

# WIT PhD Scholarship Programme 2012

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Eligibility

**Q. Who can apply for a WIT PhD Scholarship award?**

**A.** The applications are made by, at minimum, a Lead Project Supervisor who is a member of staff with a PhD qualification. A supervisory team may apply as long as one member is nominated as Lead Project Supervisor. If you are on a temporary contract you must have a Second Project Supervisor who has a contract of employment for the duration of the award.

**Q. Can I submit an application to the scheme if I do not submit an expression of interest to the RSU before the 12<sup>th</sup> of October?**

**A.** No. In order to set up the external panel of experts, it is imperative that the RSU know how many applications will be submitted and the thematic areas.

**Q. Can I use this funding to fund my own PhD?**

**A.** No applications must be submitted by a member of staff who has a PhD. If successful, the position must be advertised and students recruited through the normal recruitment procedures.

**Q. I am a Postgraduate student or I would like to be a Postgraduate student at WIT, I would like to apply for a PhD Scholarship. How do I apply?**

**A.** This scheme is open to PhD Supervisors to apply for a scholarship. If successful, scholarships will be advertised and selection of the PhD candidate will be by interview.

**Q. If a project is successful, can a WIT staff member ultimately be awarded the scholarship under this scheme?**

**A.** Yes, following standard recruitment processes a staff member could be awarded a scholarship subject to normal secondment arrangement, eg, a career break for a three year period.

**Q. I have never supervised a PhD student before am I eligible to apply as Lead Applicant?**

**A.** No. According to the postgraduate regulations 2012 Lead Supervisors should have prior experience as a postgraduate supervisor at the level of the award being sought.

**Q. I intend to submit two applications to this Scheme one as “Lead Project Supervisor” and one as “Second Project Supervisor”. Is this allowed?**

**A.** Yes.

**Q. How many PhD Scholarship awards can I apply for?**

**A.** One application per Lead Project Supervisor. However, you can also be named as Second Project Supervisor (also known as co-supervisor) on one additional application. The definition of Lead and Co-Supervisor is covered under sections of the Postgraduate Research Degree Regulations 2012.

**Q. If a project is successful, can an international student apply?**

**A.** Yes, but the award will only cover a maximum of €4,000 per annum towards the costs of postgraduate tuition fees.

## **Application Form**

**Q. Is it beneficial to have industry partners as collaborators on the proposal to demonstrate the feasibility of an innovative idea for commercial benefit?**

**A.** Yes. The evaluation will take into consideration the expected impact of the Research and External collaborations of benefit to the candidates learning experience.

**Q. If successful I will not be able to advertise and take on a student until the next academic year 2013/2014. Is that acceptable?**

**A.** It is anticipated that all students will be taken on during the 2012/2013 academic year. August 2012 is the latest a student can be taken on, which will allow for students finishing their degree in May 2013 to apply.

**Q. Does the project require ethical approval prior to submission?**

A. No, but if your project is approved normal ethical approval must be adhered to.

**Q. What is the duration of the WIT PhD Scholarship?**

A. The maximum funding duration of WIT Scholarship is 3 years.

**Q. If there is an area of the application that does not apply to me should I leave it blank or place N/A in every single box that does not apply to me?**

A. N/A please.

### **Funding**

**Q. I have some funding from another source for a project. Can I use this award in whatever way I see fit?**

A. No. This scholarship is for an annual stipend of €10,000 per annum. A budget of €2,000 annually will be allocated to cover materials consumables and travel costs. In addition, an allowance of €4,000 per annum will be awarded to cover postgraduate tuition fees. Scholarship holders can not be in receipt of another grant for this PhD project.

**Q. How much is the WIT PhD Scholarship worth?**

A. The Scholarship is valued at €12,000 per annum plus fees.

**Q. Can I fund a part-time student?**

A. No. This scheme is only for full-time students.

**Q. How many hours will the successful student are required to work?**

A. the student will be required to undertake three hours of teaching or demonstrations per week.

## Application Process

**Q. Who actually submits the application?**

**A.** Applications should be submitted electronically from the PhD Supervisor to [research@wit.ie](mailto:research@wit.ie) and the subject line should include the applicant's name and award name (WIT PhD Scholarship Programme)

**Q. How long should the proposal be?**

**A.** The upper limit is 7 pages excluding appendices and declaration sheet. The supervisor sheet may be duplicated to provide Second Project Supervisors details. Supervisor's profiles must not exceed three pages. The panel may not consider project submissions which exceed the stated page limit.

**Q. Is there any extension to the deadline?**

**A.** No, the deadline is 5pm Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2012

**Q. What exactly is an "electronic copy" for the purpose of the application?**

**A.** A copy of the complete application form must be emailed to [research@wit.ie](mailto:research@wit.ie) It is not necessary to have original signatures/stamps on the electronic version. Note that, for ease of processing, your entire application form should be sent in one MS word or .pdf file.

| HARD COPY - must include the following:  | ELECTRONIC COPY - must include the following:  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application form - one appropriately completed application form (Original signed form using appropriate template). A completed form must include the applicant's signature along with the signature of the Head of School is required.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Application form - one appropriately completed application form to be emailed to <a href="mailto:research@wit.ie">research@wit.ie</a> Signatures are not required.</li></ul> |

## **Evaluation and Results**

**Q. When will the scholarships be awarded?**

**A.** Notification of the outcome of the evaluation of applications will be announced in January 2013.

**Q. What is the time frame expected for the review process? When could an approved project be expected to begin?**

**A.** The results shall be announced in January 2013. The advertising of students shall commence in February 2013.

**Q. Who will review the WIT PhD Scholarship proposals?**

**A.** Applications will be reviewed by an external panel of experts.

**Q. Will there be feedback on unsuccessful applications?**

**A.** Yes.