

**Regulatory Institutions Network (Australian National University) PhD Scholarship
Centre for Research Excellence on the Social Determinants of Health Equity**

Closing date: 30 September

Description

The Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet) is offering a three-year full-time PhD scholarship within the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) *Centre for Research Excellence on the Social Determinants of Health Equity* (CRESDHE). The PhD project will work within one or more of the work-packages and thematic areas of the CRESDHE. The PhD scholar will be based within RegNet, with Professor Sharon Friel as the primary supervisor.

About the CRESDHE

There is increasing concern about the growing financial, social and health inequities in Australia, a country that prides itself on a 'fair go'. Although the power of social, cultural and economic forces to influence health - the so-called social determinants of health - is well demonstrated, the translation of this evidence into equity-focused action has been slow. Current approaches have not closed the gap in health between advantaged and disadvantaged Australians, particularly between non-Indigenous and Indigenous Australians. This brings into focus many political, governance and policy challenges. Yet the governance arrangements that make for effective policy and action are poorly understood, both theoretically and practically.

The goal of the CRESDHE is to provide evidence on how political, governance and policy processes could function more effectively in order to achieve better and more equitable health outcomes. The work is organised into four work-packages, each focused on a respective stage of the policy process: agenda-setting, policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation. The work is also organized around four thematic areas: macroeconomics and infrastructure, land use and urban environments, the health system, and indigenous peoples. Case studies include the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement, Northern Territory Intervention, Closing the Gap initiative, Medicare, Paid Parental Leave scheme, land-use planning legislation in NSW, and the National Broadband Network.

For further information or to discuss the PhD scholarship contact Kathryn.henne@anu.edu.au and/or Sharon.friel@anu.edu.au

BENEFITS

The scholarship is open to domestic and international applicants wishing to commence a full-time PhD in January 2016. The annual stipend of the scholarship is valued at the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) equivalent, which is \$25,849 for 2015. The scholarship will be awarded for a maximum of three years.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the award of this scholarship a student must:

- Be enrolled, or be seeking to enrol, as a full-time student in a research higher degree program at the Australian National University; and
- Have completed an Australian university honours degree (at the level honours 2A or above), or equivalent prior studies in Australia or elsewhere (for example a bachelor's degree plus a graduate diploma or a master's degree) that includes some research work in the field of public health and/or social sciences.

TO APPLY:

For guidelines regarding how to apply, please consult RegNet's website at <http://regnet.anu.edu.au/education/how-apply>. After doing so, submit the following materials to RegNet's Head of Postgraduate Programs, Dr Kathryn Henne (Kathryn.henne@anu.edu.au) and Prof Sharon Friel (Sharon.friel@anu.edu.au):

1. Completed [expression of interest form](#)
2. Curriculum vitae (CV)
3. Academic transcripts
4. IELTS/TOEFL results (if applicable)
5. Thesis proposal (5-10 pages)

ENVIRONMENT AND TEAM

The PhD student will be located in RegNet and work closely with colleagues in the CRES DHE. RegNet is one of five Schools/Centres in the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP). RegNet is a dynamic community of scholars from different disciplines united by our interest in governance and regulation. It has received international recognition as one of the world's most vibrant governance and regulatory academic centres, combining rigorous interdisciplinary research with innovative forms of knowledge translation locally, nationally and globally. Our work is built on principles of justice, sustainability and human wellbeing. Currently we work in the following thematic areas: Climate, Energy & Environments; Human Rights; Law & Justice; Society, Safety & Health; Trade, Investment & Intellectual Property.

The CRES DHE is funded for 5 years by the NHMRC. It is a collaborative project involving lead researchers from Flinders University, the Australian National University, University of Sydney and University of Ottawa. Through the Centre, the PhD scholar will enjoy an exceptional environment for research and career development, working within a team that includes leading Australian and international researchers on SDH including: Prof Fran Baum (Southgate Institute); Prof Sharon Friel (RegNet, ANU); Prof Ron Labonte (University of Ottawa); Prof Margaret Whitehead (University of Liverpool); and Prof Michael Marmot (University College London).