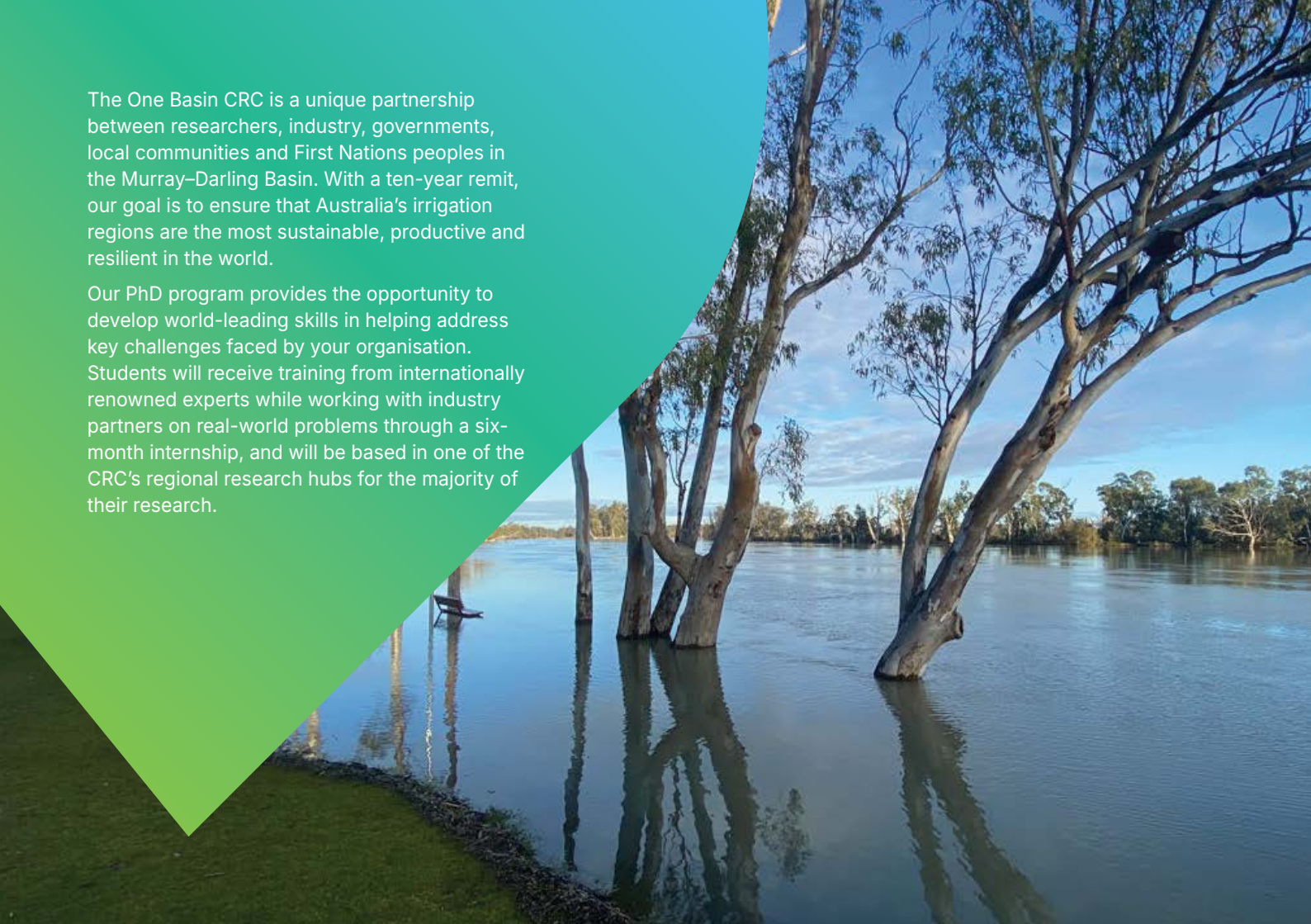


Industry-led PhD projects



The One Basin CRC is a unique partnership between researchers, industry, governments, local communities and First Nations peoples in the Murray–Darling Basin. With a ten-year remit, our goal is to ensure that Australia's irrigation regions are the most sustainable, productive and resilient in the world.

