

**AWARDS FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDY
AT AN AUSTRALIAN OR OVERSEAS
UNIVERSITY OR INSTITUTION
(2017)**

Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) is making available a number of awards, tenable at both Australian and overseas universities or institutions, for postgraduate study commencing in 2017. The awards facilitate research and training in areas of practical value to the Australian beef, sheepmeat and goatmeat industries. Preference will be given to applicants who:

- (i) Already have some postgraduate experience in a relevant subject area or industry sector.
- (ii) Are interested in studying in areas such as on-farm productivity, sustainability, rangeland management and technology transfer. They include but are not limited to:
 - Sustainability of production systems;
 - Animal disease epidemiology;
 - Information sciences as they relate to animal production;
 - Genetics or genomics of animals, pasture plants or microorganisms;
 - Precision livestock management;
 - Labour saving technologies;
 - Feedbase;
 - Animal welfare;
 - Animal reproduction;
 - Social aspects of technology adoption and innovation.
- (iii) Are interested in studying topics linked to current projects or Key Programs.

AWARDS AVAILABLE (see details overleaf)

MLA Studentships - postgraduate Diploma or Masters courses, maximum duration two (2) years. (Australian and Overseas)

MLA Postgraduate Scholarships - postgraduate degree at PhD or equivalent level, maximum duration three (3) years. (Australian and Overseas)

ELIGIBILITY AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Eligibility is restricted to applicants who are Australian citizens or with permanent residency status in Australia.

Applicants will be judged on a competitive basis taking into account previous academic record, publications record, postgraduate employment history and industry experience, proposed topic of study in relation to MLA priority areas, reputation of proposed course/supervisor and referees' reports.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should be made on the application form provided on the MLA website. Successful candidates will be advised.

Return applications on or before 10th November 2016 to: students@mla.com.au

INFORMATION ON AWARDS 2017

MLA Studentship (Masters/Diplomas)

The purpose of this Award is to enable high-calibre graduates to undertake a master's degree or diploma training in areas relevant to the Australian meat and livestock industries.

The studentship is normally tenable at an Australian university/institution. However, for applicants with proven ability, training at overseas institutions may be approved, provided the applicant can demonstrate that there is no appropriate similar course or institution within Australia.

Applicants should be able to provide strong evidence of research ability or potential research ability and are expected to have achieved at least upper second class honours at graduation and have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in postgraduate research activities.

The duration of the award is normally one to two years, depending on the higher qualification at which training is aimed. Extensions may be granted if there is sufficient justification.

Allowances at Australian institutions are A\$26,300 per annum for single students. The allowance of a dependent spouse is A\$2,300 per annum. The living allowance at an overseas university is US\$26,300 per annum. The allowance of a dependent spouse is US\$5,000 per annum. There are no allowances for dependent children.

A *Technical Assistance Grant* will be provided to the institution, upon request, to assist with the costs of the student's research (such as non-capital maintenance) and necessary travel for the student. The grant can be spent at the discretion of the student's supervisor, and is subject to an annual accounting for the expenditure at the end of each year. The grant is A\$4,500 per annum (or A\$6,000 per annum if the project involves purchase and maintenance of cattle) for studentships in Australia; and US\$4,500 per annum (or US\$6,000 per annum if the project involves purchase and maintenance of cattle) for studentships overseas.

All compulsory fees/charges, including a thesis allowance of A\$420 for students in Australia and US\$300 for students overseas will be paid upon presentation of receipts to MLA.

Students who are eligible are encouraged to apply for both an Australian Postgraduate Award (Commonwealth) and a MLA Studentship. If successful in both applications MLA will top up the Australian Postgraduate Award by \$10,000 and provide the technical assistance as above.

MLA Postgraduate Scholarship

The purpose of this Award is to enable qualified graduates to undertake a postgraduate degree at PhD or equivalent level in disciplines relevant to the Australian meat and livestock industries.

The Award is usually tenable at an Australian university/institution. However, for applicants of proven ability, training at overseas institutions may be approved where the benefits will return to the Australian industry and there is no appropriate institution or supervisor within Australia with whom the training may be undertaken.

Applicants should be able to provide strong evidence of research ability or potential research ability and are expected to have achieved first-class honours or have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in field research, training or extension activities. Applications from new graduates with *exceptional academic performance* may also be considered, but a fellowship will only be awarded if a degree with first-class honours has been achieved. The duration of the Award is normally one to three years depending on the higher qualification sought. Extensions of up to one year may be approved if there is sufficient justification.

The allowance at Australian universities under this Award is A\$29,228 per annum. The allowance for a dependent spouse is A\$2,300 per annum. The allowance at overseas universities is US\$29,228 per annum and that of a dependent spouse is US\$5,000 per annum. There are no allowances for dependent children.

Technical Assistance Grant will be provided to the institution, upon request, to assist with the costs of the student's research, such as non-capital maintenance and necessary travel. The grant can be spent at the discretion of the student's supervisor and is subject to an annual accounting for the expenditure at the end of each year. For fellowships in Australia, the grant is A\$8,000 per annum (or A\$10,000 per annum if the project involves purchase and maintenance of cattle); for fellowships overseas, the grant is US\$8,000 per annum (or US\$10,000 per annum if the project involves purchase and maintenance of cattle).

All compulsory fees/charges, including a thesis allowance of A\$840 for fellowships in Australia and \$US600 for fellowships overseas will be paid upon presentation of receipts to MLA.

Students who are eligible are strongly encouraged to apply for both an Australian Postgraduate Award (Commonwealth) or other scholarship programs and an MLA Studentship. If successful in both applications MLA will top up the Australian Postgraduate Award by \$10,000 additional to the APA and provide the technical assistance as above. In 2016 all successful applicants were eligible for an APA.