

2026 MIPA Call for Jointly Awarded PhD Projects

(Recruited candidates need to commence by 2026)

* indicates a required field

Administrative Details

This Call is open to project proposals from **engineering, IT, science, medicine, dentistry, and health sciences**.

This is an online application submission tool used by The University of Melbourne (**Melbourne**). **Melbourne PIs** are to fill out the application and submit it **online**. The submitted applications will be downloaded in PDF format by Melbourne's International Collaborative Research Academies (ICRA) team and shared with the Melbourne Faculty and one of either IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, or IISER Tirupati soon after the scheme deadline.

For IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, there is no need for applicants to submit a copy of the application form to the Indian institute's administration. For IISER Tirupati, the application must go through the International Relations office prior to submission. For enquiries please email the ICRA team: jointphd-admin@unimelb.edu.au.

* Required

* This form will record your name, please fill your name.

Eligibility Checklist

1. Please select the Indian institute you are partnering with on this application (PIs to submit one application per Indian institute).

Please note: the participating Melbourne faculty has been listed next to the partner institution below *

- ☐ IIT Kharagpur (FEIT and Science)
- ☐ IIT Kanpur (FEIT, MDHS and Science)
- ☐ IISER Tirupati (FEIT and Science)
- ☐ IIT Madras (FEIT and Science)

2. University of Melbourne Principal Investigator: *

- ☐ I confirm that I am a University of Melbourne academic staff member (minimum Level B) registered to supervise as per the Graduate Research Training Policy (MPF1321) and contracted beyond the envisaged submission date of the PhD candidate OR have provided a letter of support detailing the arrangements in place to ensure continuity of supervision.
- ☐ I confirm that I am an honorary employee whose primary affiliation is with the University of Melbourne, eligible to supervise as per the Graduate Research Training Policy (MPF1321); and my primary employer has entered into an agreement to fund the Melbourne lump sum component of the Project's collaborative activity.
- ☐ I confirm that I am an honorary employee whose primary affiliation is with the University of Melbourne, eligible to supervise as per the Graduate Research Training Policy (MPF1321); I am otherwise unaffiliated and participating at my own expense.

3. IIT or IISER Principal Investigator *

- ☐ I confirm I meet the supervisory criteria as set out in the Institute's Policy on Supervision for Postgraduate Research Degrees.

Principal Investigator - University of Melbourne

4. Applicant's Title *

5. Applicant's Full name *

6. Applicant's Position *

7. Applicant's Primary Email *

8. Faculty *

9. Department *

10. Career Stage *

- ☐ Early Career Researcher
- ☐ Mid-Career Researcher
- ☐ Senior Career Researcher

11. Applicant Gender *

- ☐ Woman
- ☐ Man
- ☐ Non-binary/ gender diverse
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other

12. Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

13. Does this application include Melbourne researchers from more than one faculty? *

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes

14. If yes, please write the name of the faculty or faculties *

15. How many PhD candidates are you currently supervising? *

16. How many PhD candidates have you seen to completion? *

17. Export Controls: <https://gateway.research.unimelb.edu.au/funding-contracts-and-ethics/ethics-and-integrity/international-safeguards/export-controls>

Have you completed the self-assessment decision tool for this project? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Principal Investigator - IITs or IISER

18. Applicant's Title *

19. Applicant's Full Name: *

20. Indian Institute Name *

21. School / Department / Centre *

22. Primary Email *

23. **Are you an Early Career Researcher? (lecturer or independently (externally) funded fellow within 10 years of receiving your doctoral degree)? ***

☐ Yes

☐ No

24. **Does your contract extend beyond the candidate's expected registration/enrolment period (i.e. 2031)? ***

☐ Yes

☐ No

25. **How many PhD candidates are you currently supervising? ***

26. **How many PhD candidates have you seen to completion? ***

27. **Link to Primary Supervisor website/ profile ***

Co-Supervisors

28. Full Name:	Institution:	Faculty:	Email:

29. Full Name:	Institution:	Faculty:	Email:

Collaborative Relationship

30. **Please include any evidence of previous collaboration or outline the added value of the new collaboration and how it meets the strategic priorities of both institutions.**

Word count: must be no more than 500 words. *

PhD Project Proposal

In this section, you are required to provide one project proposal, including a brief description with an indicative plan for where and when the different parts of the research will take place at each institution.

The structure of the PhD is flexible according to the project needs, but each jointly awarded PhD must spend at least 12 months at both an Indian institute and Melbourne. PIs should consider the funding allowances included for successful proposals, as well as the requirements of the joint PhD program when considering the structure of the project.

Each project must identify a home and a host institution. The **Home University** is where the candidate spends most of their research time and will commence and conclude their degree. The **Host Institution** is where the candidate spends the remainder of their candidature as part of a research stay.

For Melbourne, all candidates will receive a Graduate Research Scholarship for the time they are at Melbourne.
For the Indian institute, all candidates will receive a local stipend/scholarship for the time they are at the Indian institute.

Please note: a Melbourne Graduate Research Scholarship is paid when the candidate is located in Melbourne for up to 2.5 years (Melbourne Home institute) or up to 2 years (Melbourne Host institute).