Our PhD program provides the opportunity to develop world-leading skills in helping address key challenges faced by your organisation. Students will receive training from internationally renowned experts while working with industry partners on real-world problems through a six-month internship, and will be based in one of the CRC's regional research hubs for the majority of their research.



Why partner with the One Basin CRC on an industry-led PhD project?

Benefits for CRC partners



Tailored high-impact research: Develop and collaborate on strategic research projects with significant potential impact, and benefit from a 6-month industry placement or internship as an additional resource for your organisation.



Build institutional capability: Your staff and team will gain insights from high-level research while sharing their regional and industry knowledge with the PhD researcher.



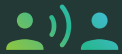
Cost-effective: Engage a PhD researcher at a similar cost to employing a graduate professional for six months, with minimal administrative burden as the position is managed by the CRC and host university.



Regional research: Support your regional area by locating research locally. The PhD researcher will gain insights into the area and those impacted by the market adoption of the research.



Collaborative environment: Leverage the collaborative R&D environment fostered by the One Basin CRC and access academic expertise and build relationships with university researchers through the CRC's diverse multi-partner research programs.



Future workforce: Evaluate and attract potential employees who are well-aligned with your organisation and may be appointed post-PhD completion.

Project funding and support

The total funding package is provided over 4 years, including the 6-month industry internship.

	Value of funding package*	Stipend (tax free for full-time student)	Operational funds (to support being based at a regional hub and professional development activities)
A B C			
✓ ✓ ✓	\$68,000 p.a.	\$56,000 p.a.	\$12,000 p.a.
✓ ✓ X	\$40,000 p.a.	\$35,000 p.a.	\$5,000 p.a.

* 2024-25 rate, funding amounts increase annually

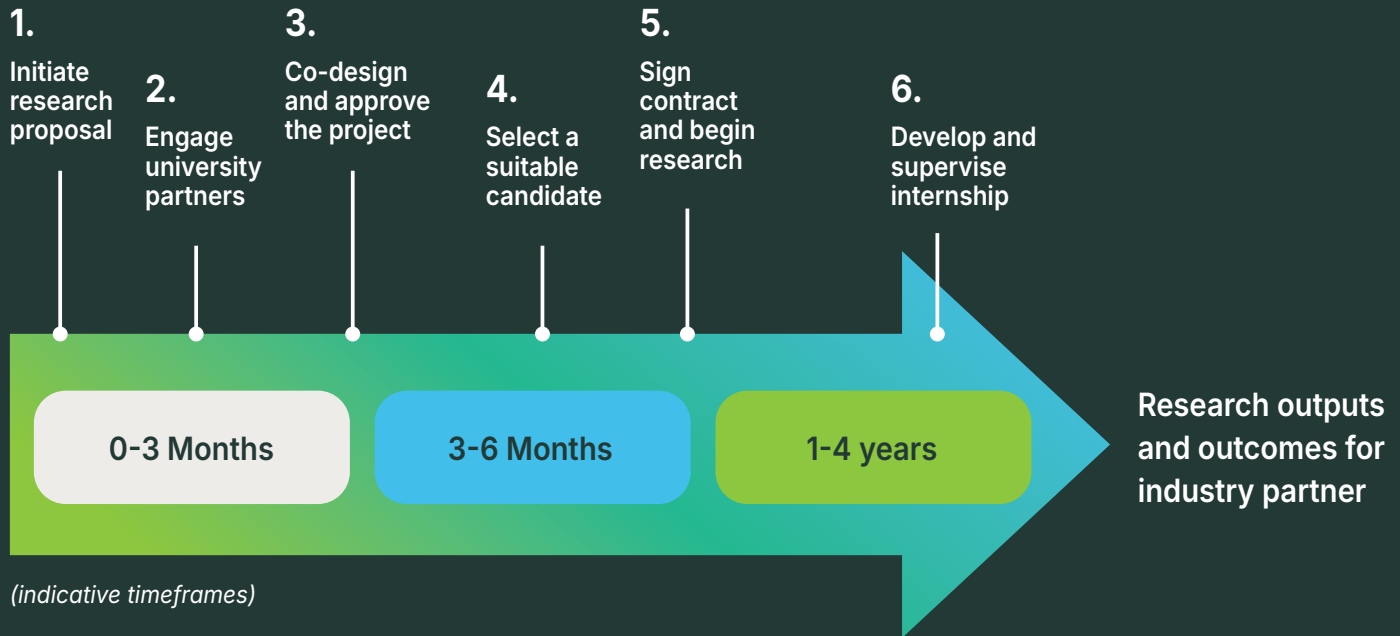
Funding for each position consists of three components:

