

Aboriginal Research Scholarships

The WA Social Research Network (WASRN) was formed in 2018 to encourage communication and collaboration among researchers involved in several large, cross-disciplinary projects aimed at improving social outcomes. By working together, researchers can share insights, learn from each other, and turn research findings into positive change.

WASRN is offering two scholarships of \$4,200 each to Aboriginal researchers completing a Masters by Research or a PhD, and whose research is focused on social research to benefit Western Australians.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander student enrolled full or part-time in a research higher degree (Masters by Research, or PhD) at a WA University.
- Have passed candidacy and/or have ethics approval.
- Be conducting social research to benefit Western Australians (does not need to be First Nations specific research).
- Not already be receiving top up funding in addition to a scholarship to undertake their project.
- Be willing to present their project at a WASRN event in 2026.
- Be able to supply a Confirmation of Aboriginality or statutory declaration confirming Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status upon request.

Selection process and criteria

Applications will be reviewed and ranked on merit by a panel appointed by the WASRN.

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Potential benefit of their research to Western Australians,
- Feasibility of the work planned during the scholarship period, and
- Quality of the applicant's research work to date and likelihood of successful completion, as confirmed by the primary supervisor.

How to apply

To apply you should submit one single PDF containing:

1. An introductory letter (max 1 page) including:
 - Your contact details
 - Name of your enrolling university and school
 - List of all your supervisors and their locations
 - A statement addressing the eligibility criteria.
2. A brief summary of your Masters/PhD project, referring to a project timeline that outlines the completed work and the planned work
3. A brief statement (max 300 words) from your main supervisor commenting on your ability to complete the project, and
4. A copy of your ethics approval (if applicable).

Submission and key dates



Applications open
1st September 2025



Applications close
5:00 PM
17th October 2025



Successful applicants
notified
5th December 2025

Any questions and applications should be sent to WASocialResearchNetwork@gmail.com



WA SOCIAL RESEARCH
NETWORK