31. Is the University of Melbourne the home institution? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

32. Please acknowledge that an applicant can only be eligible for a Melbourne home project if they accept that they will spend at least 12 months at the Indian Institution receiving the local stipend which is indexed against the Indian cost of living. Applicants that do not agree to this should not be recruited. If a candidate commences a joint PhD and then refuses to go to the Indian institute for the 12 month residency requirement, the Principal Investigator will be required to pay the additional 12 months of stipend in Melbourne. *

☐ I Acknowledge

33. **Title of Joint PhD Project** *

34. **Description (key questions / hypothesis / expected outcomes)**

Word count: must be no more than 600 words.

*

35. **Scope of work to be carried out at Indian institute (include subject area strengths)**

Word count: must be no more than 300 words

*

36. **Scope of work to be carried out in Melbourne (include subject area strengths)**

Word count: must be no more than 300 words

*

37. **Please provide a 500-word abstract summarising the project. These will be used for candidate recruitment if your proposal is successful, and should be written in plain-language.**

Word count: must be no more than 500 words

*

38. **GANTT chart showing the division of time to be spent by the candidate at both institutions.** *

 Upload file

File number limit: 1 Single file size limit: 1GB Allowed file types: Word, Excel, PPT, PDF, Image, Video, Audio

Collaboration Value and Potential Impact

39. **Provide a plan for targeting external research funding to support continued collaboration, and, if applicable, summarise the potential for this collaboration to expand to a larger network of researchers at Melbourne and at the Indian institute.**
Word count: must be no more than 300 words.

*

40. **Outline how the PIs and co-supervisors, if applicable, will work together effectively to jointly supervise the recruited candidate.**
Word count: must be no more than 300 words

*

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Adherence to respective equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) policies are a core feature of this program to ensure that all participants can do their best work, thrive and succeed.

Applicant teams should consider how they can take meaningful steps in their future collaborations to foster an environment that values, supports and respects a diverse range of views, knowledge and experiences. Applicants should consider EDI as it applies to gender, Indigenous peoples, disabilities, career stages and sectors.

41. **Outline how your proposed projects reflects the EDI priorities as outlined in the above statement (this section should not include any demographic information about the team that could be used to identify team members).**
Word count: must be no more than 100 words.

*

CVs of Principal Investigators

A short CV should be provided for PIs only, addressing the following:

- Overview of current position
- Employment history
- Ten career-best publications, awards, and relevant presentations
- Current grant income
- Supervision history of graduate research candidates, noting timely completions and previous supervision of any international candidates

Please include the CVs of the two Principal Investigators.

42. Primary Investigator Name *

43. Affiliation *

44. Short CV *

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45. Primary Investigator Name *

46. Affiliation *

47. Short CV *

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Endorsement of the Application

Evidence of approval is required for Melbourne PIs from the Head of School/Department and the Faculty's Associate Dean (Graduate Research). This should be provided using the approval form. [Note: ADGR sign off is not required for MDHS applicants].

https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0006/5427348/2025-Joint-PhD-Proposal-Approval-Form-IRTG.docx

Honorary declaration is required for Honorary employees whose primary academic affiliation is the University of Melbourne. This should be provided using the declaration form.

https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0007/5427349/2025-Joint-PhD-Honorary-Declaration-Form-IRTG.docx

Indian Institute PIs are required to provide evidence of Head of Centre/School/Department approval. Please check the Call Guidelines if additional approvals are required by your Institute i.e. Dean of International Relations.

48. University of Melbourne - HoD/HoS/ADGR evidence of approval from (ADGR sign off is not required for MDHS applicants) *

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File number limit: 1 Single file size limit: 1GB Allowed file types: Word, Excel, PPT, PDF, Image, Video, Audio

49. University of Melbourne - Honorary declaration form (if applicable)

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File number limit: 1 Single file size limit: 1GB Allowed file types: Word, Excel, PPT, PDF, Image, Video, Audio

50. Indian institute evidence of approval/s *

 Upload file

File number limit: 1 Single file size limit: 10MB Allowed file types: Word, Excel, PPT, PDF, Image, Video, Audio

Submission Instructions

Privacy Notice

The information in this form is being collected by the International Collaborative Research Academies (ICRA) team, at The University of Melbourne. The information you provide is being collected in order to record administrative details of the applicant, and for assessment by selection committees from The University of Melbourne and one of either IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur, IIT Madras, or IISER Tirupati. The information will be used by authorised staff for the purpose for which it was collected, and will be protected against unauthorised access and use. The names of successful applicants and a summary of their projects may be published. If you do not provide all of the information requested on this form, your application may be deemed ineligible and removed from consideration by the committees.

The International Collaborative Research Academies (ICRA) team is collecting the information in this form to record administrative details of the applicant, and for assessment of the grant proposal by the relevant selection committees and personnel involved in the delivery of this funding program.

For further information about how the University manages personal information, and for details of how to make an enquiry, lodge a complaint, or to contact the University's Privacy and Data Protection Officer, please refer to our Privacy webpage, view the University's Privacy Policy or contact privacy-officer@unimelb.edu.au.

For any enquiries regarding the joint PhD program or this form please email jointphd-admin@unimelb.edu.au.

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