



Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Supervision Policy

1. COMPLIANCE OBLIGATION SUPPORTED

[Admission and Enrolment \(Higher Degree by Research\) Rules](#)

2. PURPOSE

To ensure that supervisors provide a role model to Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students that is positive and conducive to a research culture of excellence, integrity, professionalism and mutual respect.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1. Each HDR student is to have an appropriately qualified Thesis Chair, a principal supervisor, and at least one co-supervisor or external co-supervisor.
- 3.2. The number of HDR students a supervisor has is to be commensurate with the provision of effective intellectual interaction.
- 3.3. Per the [Higher Degree by Research \(HDR\) Admission and Enrolment Policy](#), the Enrolling School will provide supervision for the duration of the program.
- 3.4. The Graduate Research School will maintain the [Register of Supervisors](#).
- 3.5. To be appointed as a Thesis Chair or principal supervisor, a person is to be listed as a Level 1 Supervisor. To be appointed as a co-supervisor, a person is to be listed as either a Level 1 or Level 2 Supervisor.
- 3.6. The Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research or delegate is to develop and maintain procedures to manage:
 - (a.) the supervision of HDR students;
 - (b.) the Register of Supervisors; and
 - (c.) the roles and responsibilities of the Thesis Chair, principal supervisor, co-supervisors, external co-supervisors and external associate supervisors.

4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all staff, students and HDR supervisors involved with HDR courses.

5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the [Curtin Common Definitions](#). Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Register of Supervisors

The database that lists individuals eligible to be appointed to supervise an HDR student.

6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

[Supervision of Higher Degree by Research \(HDR\) Students Procedures](#)

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

Internal

- [Higher Degree by Research \(HDR\) Admission and Enrolment Policy](#)
- [Research Management Policy](#)
- [Authorship, Peer Review and Publication of Research Findings Policy](#)
- [Research Data and Primary Materials Policy](#)
- [Register of Supervisors](#)

External

- [Australian Code for the Conduct of Responsible Research](#)

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| Policy Compliance Officer | Gretchen Benedix , Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Research Office at Curtin |
| Policy Manager | Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research |
| Approval Authority | Academic Board |
| Review Date | 1 st April 2025 |

REVISION HISTORY

| Version | Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded | Date | Committee / Board / Executive Manager | Approval / Resolution Number | Key Changes and Notes |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| New | Approved | 27/02/2015 | Academic Board | AB 17/15 | Attachment A to Item 13.1 |
| | Administratively Updated | 06/10/2015 | Director, Legal and Compliance Services | EC 76/15 | Executive Manager Title Changes |
| | Approved | 27/03/2020 | Academic Board | AB 47/20 | Attachment C to Item 14.4 Effective upon gazettal of Statute 12 (24/07/2020) and promulgation of the Admission and Enrolment (HDR) Rules (03/08/2020) previously titled Supervision of HDR Students Policy |