

TORONTO – MELBOURNE RESEARCH TRAINING GROUP

2025/2026

FAQ for U of T Faculty

1. What does the funding structure for U of T supervisor/dept look like?

- When candidate is at U of T:
 - If a candidate has U of T as Home/Lead Institution: U of T supervisor/dept. must cover stipend per U of T dept. guidelines, U of T tuition, U of T incidentals/fees and international health insurance.
 - If a candidate has Melbourne as Home/Lead Institution: U of T supervisor/dept. will need to cover stipend per U of T dept. guidelines, U of T incidentals/fees and international health insurance. (Note: The candidate does not have to pay U of T tuition during the period they spend at Melbourne)
- When candidate is at Melbourne:
 - If a candidate has U of T as Home/Lead Institution: U of T supervisor/dept. covers U of T tuition.
 - If a candidate has Melbourne as Home/Lead Institution: U of T dept./supervisor is not required to cover tuition as tuition fees are not applicable..

2. What funding does U of T provide?

The Office of the VP International (OVPI) at U of T provides up to 20,000 CAD per PhD candidate jointly recruited for the duration of the PhD candidate's degree. The funding covers the following expenses:

- Relocation/travel allowance for candidates to commence or continue at U of T, or to conduct research in an overseas location, excluding Melbourne, up to CAD\$15,000
- Support for each U of T PI travel to Melbourne: up to CAD\$5,000

3. What expenses are the U of T co-supervisor/departmental responsible for?

The U of T co-supervisor/department will be required to cover the standard minimum funding package as determined by the PIs home division, which comprises the following:

- a) U of T tuition if the candidates choose U of T as the home/lead institution throughout their degree. If the candidate chooses Melbourne as their home institution, U of T PI does not need to cover the tuition fees when the PhD candidate is in U of T

- b) U of T incidental fees and international health insurance (if applicable) throughout all sessions. (Note: for sessions where the student is not in residence at U of T, a request for ancillary and incidental fee adjustment can be submitted providing documentation indicating payment of such fees at the collaborator/host institution.)
- c) The minimum U of T stipend as set by the U of T co-supervisor's division/dept. when the candidate is located at U of T. This can be a combination of TA/RAs and can factor in external scholarships.

4. Is there any funding from Melbourne for the project?

When the candidate is located at Melbourne they will cover:

- a) Tax-free scholarship (stipend) for each candidate when at Melbourne. See the [Graduate Research Scholarship page for full details.](#)
- b) Tuition-fee waiver/scholarship for each candidate
- c) Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) Single Membership for any candidate who is an international candidate and requires a student visa to study in Australia, and Travel insurance while on Study Away.
- d) Relocation allowance for all candidates to travel to Melbourne after commencing in Toronto – up to \$3,000 AUD.
- e) A \$10,000 lump sum to support Melbourne home candidates and Melbourne PIs for relevant activities, including:
 - i. Candidate travel
 - ii. PI travel
 - iii. Workshop costs or virtual collaboration expenses
 - iv. Graduate recruitment

5. What does a typical budget look like?

Example:

	U of T is home institution		Melbourne is home institution	
	PhD in Toronto	PhD in Melb	PhD in Toronto	PhD in Melb
U of T Incidentals Fees & International Health	yes	yes*	yes	yes*
Insurance (UHIP)	Yes, if applicable	yes*	Yes, if applicable	yes*
U of T tuition	yes	yes	no	no
U of T stipend	yes	no	yes	no

*JEP students must pay ancillary and incidental fees including UHIP to U of T in all sessions. However, for sessions where the student is not in residence at U of T, a request for ancillary and incidental fee adjustment can be submitted providing documentation indicating payment of such fees at the collaborator/host institution.

9. Students who already started a PhD programme at UofT or at Melbourne, can they be recruited as part of IRTG call?

No. U of T and Melbourne PIs are expected to collaborate and develop a PhD project to recruit a new candidate, so a candidate that has already commenced their PhD studies cannot be recruited as part of this call. The candidate will only be considered as an affiliate of the Toronto-Melbourne Research Training Group. And they must meet Melbourne's entry requirement.

At U of T, affiliated candidates will have to be fully funded by their PIs /departments and are not be eligible to receive additional funding provided by OVPI (travel)

At Melbourne, as an affiliate, the candidate's supervisors (Faculty/Graduate School) would need to provide:

- Travel/health insurance and visa costs
- Living stipend
- One return airfare to travel to the partner
- Supervisor travel

Melbourne would also need to arrange a backdated enrolment as candidates must be enrolled at both institutions with the same commencement date.

We also encourage efforts where a particular candidate has brought PIs together around a PhD project proposed by the candidate.

Candidates already enrolled in research master's programs or completing their 4 year bachelor's degree are eligible to be recruited, so long as they meet the academic requirements for entry at both institutions.