



**Maynooth  
University**  
National University  
of Ireland Maynooth

# Maynooth University John and Pat Hume Doctoral Awards Scheme

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**Graduate Studies**  
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# MU John and Pat Hume Doctoral Awards Scheme (1 of 2)

## Awards

|                                 |   |   |                              |
|---------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| <b>MU Doctoral Fellowships</b>  | €16,000 stipend, up to €2,000 research expenses allowance, fees | 1 per faculty                                       | Full-time students only      |
| <b>MU Doctoral Scholarships</b> | €9,000 stipend, up to €1,000 research expenses allowance, fees  | 3 per faculty and 1 under Maynooth Access Programme | Full-time students only      |
| <b>MU Doctoral Studentships</b> | Fees  | 6 per faculty                                       | Full- and part-time students |

# MU John and Pat Hume Doctoral Awards Scheme (2 of 2)

- prospective doctoral students only
- single competition
- online application system
- two referees (supervisor can be referee)
- supervisor's confirmation of support
- two-step evaluation process (department -> faculty)
- allocations at faculty level
- application deadline: 5pm, 1st May 2017
- referees' deadline: 5pm, 1st May 2017

# Eligibility (1 of 2)

## Academic excellence

- **First class** honours degree, or
- **Upper second-class** honours primary degree with a **first in the proposed discipline** (as one subject of a double honours primary degree, or as the major or minor subject of a major/minor honours primary degree), or
- **First class** taught Masters degree, or upper second class with a first in the thesis
- **hold** Research Masters Degree.
- **Faculty of Science and Engineering:** applicants with upper second-class honours overall primary degree with a first in research project.
- **Current students eligible to apply on the basis of expected results (conditional offers subject to meeting eligibility criteria)**

# Eligibility (2 of 2)

## All applicants: doctoral awards only

**General rule: applicants intending to pursue a doctoral degree at MU**  
(includes students registering initially for Masters by Research)

## Specific eligibility criteria for individual awards types

### Fellowships and Scholarships:

Must qualify for exemption from income tax in relation to income arising from the scholarship (Sect 193 Taxes Consolidation Act 1977)

- must register as full-time students
- must NOT have any type of employment contract with MU as employer

## Maynooth Access Programme – specific criteria

# Eligibility exclusions

**Existing doctoral students INELIGIBLE** (includes students registering initially for Masters by Research and progressing to PhD)

**Student previously awarded the John & Pat Hume scholarship INELIGIBLE**

**Check Terms & Conditions for all eligibility requirements**

**If in doubt contact [postgraduatescholarships@nuim.ie](mailto:postgraduatescholarships@nuim.ie)**

# Evaluation criteria

## Applications for ALL awards:

1. Quality of the applicant
2. Quality of project proposal
3. The fit of the proposed research and candidate with the research profile and available supervisory resources of the department

**Each criterion receives equal weighting.**

**MAP scholarship applicants:** additional criteria

# Evaluation process

## All applications:

### Two steps evaluation process

1. departmental panel – marking and ranking
2. faculty panel – final ranking within faculty

## MAP applications:

Applicants ranked for funding by departmental panels progress to assessment under MAP criteria.



# JPHDA MAP Scholarship

(1 of 2)

**One scholarship allocated to Access Office to be awarded under the Maynooth Access Programme to an applicant deemed fundable by a department/school/research institute** (applicants from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, applicants with disability etc.)

## **Dedicated section for MAP applicants**

- Confidential – not provided to departmental panels
- Applicants should not make references to applying for MAP scholarship in other sections of their application

# JPHDA MAP Scholarship

(2 of 2)

## Criteria:

- applicants from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds (HEAR);
- applicants with a disability. Special consideration may be given to applicants with a physical and/or sensory disability;
- mature applicants (those entering college/university as a mature student at undergraduate level).

# JPHDA Application

1. Applicant's details incl. third level education and results
2. Department, supervisor and supervisor's confirmation of support
3. Award(s) for which the application is submitted
4. Previous achievements and awards
5. Project title and abstract
6. Research project proposal
7. Personal statement
8. Maynooth Access Programme
9. Academic references – specific form to be used

# Abstract

**Very important part of your application**

**Two-step evaluation process – your application will be assessed by both expert and non-expert evaluators**

**Communicate effectively with both types of evaluators**

# Research project proposal

**1. Describe the topic**, including aims and objectives and central research questions

**2. Methodology**, including for example investigative and analytic methods and theoretical frameworks

**3. Research Plan** to include for example a schedule for the completion of tasks and phases of the project and efficient management and performance of research.

**4 pages maximum. See Guide for applicants for formatting restrictions.**

# Personal statement

**1.Explain why you wish to pursue doctoral studies at MU** in the area you have chosen. Include information on any **relevant experience and interests** that have informed your desire to pursue this degree.

**2.Provide any additional information** you feel will offer a full picture of your **capability, motivation and interests.**

# Maynooth Access Programme

The section will be only displayed if applicant selects MAP scholarship at the beginning of the online application form.

Applicants will be required to provide the University with a letter authorising the relevant former institution(s) to confirm that the information provided in this Section is accurate.

Consult with MU Access Office if unsure about your eligibility.

**State why you should be considered for the scholarship under the Maynooth University Access Programme**  
(e.g. your socio-economic background, impact of a disability etc.)

# Academic references

**1. Choose right referees**

**2. Mandatory for all applicants including past & current Maynooth University students!**

**3. Help your referees to help you**

- Give them enough information about the scheme (evaluation criteria)
- Inform them about your research project
- Early notice & gentle following up
- Thank your referees!

**4. Referee form to be used; online submission.**

**5. Comply with formal requirements**



# Key dates

**Application and referees' deadline 5 pm, 1st May 2017**

**Late applications NOT accepted**

**Results expected in late June** (exact timing depending on turnaround of acceptances)

**Start date: September 2017 or January 2018 registration**

(note – implications of January registrations for other funding schemes such as IRC postgraduate scholarship)

# Tips for Proposal Preparation

 Good grantsmanship is a **learned skill**

 Make the process easier:

 *Be positive about your project*

 *Be prepared*

# Dos

- Put yourself in the mind of the reviewer
- Be positive about your project
- You can only get points for what you include in your proposal
- Make it as easy as possible for the reviewers – spell things out, diagrams, tables
- Consult with your prospective supervisor, get feedback, proofread
- Comply with the Terms & Conditions
- Read the Guide for applicants
- Submit on time – deadline: 5 pm, 1st May 2017

# Online application system

- Read the Guide for applicants

- Online system available at:

[https://app.hobsons.co.uk/AYApplicantLogin/fl\\_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=nuim](https://app.hobsons.co.uk/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=nuim)

- Can return to a saved draft repeatedly

- Upload transcripts

- **No changes possible once application submitted**

# Have question when applying?

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/graduate-studies/advice-research-scholarship-applications#JPHDA2016>

- Terms and Conditions
- Guide for applicants
- Frequently Asked Questions (to be published after info session)
- Guide for referees
- Referee form

**If answer not found in the above documents,**

email [postgraduatescholarships@nuim.ie](mailto:postgraduatescholarships@nuim.ie)



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