A - \$12,000 p.a. provided by the industry partner for 4 years (minimum amount).

B - \$28,000 p.a. provided by the One Basin CRC for 4 years.

C - Candidates need to be highly competitive for a Research Training Program (RTP) base stipend (or an equivalent scholarship) worth \$32,192 p.a. for 3.5 years (2024 rate)

Steps to setting up an industry-led One Basin CRC PhD research project



A new project can be initiated at any time in the year. However, #3 ("approve project") should be completed by June each year as the main recruitment drive for current undergraduate or honours students takes place from June to August. This is in order for #4 ("select candidate") to occur in time for the main Commonwealth "RTP" scholarship application deadlines in August (international candidates), or October (Domestic candidates). Candidates can also be recruited at other times in the year, however the other RTP scholarships rounds are limited.

Indicative timeframes

1. Initiate research proposal:

CRC industry partners identify a research topic or strategic area of importance to be explored by the PhD student over their four-year degree. Contact one of the One Basin regional hub managers or the education and training manager to discuss your idea.

2. Engage university partners:

The CRC works with university partners to identify academic supervisors and develop the research proposal.

- Supervisors from at least two CRC university partners are required; they must be committed to a co-design approach and close industry collaboration.
- The PhD research should contribute directly to a broader CRC project or milestone. The CRC Education and Training team will assist in meeting requirements.

3. Co-design and approve the project:

The broad PhD topic area will be co-designed by the industry partner(s) and academic supervisors, and in principle approval is obtained from both the industry partner and CRC to commence recruitment.

4. Select a suitable candidate for a CRC scholarship.

- Industry partners participate in the host university's selection panel.
- Selection targets domestic students who are highly competitive for a Commonwealth scholarship.
- The host university administers the stipend, including during the 6-month industry internship.
- Candidates must be based in one of the CRC's regional research hubs for the majority of their candidature, with an operating budget provided for associated costs.

5. Sign contract and begin research:

Industry partners must actively co-supervise or advise as an in-kind contribution (1 hour/fortnight on average).

6. Develop and supervise internship:

The PhD student, supervisors, and industry partner agree on the timing and scope of the 6-month internship.

- The student can address additional research needs of the industry partner related to the main topic.
- A separate internship agreement covers OHS, data access, and confidentiality requirements.

Early or Mid-career PhD opportunities for industry professionals

Some of the best research ideas are developed in industry by people who see the limitations of knowledge and expertise in practice.

If you're an industry professional then there are opportunities to do a PhD in your area of expertise or interest. Reach out to the One Basin CRC Education and Training team to learn more.

It may be possible to continue working within your organisation while transitioning to a PhD, potentially working a day or two a week in your role. This work may form the 'industry internship' component of your research, making it a financially attractive option to discuss with your manager. Contact us to explore this opportunity.





Learn more:

For more information, contact the One Basin
CRC Education & Training manager at:
educationandtraining@onebasin.com.au



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Science and Resources

Cooperative Research
Centres Program

