**. If the Head/Director (or delegate) indicates that the candidate will receive support, the prescribed application forms may then be completed. The name of the applicant's proposed supervisor must be indicated on the application form and referee reports.

Correspondence and applications should be addressed to:

Head/Director
School/Centre/Institute of (Insert name of School/Centre/Institute)
The University of Queensland
Brisbane Queensland 4072
AUSTRALIA

Closing Date

The appropriate School, Centre or Institute must receive applications by **20 June 2011**. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by late August 2011.