



Australia's National
Science Agency

Industry PhD (iPhD) Program

Training new researchers to create impact with industry



We are Australia's national science organisation, and one of the largest and most diverse scientific research organisations in the world. Our research focuses on the biggest challenges facing the nation.

We seek high calibre PhD students to deliver real world solutions to grow our industries and contribute to an innovative Australia.

Supported by the Australian Government, we will deliver 50 industry-focussed PhD projects each year for the next decade. All Australian universities and industries can participate.



Your student experience

CSIRO Industry PhD projects address an industry problem while complying with the participating university's requirements for a Doctor of Philosophy degree.



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Admission to a university PhD program

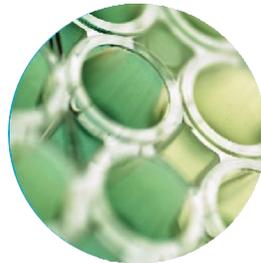
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Supervision by university, CSIRO and industry

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Four-year **scholarship** of \$46,000 per annum

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Four-year **project expense package** of \$13,000 per annum

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60-day **Industry Engagement** component

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Embedded **professional development and training** program

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Admission: meeting requirements

Students are subject to the policies of the participating university in addition to the CSIRO Industry PhD Program terms and conditions.

To be eligible:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, or a New Zealand citizen
- meet host university PhD admission requirements
- meet university English language requirements
- have not previously completed a PhD
- be able to commence the program in the year of the offer
- enrol as a full-time PhD student
- be prepared to be located at the project location(s)

To apply:

- submit an expression of interest (EOI) following the instructions on the participating university's webpage
- if shortlisted, attend an interview conducted by the supervisory team
- if successful, apply for the position following the university's instructions
- if all admission criteria is met, the university will issue a letter of offer requiring acceptance



"The iPhD program is perfect as it provides a 'trial' of industry, university, and CSIRO/Government. It allows me to build a broader foundation of knowledge which ultimately enhances my future employability. The iPhD program will also help me develop professional contacts which are vital in early career, and it will allow me to identify what it is that I enjoy and excel in".

Supervision: three-ways

CSIRO Industry PhD projects are developed and supervised by an industry partner, CSIRO and an Australian university.

Each project draws on expertise from the three partners throughout the project. Students gain access to additional expertise and facilities, forge deep networks, and gain an understanding of the needs and drivers of each organisation.

Logistics

- Each supervisor will be responsible for certain aspects of the student's supervision.
- The primary supervisor, allocated from the university, is responsible for monitoring and assessing the student in accordance with the university's PhD academic requirements.
- Students are provided with tools to help them engage with their supervisors and to develop a tailored project management and communication plan.
- iPhD program staff actively support students and supervisors and act as a point of call should any issues arise.

"The networking opportunities within the iPhD program will help me gain access to professionals in both research and industry positions which will enhance my career prospects."



Scholarship & project expense/development funds: your competitive package

The CSIRO Industry PhD program provides a stipend worth approx. \$46,000 per annum (2024 rate) for full-time study, which is made up of:



Australian Government iPhD scholarship

Valued at \$34,000 per annum (2024 rate), indexed annually at 3%

Top up scholarship

Valued at \$12,000 per annum (not indexed) funded by the industry partner

A project expense and development package of \$13,000 per annum is provided to your supervisory panel to cover project-related costs.



