



TB CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN TUBERCULOSIS

Research Opportunities: PhD Scholarships and Post-Doctoral Fellowships at TB Centre of Research Excellence (TB CRE) in 2025

The TB Centre of Research Excellence (TB CRE) is pleased to announce **two PhD scholarships** and **three post-doctoral fellowships in tuberculosis research**. These prestigious positions will support cutting-edge research related to tuberculosis (TB) and contribute to the TB CRE's global efforts to combat this critical public health challenge.

Available Opportunities

- **PhD Scholarships:** Up to two 3-year PhD scholarships will support research directly related to TB under the guidance of senior researchers with the TB CRE.
 - **PhD Project 1: "Human Immune Systems Mathematical Model for Designing Rational Combinations of TB Therapy"**, supervised by Professor Emma McBryde at University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research.
 - **PhD Project 2: "Implementation and evaluation of strengthening decentralised and integrated services for TB detection and prevention"**, supervised by Professor Steve Graham at The University of Melbourne.
- **Post-Doctoral Fellowships:** These 2-year fellowships will enable post-doctoral researchers to pursue innovative TB research in line with the CRE's objectives. Up to three positions will be supported. Available projects include:
 - **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** "Maximising the reach, trustworthiness and effectiveness of TB community-wide active case finding: understanding the 'how' through community-engaged implementation science", with A/Prof Sarah Bernays at the University of Sydney
 - **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** "Vaccine Development: Development of Adenovirus-Vectored Tuberculosis Vaccines with Enhanced Immunogenicity and Safety", with Professor Jamie Triccas at the University of Sydney
 - **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** "Geospatial Modelling of Tuberculosis for Optimized Disease Control and Resource Allocation", with Professor Emma McBryde at University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research
 - **Post-doctoral Fellowship:** "Clinical trials and cohort studies to End TB", with Professor Greg Fox, The University of Sydney

Selection Process

- Applicants should submit a resume (including key publications and other research achievements) and a cover letter describing their suitability for the position.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview
- The final decision regarding the award of scholarships and fellowships will be made by the TB CRE Executive, and will be subject to the conditions of the award.

For more information on the application process, eligibility criteria, and how to apply, please visit our [TB CRE website](#) or contact our TB CRE Administrator at tbcre.support@sydney.edu.au

Key Dates

Applications close Friday, 30 April 2025, 5:00pm (AEDT)

Successful applicants will be notified in May 2025

Selection Criteria and conditions for PhD Scholarships

Criteria for PhD scholarship applicant selection

- Outstanding academic records and research achievement relative to opportunity, with reference to NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship Category Descriptors for academic record and research achievement (see Appendix).
- High chance of attracting another external scholarship funding or grant funding.
- Likely to be a strong contributor to the TB CRE community and research agenda throughout the lifetime of their PhD scholarship
- Overall complementarity with existing activities and areas of focus championed by different Chief Investigators. Supervisory teams will include at least two TB CRE Chief Investigators and/or Associate Investigators, preferably from different institutions.
- Obtain a valid student visa to study in Australia (if relevant) within 6 months of being offered the PhD scholarship.

Scholarship grant period

PhD scholarships are funded for a maximum of 3 years of full-time equivalent study for a PhD degree, and subject to the conditions of the host University. All proposed part-time arrangements must be agreed by the applicant's nominated supervisor and approved by the University.

If a scholar receives a NHMRC Postgraduate Research Scholarship, RTP stipend or other scholarship for their PhD during the time of their TB CRE scholarship, then they will cease to receive the full TB CRE scholarship. They may be entitled to a \$10,000 top-up stipend to their new PhD scholarship, if they continue to make a strong contribution to the TB-CRE and subject to the approval of the TB CRE Executive.

Conditions for application to commence funding for the TB CRE PhD scholarship include:

- At least two of the four scholarships will be awarded to Australian residents or citizens. Up to two PhD scholarship will be available to applicants who obtains a tuition fee waiver and stipend from the host Australian University. Selection for all scholarships will be based upon the merit of their application against other candidates
- Students must have an **accepted offer** for a PhD place at the University of the primary supervisor within a three month period of receiving the offer otherwise the offer will expire (in exceptional circumstances, subject to review by the CRE Executive, this may be extended).
- Funding is conditional upon University requirements for enrolment having being met, and the PhD commencing.
- Not have received a NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship, or an Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) stipend (or equivalent), at the time of application and not have exceeded 12 months of full-time enrolment for a PhD degree

Selection criteria and conditions for Post-doctoral Fellowships

Criteria for selection of post-doctoral fellows will include:

- Outstanding track record of academic outputs, research grants and research impact that strongly position the applicants to attract other external Fellowship and research funding.
- Demonstrated strong leadership and collegial engagement in a postgraduate research environment.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and within a research team.
- Likely to be strong contributors to the TB CRE community and research agenda throughout the lifetime of their fellowship.
- Overall complementarity with existing activities and areas of focus championed by different CIs.
- Obtain a valid visa to work in Australia within 6 months of being offered the Fellowship.
- Supervisory teams will include at least two TB CRE Chief Investigators and/or Associate Investigators, preferably from different institutions.

Fellowships to be awarded

The Fellowship will be at the level of the [NHMRC fellowship rate](#) (PSP3). Supervising CRE investigators will seek 'top up' funding to meet required University rates (as relevant). Employment arrangements will be made through the host University.

Fellows who transfer to a competitive funding scheme and relinquish their TB-CRE fellowship, could receive a 'top up' of \$10,000 per year if they continue to make a strong contribution to the TB-CRE and subject to the approval of the TB CRE Executive.

Fellowship period

Fellowships will be awarded for up to 2 years, in accordance with conditions of employment at the host University.