

Miller Foundation Scholarship for Infection and Immunity (Doctorate)

Status: [Open](#) New

Approximate value: \$105,000 each

The value listed is approximate amount for 3.5 years.

The amount available for this award is approximate. It will be confirmed at the time of awarding and determined by the committee according to the cellenterms of the award.

Open: 01 August 2016

Close: 31 October 2016

Area of study: Two Miller Foundation Scholarships in Infection and Immunity are available. One scholarship will be awarded in the area of Immunology and one scholarship will be awarded in the area of Infectious Diseases or Infection. Both scholarships will be for students based at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity.

Funding type: Scholarship (Stipend)

Citizenship: Australian Citizen, Australian Permanent Resident, New Zealand Citizen, International (includes permanent residents of NZ)

Prior qualifications: Applicants must meet the entry requirements for PhD entry in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne.

Enrolment status: Commencing students

Student type: Graduate research

Tenure: Maximum tenure 3.5 years

Background

Applications are invited for the prestigious Miller Foundation Scholarship in Infection and Immunity. Launched following a generous donation from the Miller Foundation to the Doherty Institute, the scholarship supports postgraduate research scholarships for graduates with demonstrated excellence in the area of Immunology or Infectious Diseases research that are eligible to be approved as full-time candidates for graduate research degrees in the Schools of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne.

The scholarships are open to students wishing to undertake their studies with departments located within The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity (Doherty Institute). The Doherty Institute is a joint venture between The University of Melbourne and The Royal Melbourne Hospital, combining research, teaching, public health and reference laboratory services, diagnostic services and clinical care in infection and immunity. Named in honour of Laureate Professor Peter Doherty, winner of the 1996 Nobel Prize for discovering how the immune system recognises virus-infected cells, the Doherty Institute is one of only a few centres in the world that brings together basic scientists, clinicians and epidemiologists who work collaboratively to solve global health problems.

The majority of ~100 PhD students currently at the Doherty Institute are enrolled through the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and its high performing bacteriology, virology and immunology research groups. However, the Doherty Institute also includes state of the art public health laboratories, infectious diseases clinical service, investigators from the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health and Melbourne Medical School, among whom there is expertise in clinical medicine, epidemiology, clinical and translational research, infectious diseases surveillance, outbreak investigation activities and clinical trials.

A Miller Foundation scholar at the Doherty Institute may be provided with the following opportunities as appropriate to their research:

- Exposure to areas of research being conducted at the Doherty Institute, including immunology, virology, epidemiology, genomics, clinical research and others.
- A very high quality research experience, leading to the production of a highly regarded thesis and associated publications
- Additional training in areas unique to, or central to, the Doherty Institute, such as working under high level containment, clinical translation (ie. working on clinical problems using clinical samples).
- Funded opportunities to network, both physically and virtually, with scientists researching in similar areas in Australia and overseas and to join collaborative research ventures in e.g. Bonn (Germany), Birmingham (UK), Shanghai (China), Bangkok (Thailand), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Ho Chi Minh city (Vietnam), Bangalore (India), Suva (Fiji), Durban (South Africa) or elsewhere. A newly established relationship with the Pasteur Institute will also provide additional opportunities in Paris or through the Pasteur International Network.

The Institute is also exploring new ways to engage students within industry and hope to offer industry internships in future years.

Up to two Miller Foundation Scholarships will be awarded, however the Selection Committee reserves the right not to make an award in a given selection round.

Who can apply?

- All applicants for the Miller Foundation Scholarship are advised to review the **Selection Criteria** when considering their eligibility in making their application.
- Applicants must meet the [entry requirements](#) for PhD in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne.
- Eligible local and international applicants for graduate research degrees are encouraged to apply.
- Australian and international students currently enrolled in post graduate courses at the University of Melbourne are eligible to apply.
- The successful awardees must enrol and commence studies before **31st May 2017**.

- Applicants must be interested in undertaking a project with a high degree of relevance to Infection and Immunity and this may include projects in discovery science, translational, clinical or public health research.
- The application form needs to be accompanied by a letter of support from the proposed supervisor indicating how the research project will help achieve the goals of the research project.

Selection process

The Selection Committee will base their decision on information provided in the application using a **range of criteria**. The Selection Committee reserves the right not to offer the scholarships in a given round or to vary the number and type of awards based on the applications received.

Further details

* The value of the scholarship awarded will be determined by the Committee. Scholarships offered may therefore vary in value and tenure. The maximum scholarship amount awarded will be up to \$30,000 per annum for a maximum of 3.5 years (doctoral degrees). The selection committee may offer scholarships at a reduced rate at their discretion; for example, where applicants are awarded (or already hold) another scholarship or where recipients are already enrolled in the PhD and who have less than 3.5 years of candidature remaining.

** Where an applicant's course fees are funded by another organisation, the Selection Committee reserves the right not to offer a course fee waiver.

How to apply

There are two steps to applying. Both need to be complete by 31 October 2016.

1. Apply online for University of Melbourne PhD and for Scholarships

- Applicants must be interested in undertaking a project with a high degree of relevance to Infection and Immunity and this may include projects in discovery science, translational, clinical or public health research.
- Review the Millers Foundation Scholarship **Selection Criteria** and consider your eligibility in making an application.
- Review the [entry requirements](#) for PhD in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne.
- Review supervisors/researchers at the Doherty Institute to identify who you would like to work with, using the website: <http://www.doherty.edu.au/>
- Make contact with the potential supervisor and discuss your interest in commencing PhD studies and in applying for the Millers Foundation Scholarship. If your supervisor endorses you to proceed, he or she will provide you with an email indicating support, please include this with your formal application.
- Complete the University of Melbourne online application and submit before 31 October 2016: <https://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/research> (Use PhD course code: DR-PHILMDH and remember to apply for scholarships as well so that you can be considered for all scholarships, including the Miller Foundation Scholarship).
- Once complete, submit your Expression of Interest for the Miller Foundation Scholarship to the Faculty's Scholarsips team: mdhs-scholarships@unimelb.edu.au by 31 October 2016.

2. Expression of Interest

Your expression of interest for the Miller Foundation Scholarship should include the following:

- Current Curriculum Vitae
- Expression of Interest (**2 page maximum**) including:
 - A brief description of the research project proposal, including details of your proposed supervisor and research group (your proposed supervisor can assist you with this)
 - A clear statement of what you wish to study at the Doherty Institute and your interest in infection / immunity research
 - A clear statement of your career aspirations
- The successful awardees must enrol and commence studies before **31st May 2017**.

Outcomes and Enquiries:

We will endeavour to provide you with the outcome of your formal course and scholarship application by 18th November 2016, assuming the application is complete at the time of submission.

If you have any queries, please contact: mdhs-scholarships@unimelb.edu.au

Selection Criteria

Miller Foundation Scholarships for Immunity and Infection will be awarded based on the following criteria.

1. Demonstrated excellence in the study of Infection and Immunity through the achievement of 1st class honours or equivalent.
2. Demonstrated research experience in the area of Infection and Immunity
3. A University of Melbourne determined scholarship score of 80 or higher
4. Demonstrated research excellence in Infection and Immunity supported by academic referee recommendations

Note: one award will be given in the area of Immunity and a second award in Infection.