

RESEARCH PROPOSALS IN CSSE

“Under regulation 13(1) of the Regulations Governing Research Higher Degrees enrolled PhD candidates are required to submit a Research Proposal within six months of the commencement of candidature for full-time students and within nine months for part-time student Enrolled Masters candidates are required to submit a Research Proposal within four months of the commencement of candidature for full-time students and within eight months for part-time students. The approval of a candidate's enrolment is dependent on the acceptance of this proposal.”

UWA Graduate School Guidelines

The research proposal defines your research topic with a detailed time plan for the research to be carried out. It identifies the specific aims of the project - the problem(s) it hopes to solve or particular question(s) it will answer. The proposal also identifies the methods to be used or the approach to be taken and shows that you have made efforts to ensure that the project does not duplicate work already done. You must also identify any training needs and any special needs for your research such as equipment or ethics approval.

From 2006, the proposal must include an outline of the agreed tasks to be completed by the candidate and the timeline within which they must be completed. CSSE have a general list of [Expectations for CSSE research students](#) of the tasks that will be completed during the first year, but each individual will need to identify milestones specific to their project.

Preparing your proposal is a good opportunity to present your work to colleagues in the School and obtain feedback. To facilitate this, the School of CSSE requires each student to give a seminar for your supervisor(s), other academics working in related research areas, and fellow research students before submitting the full proposal. From 2006, a Mini-Conference will be held in CSSE on the first Monday of the Semester 1 study break for all first year students to give a short 20 minute presentation with 10 minutes for discussion of their project proposals. There will also be a Mini-Conference in February for students who start mid-year.

The process works as follows:

1. Give a seminar on your research proposal at the June MiniConference.
2. A couple of weeks (at least) before your proposal is due, circulate a copy of your proposal (current draft) to your supervisors and at least one member of the [CSSE Advisory Panel](#). You are also encouraged to get feedback from fellow research students, and any other experts in your research area.
3. Obtain written feedback on your proposal and seminar from your readers, and revise the proposal as necessary.
4. Read the [Guidelines](#) and complete the Graduate School [Research Proposal](#) form and obtain the necessary supervisor(s) signatures.
5. Submit your completed and signed Proposal form to the CSSE Graduate Coordinator. She will check that the proposal is comprehensive and complete and sign off for the School.

For questions in Section 4 on page 2:

How much will the School Provide? \$1000 pa (this includes your computer)

Is there any formal school review? Yes, see

http://web.csse.uwa.edu.au/current_postgraduate_students/research_students

6. A copy of your proposal will be kept on your CSSE file, and a copy forwarded to the Graduate School.

7. Once approved, please submit an electronic copy and a paper copy of parts A (proposed study), B (research plan) and D (bibliography) of your proposal to the Graduate Coordinator. This will be displayed on the CSSE PhD student project web page and in a folder in the Common Room.

<http://www.research.uwa.edu.au/page/18197>

Feedback about this process should be made to the Graduate Coordinator, Dr Rachel Cardell-Oliver
rachel[at]csse.uwa.edu.au *Revised by Rachel Cardell-Oliver March 2006 and June 2006*