

# ONE BASIN CRC PhD program

**Are you looking at developing world-leading skills in helping communities tackle climate change, capitalise on the digital transformation and accelerate rural innovation? Are you interested in receiving training from internationally renowned experts, whilst working with industry partners in the iconic Murray-Darling Basin on real-world problems?**

The One Basin Cooperative Research Centre (One Basin CRC) offers attractive PhD packages in a broad range of disciplinary fields and across multiple universities in Australia (Australian National University, Charles Sturt University, Flinders University, The University of Adelaide, The University of Melbourne, The University of Sydney). Our PhD graduates will be the future leaders in basin research and application. Our One Basin PhD program provides unprecedented leadership development opportunities, extensive industry networking, and the chance to establish a deep understanding of your chosen field. Key features of the One Basin CRC PhD Program are:

- A 3.5 year scholarship with the option of a 6 month-funded internship with an industry partner or equivalent part-time employment.
- A flexible funding package including a stipend as much as \$51,300 pa\* and generous travel and operational costs, with potential additional income from working part-time with industry partners and further scholarship funding.
- The PhD program seeks to achieve gender balance and attract candidates from all walks of life, with Australians of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander heritage particularly encouraged to apply.
- Opportunities for travel (including the possibility of international conferences), development and engagement with a strong research network that is being developed through the 10-year CRC.
- Each candidate will spend the majority of their time in one of the following research hubs: Loxton (South Australia), Mildura (Victoria), Griffith (NSW) and Goondiwindi (Queensland) with associated node in Narrabri (NSW).

**Our PhD program will give you the professional skills and networks to accelerate your career in research or practice across the water, agriculture or environmental sectors.**

*\* This is dependent on the host university policies, other available co-funding, and candidature experience and background. Candidates will receive a minimum stipend of \$35,000 pa and a further minimum \$20,500 (total) in operational funding. The exact allocation of the funding package between the stipend and support activities (such as conferences, travel to and from regional hubs) will be agreed to by the host university, PhD student and the 1BCRC. Applicants must be intending to apply for, and be highly competitive for, a Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend (or an equivalent scholarship). The student will enter the PhD program in 2024 and enrol on a full-time basis.*



Apply via: [onebasin.com.au/phd-programs](https://onebasin.com.au/phd-programs)



**PhD project ID:** 1BPhD23-08

**Date advertised:** 8 September 2023

**PhD project title:**

**Indigenous data sovereignty, Indigenous rights, and Indigenous governance in Murray Darling Basin water management**

**Description of the topic of PhD project:**

This PhD project will evaluate existing protocols and practices of Indigenous data sovereignty and Indigenous governance in relation to First Nation knowledges involving water management practices. Working closely with CRC researchers focussed on First Nations' values and knowledges and existing Indigenous-led research to address climate change across the CRC's partners, the PhD project will identify what is required to assign and enact Indigenous data sovereignty and Indigenous cultural and intellectual property rights.

The PhD student will be guided to develop a project within this broad field that aligns with their interests and the 1BCRC's research and First Nations engagement strategies. These strategies are focussed on building partnerships and confidence, to empower and support First Nations peoples to care for Country. Possible specific topics include:

- Indigenous data sovereignty and Indigenous governance to achieve greater access to water and land for cultural, social, spiritual connection;
- Indigenous intellectual and cultural property rights to achieve economic development opportunities; and
- An Indigenous water governance framework to achieve employment, education and training opportunities including careers development.

The project outcomes will support ongoing One Basin activities across the CRC's lifetime, and into the future, to improve research outcomes through effective inclusion of Indigenous values and knowledges. It will lead to broader understanding of Indigenous sovereignty, rights, and governance in relation to MDB water management policy, thereby providing frameworks to incorporate Indigenous knowledge and science effectively and safely into water policy.

**Primary university supervisor(s):**

Dr Peta Jeffries (Gulbali Institute, Charles Sturt University)

**Co-supervisors:**

*To be confirmed depending on student's background and interests:* Assoc. Prof. Andrew Hall, Dr Scott McManus (Charles Sturt University), Dr Serena Hamilton (ANU), Prof. Melissa Nursey-Bray (The University of Adelaide)

**Requisite qualifications and experience:**

Candidates with Masters or honours degrees in the following disciplines, or with equivalent research or work experience will be favourably considered: *Indigenous studies, environmental studies, social work, geospatial or data science, environmental policy and/or planning, human geography, social science or related discipline.*

To determine your eligibility for studying at Charles Sturt University, see:

<https://study.csu.edu.au/information-for/postgraduate-students>

**1BCRC industry partner(s) potentially involved:**

Southern Queensland Landscapes (SQL)