Industry engagement: 60-day component

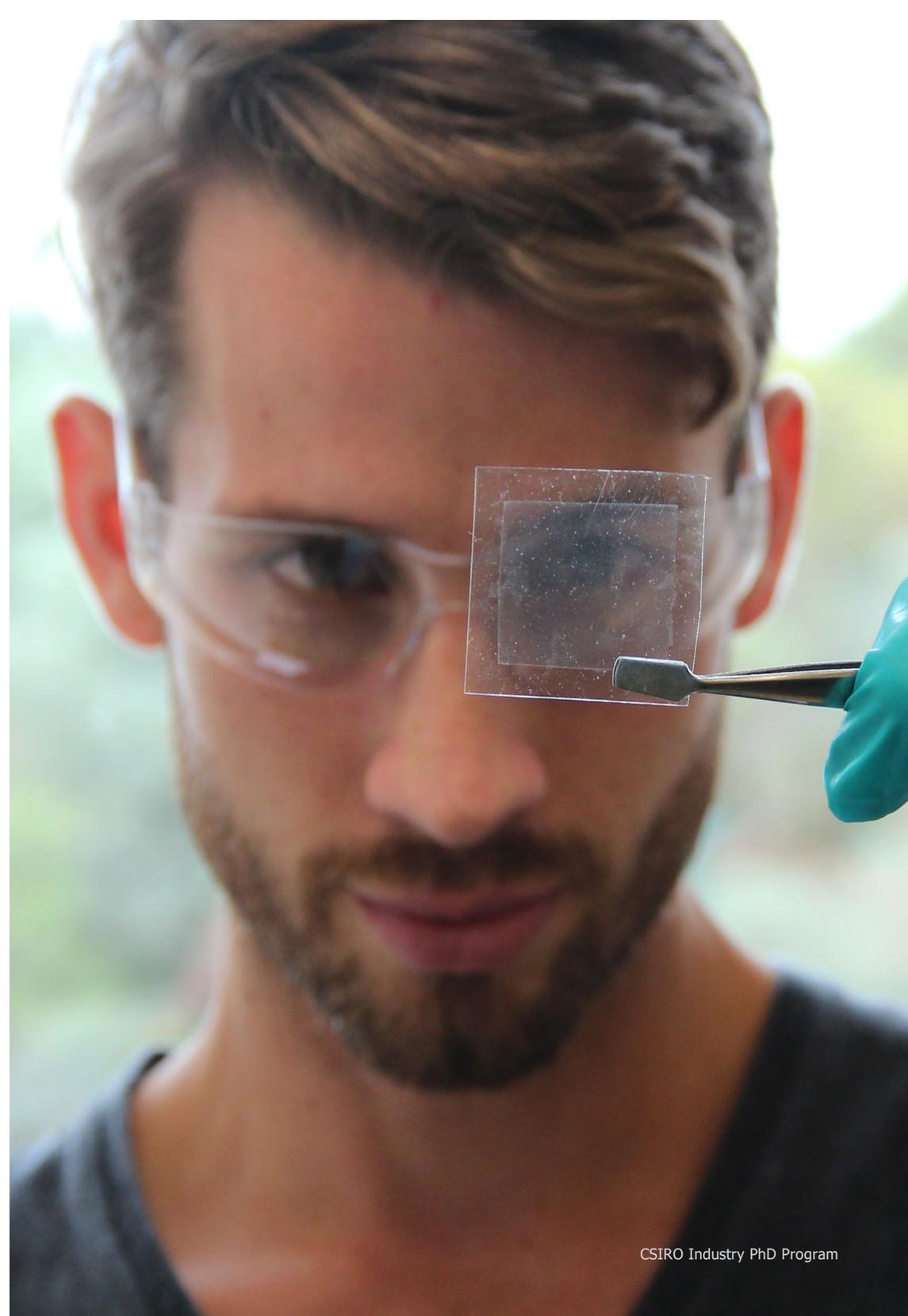
Sustained engagement with the industry partner throughout the PhD is a key differentiator underpinning the CSIRO Industry PhD compared to traditional academic offerings.

Specifics

- Duration of at least 60 full-time equivalent days throughout the PhD
- Can be completed full-time, part-time or in short strategic blocks
- Primary location is expected to be the premises of the industry partner
- Activities for the Industry engagement should contribute to the development, research and outcomes of the PhD project
- The industry supervisor will have increased responsibility for the student during this time
- The participating university may have reporting requirements for this component
- If student travel is required, these costs can be covered by the Project Expense and Development package, however budgeting should be discussed prior to project commencement.

"I think the program will make me a more well-rounded researcher as I will be exposed to numerous settings."

– Current iPhD student



Embedded training program: career & professional development

The CSIRO Industry PhD program includes approximately 20 days of career and professional development across four years. Training is mostly online and self-paced to cater to students across Australia, and to fit into their busy lives.

The curated career and professional development training instills the business and IP, innovation and commercialisation, and stakeholder management skills that researchers need to collaborate and work across the university and industry sectors. These include understanding the drivers of research in industry while demonstrating project management and communication skills to deliver impact from research.

Highlights

- Two-day ON Launch Camp for iPhD, modelled from CSIRO's successful [ON Program](#) and delivered by expert facilitators ([Innovation Studios](#))
- Access to [QUT e-Grad School](#)
- Access to Career Control Online with [Postdoc Training](#)
- Access to thousands of online courses available to CSIRO staff

A photograph showing two men in blue lab coats standing in a greenhouse, examining tall green plants. The man on the right is pointing at a plant. The background shows the structure of the greenhouse and other plants.

"I think the networking that's inherent in the iPhD program has really benefitted my future job prospects, as I have been able to meet and work with numerous people with various backgrounds".

– Current iPhD student

As Australia's national science agency and innovation catalyst, CSIRO is solving the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology.

CSIRO. Unlocking a better future for everyone.

Contact

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For further information

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