International graduate research application guide 2022
Study at one of the world’s leading universities

Ask pressing questions. Develop critical thinking. Tackle the challenges facing our world and find solutions to tomorrow’s problems.

At La Trobe, you’ll gain a truly global education that gives you a winning edge in today’s competitive job market. We’re ranked in the top one per cent of universities worldwide1, strengthened by our partnerships with international institutions and industries.

A research degree at La Trobe can help you make a real impact on today’s big issues. You’ll learn to become a bold thinker at a university that’s globally recognised for research excellence.

Whether it’s our innovations in teaching, our leading research or our strong graduate employment outcomes, the world’s most respected university ranking agencies consistently rank us among the world’s best.

3. QS State University Rating 2021.
Why study at La Trobe?

1. Learn at a world-class university
   We’re in the top one per cent of the world’s universities and are among the best 50 universities in the Asia-Pacific region.

2. Gain a career-focused education
   You’ll prepare for the jobs waiting for you in that are informed by industry and have a focus on community needs.

3. Get support for success
   Our generous scholarships can assist you financially and reward your academic achievements. And we offer a huge range of study support and ways to connect with other students, online and on campus.

4. Study in a diverse, friendly and safe environment
   You’ll feel at home from your first day at La Trobe. Our welcoming culture at all our campuses includes services like personal support, counselling and multifaith facilities.

5. Access modern facilities and accommodation
   Study in world-class learning spaces with the equipment and systems you’ll use in your career: a multimillion-dollar Sports Park, cybersecurity labs, a simulation trading floor, fully operational health clinics and much more.

Ranked in the top 250 universities in the world.

Five-star rating for our teaching, graduate employability, facilities, research, and internationalisation.

Fifth in the world for research on key diseases and conditions, support for healthcare professions, and the health of our students and staff.

’Well above world standard’ in 23 fields of our research.

Learn more: latrobe.edu.au/about/rankings-and-ratings
Research themes

Our researchers work in partnership with community groups, industry and government to address issues of local, national, and international importance. Our research is focused on five priority areas, linked to the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals. Our expertise across disciplines positions us to excel in these areas and positively impact our communities.

Sustainable food and agriculture
The production of high-quality crops, foods and plant-based medicines is critical for food security, health and wellbeing, and the environment.
La Trobe researchers develop cutting-edge methods to improve capability and capacity, and to secure a sustainable agricultural and food production future. Our researchers do this by working in partnership with primary producers, the food industry and the government.

Resilient environments and communities
The protection and restoration of ecosystems is critical to combating climate change, pollution, desertification and loss of biodiversity.
Our researchers work in partnership with environment and community groups, government, industry and First Peoples to develop new approaches to ensure our ecosystems and natural resources are resilient, sustainable, biodiverse and protected. La Trobe is uniquely positioned to engage with regional communities to achieve this goal.

Learn more: latrobe.edu.au/research/research-themes
Understanding and preventing disease

Research underpins our knowledge of disease. Understanding history, sociology, ethics, biology, chemistry, and physics is critical to the management and prevention of disease. Our researchers work in partnership with bioscience institutes, health providers, industry and government to make discoveries in fundamental sciences that improve diagnostics, therapeutics and clinical outcomes across a range of diseases.

Healthy people, families and communities

Promoting physical, mental, and emotional health and wellbeing for all individuals and across all stages of life is key to the creation of inclusive, equitable and prosperous societies.

La Trobe researchers build clinical capability and policy expertise to enhance individual and community wellbeing, reduce disease and create equitable health solutions for all. Our researchers partner with health research networks, non-profit organisations, industry and government.

Social change and equity

Social inequality is driven by structural disadvantages such as race and gender, economic systems, climate change and lack of access to basic resources. Achieving social justice and equality requires long term and sustainable action to close the inequity gap.
How to apply

Step 1 – Choose a research area and program
Finding the right research degree for you depends on your goals, and your educational and professional background.
Learn more: latrobe.edu.au/research/graduate-research/apply/degrees

Step 2 – Check your eligibility
To apply for PhD candidature, you will need to have completed either an:
- Australian Masters by research degree (or equivalent) in a relevant discipline, completed within the last ten years assessed at a La Trobe Masters by research standard of 70 or above; or
- Australian Bachelors (Honours) degree, Masters by coursework or ungraded Masters by research degree (or equivalent), completed within the last ten years, where you achieved a weighted average mark of 70 or above across any coursework subjects; and
- your degree includes a research thesis of 15,000-20,000 words; or
- your degree includes a written research component comprising at least 3/8 of one year; or
- you are the lead author of a peer-reviewed publication or other research, published within the last ten years.
Please note: the written research component of your application will be evaluated according to the La Trobe Masters by research criteria and will need to be assessed at a standard of 70 or above.
Learn more about the eligibility criteria: latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/research

Scholarships
Thinking of applying for a La Trobe University Graduate Research Scholarship? For current opportunities, please refer to our scholarships webpage: latrobe.edu.au/research/graduate-research/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships
A supervisor may already be allocated to a specific scholarship. The closing date and requirements for each scholarship may vary. Please note: scholarships may not always be available.
Step 3 – Find a supervisor

Before you apply for a candidature, you must identify a potential supervisor and receive approval for your research proposal.

1. Find potential supervisors at La Trobe using the La Trobe Scholars database. You can search by name, discipline and other keywords: scholars.latrobe.edu.au
2. Once you shortlist prospective supervisors, we encourage you to contact them and discuss your research proposal.
3. Wondering how to write a research proposal? A good preliminary research proposal is no longer than 300 words. If you need assistance, use our guide: latrobe.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/667856/2015-GRS-Writing-a-Research-Proposal.pdf

There are many online resources about the etiquette for contacting a supervisor. We recommend writing a brief email introducing yourself, including:

• your most recent University academic qualification and transcripts
• your research background
• any previous publications
• your intended area of research
• a brief description of your intended research project or proposal.

Step 4 – Lodge your application

Once you have received in-principle approval from your supervisor, you can complete your online application through our admissions portal or nominate one of our education agents to assist with this process.

You can find the list of La Trobe-official representatives at: latrobe.edu.au/international/contact/agent-finder

In addition to completing the application form, you will be required to scan and upload all of the following documentation:

• your passport
• your university academic transcripts and completion certificates (originals or certified copies)
• your professional CV (resume) outlining relevant work experience, academic awards, prior research background, etc.
• details of any publications
• a copy of your Masters thesis, with at least two chapters translated into English if it is not written in English (please note: some of our Schools may request a fully translated copy of your thesis)
• a preliminary research proposal of no more than 300 words
• evidence of your English language proficiency – IELTS (Academic) with an overall band of 6.5 and no individual band less than 6.0 or equivalent.

Please note: if you are currently enrolled in an Australian University, you must include a copy of your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) and Australian visa with your application.

Learn more: latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/research/doctor