

Centre for Astrophysics and Supercomputing PhD student support

25 July 2017

Although every effort was made to ensure that this information was accurate at the time of writing, it is subject to change without notice. All monetary sums are in Australian dollars.



Note for international students: please note that there are significant costs associated with moving to Australia to start a PhD. These include:

- *Overseas Student Health Coverage* (OSHC). The Australian government requires that all incoming international students obtain health coverage in advance for the duration of their visa (currently, 57 months). Estimated cost: \$3400. Further information about OSHC can be found at the following website:
<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Overseas+Student+Health+Cover+FAQ-1>
- *Visa* : estimated cost \$500
- *Flights* : estimated cost \$1000
- *Initial accommodation* : estimated cost \$1000

Swinburne or CAS cannot pay the OSHC or visa costs on behalf of incoming students. However, to help mitigate these costs, we can offer a scholarship top-up once a student has arrived at Swinburne and enrolled.

The following indicates the minimum support that will be provided to incoming PhD students beginning their studies in CAS. More information on university scholarship entitlements may be found here:

<https://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/options/scholarships/221/swinburne-university-postgraduate-research-award/>

■ **Basic scholarship stipend:**

The minimum stipend (2017 rate) is \$26682 p.a. tax-free. Some scholarships may attract a higher stipend. The scholarship is paid for 3 years, at which point the student can apply for a 6-month extension if required. All tuition fees are paid for up to 4 years.

■ **CAS scholarship top-up:**

CAS currently guarantees a *minimum \$1500 one-off scholarship top-up on arrival in Melbourne* for CAS PhD students, to help mitigate the costs associated with moving to Melbourne. Some scholarships may attract a higher top-up.

■ **Swinburne relocation subsidy:**

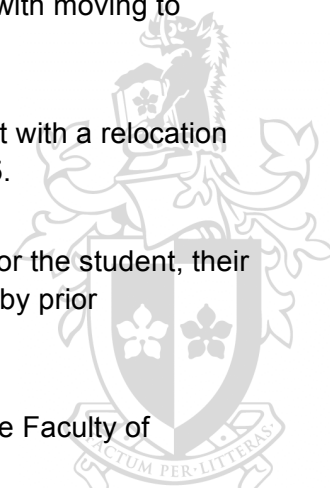
In addition to the above, the university provides each scholarship student with a relocation subsidy of \$505 per adult and \$255 per child, up to a maximum of \$1455.

■ **Initial accommodation on arrival:**

CAS can book up to 2 weeks of accommodation in a local budget hotel for the student, their spouse and dependants. Payment will be the student's responsibility or, by prior agreement, the student's supervisor.

■ **Research budget:**

Students may apply for up to \$3500 over the course of their PhD from the Faculty of



Science, Engineering and Technology to attend conferences, workshops, training programs, telescope observing runs, collaborative visits etc. Students may apply to access additional funds through their PhD supervisors, CAS, or external research funding.

■ **Maternity leave:**

Students who have completed 12 months of their scholarship are entitled to a maximum of 12 weeks paid maternity leave during their scholarship.

■ **Airport pick-up on first arrival:**

Swinburne provides a free pick-up service from Melbourne airport. See <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/international/plan-arrival/arriving-in-melbourne/> for details.

■ **Computing start-up:**

All CAS students are allocated a high-end Mac or Linux desktop computer. They are also granted priority access to CAS's supercomputer.

■ **Thesis allowance:**

The University will reimburse each student up to \$840 for the costs of producing their PhD thesis.

Notes on the **cost of living in Melbourne** may be found here:

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/student/international/melbourne/expenses.html>
