Rozetta Institute Scholarship Award | Summer 2026

Australia's Innovation, Science and Research System

The countries that understand their innovation system will be the ones that can change it.

The Rozetta Institute is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that invests in collaborative initiatives to solve systemic challenges facing Australian industry. Rozetta works at the intersection of market design, emerging technology and industrial policy — convening researchers, industry leaders and policymakers to identify and advance initiatives that can make a material difference to Australia's economic capability.

The Rozetta Institute Scholarship Award (RISA) reflects Rozetta's belief that the next generation of researchers will play a critical role in addressing the challenges that matter most to Australian industry. RISA is designed to bridge the gap between high-level academic inquiry and practical impact — supporting outstanding doctoral and research masters students whose work is strategically aligned with Rozetta's mission, and creating the conditions for that research to translate into real-world change.

ABOUT THIS AWARD

Rozetta invests in research and innovation. We need to develop impact measurement tools and systems that enable us to understand the potential and actual impact of our investments. Our investment often involves new, collaborative research and innovation initiatives that address systemic challenges facing fast growing industry sectors. The impacts we are interested in projecting and measuring could include direct financial impacts on individual businesses, sector wide impacts on supply chain efficiency and broader spill-over impacts on society.

Without rigorous, evidence-based answers, it is difficult for Rozetta to make confident choices about where to direct research investment, which industries to prioritise, and where systemic barriers can be overcome that would deliver Australia durable competitive advantage.

Rozetta is seeking students working on the hard problems of innovation system analysis — those who are developing new methods, novel data sources, and analytical frameworks capable of producing the kind of actionable insights that would support our activities. We are particularly interested in research that moves beyond counting research inputs and outputs to produce a more dynamic and granular understanding of how innovation translates into real-world impact.

RESEARCH TOPICS

Rozetta is interested in supporting research to answer the question:

What can data and analytical methods tell us about the systemic challenges facing Australian industry, what would it take to redirect that system toward higher-growth, higher-value outcomes, and how that impact can be most accurately measured?

Your research might include, but is not limited to, the following topics:

- **Measuring Research Impact:** How can novel data sources — including bibliometric records, patent filings, procurement data, firm-level microdata, and administrative datasets — be used

to measure the economic and industrial impact of individual research initiatives? What methods can move beyond publication counts and citation metrics to capture real-world uptake, commercialisation pathways, and downstream value creation?

- **Spillover Effects of Keystone Sectors:** How do high-complexity, high-knowledge-intensity sectors — such as semiconductors, advanced manufacturing, or energy technology — generate spillovers that raise productivity and capability across the broader economy? What analytical frameworks can identify and quantify these spillover effects, and what do they imply for which sectors Australia should prioritise?
- **Redirecting Australian Capabilities:** Where does Australia's existing industrial and research capability — including workforce skills, infrastructure, institutional knowledge, and supply chain assets — have latent application in higher-growth sectors? What methodologies can map capability adjacencies and identify realistic pathways for sectoral redirection, and what market design or policy interventions would support that transition?
- **Productivity and Domestic Capability:** What are the productivity implications of building domestic capability in strategically important sectors — and how should those implications be measured and weighed against the costs of dependence on offshore supply chains or technology platforms? What evidence base is needed to make the economic case for sovereign capability investment credible and durable?
- **Human Capital Flows and International Students:** How do flows of skilled people, including international students and researchers, build Australia's innovation capability? What do graduates who stay contribute to Australian firms and research, and what value do those who return home create through the networks, trade and research links they keep with Australia? How should that soft power be measured, and what do the answers imply for migration, education and research policy?

THE AWARD

Recipients of the Rozetta Institute Scholarship Award receive a $15,000 top-up scholarship paid over 12 months, in addition to their primary research funding. Recipients also gain access to Rozetta's network of industry leaders, researchers and policymakers, and will be matched with a mentor from Rozetta's Research and Innovation Advisory Committee.

WHAT WE ASK IN RETURN

In addition to their scholarship, recipients will be asked to produce an impact assessment of their research and an implementation plan. The purpose of this output is to connect the recipient's research to a real-world initiative that Rozetta can support. Recipients will work with a Rozetta-nominated mentor to develop this output. The specific scope, format and deliverables of the impact assessment and implementation plan will be mutually agreed between the recipient, their host institution, and Rozetta.

ELIGIBILITY

The Rozetta Institute Scholarship Award is open to students enrolled in a PhD or Masters by Research program at an Australian university. Applicants must be undertaking research that is

aligned with one or more of the focus topics listed above. All applications must be endorsed by the applicant's academic supervisor.

Applications will be assessed on merit by a selection committee established by the Rozetta Institute. Selection criteria include:

- Strategic alignment with the focus identified in the EOI
- Potential for significant, real-world impact that can be implemented at scale
- Demonstrated academic excellence and potential for innovative research
- Supervisor endorsement

We welcome and encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

HOW TO APPLY

Your application should comprise of:

1. A 2-page (maximum) cover letter that outlines your academic and career experience.
2. A 2-page (maximum) proposal that outlines your research proposal, its alignment with the topics outlined in the current round of RISA Expressions of Interest, and how it might contribute to improving Australia's future productivity and competitiveness.
3. Supervisor endorsement.

Applications should be submitted to scholarships@rozettainstitute.com by 16 December 2026. Shortlisted applicants may be invited to discuss their proposal with the selection panel.

DISCRETION

The Rozetta Institute retains full discretion over the award of all scholarships. This includes the number of awards made in any given round, the assessment of applications, and decisions regarding the continuation of funding in subsequent years.