Equivalence to a Doctoral Qualification: HDR Supervisor Registration

**1.0 Purpose**

**2.0 Scope**

**3.0 Guidelines**

## 1.0 Purpose

These guidelines support the *HDR Supervision Procedure* and provide the framework by which the University assesses comparability of research experience with a doctoral qualification in an application for higher degree by research (HDR) supervisor registration.

## 2.0 Scope

These guidelines apply to all academic staff or affiliate members of the University with, or applying for, accredited or transitional HDR supervisor registration, where the applicant does not possess a doctoral qualification.

## 3.0 Guidelines

The guidelines provided in Table 1 are to be applied in the context of the discipline and program learning outcomes for AQF (Australian Qualifications Framework) Level 10 qualifications. They are not exhaustive and should be interpreted as a guide. Academic Groups may require additional evidence or standards as appropriate for different disciplines.

There may be special circumstances not covered by these guidelines. In such cases, an academically defensible case must be made, with appropriate evidence as to how the skills, knowledge and experience of the academic staff member are equivalent to a doctoral degree.

**TABLE 1**

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| **AQF Level** | **Registration level** | **Equivalence requirement** | **Guidelines on Equivalence** |
| Level 9 Masters Degree (Research)  OR  Level 10 (Doctoral Degree) | Accredited  OR  Transitional | Research experience equivalent to a doctoral degree | An AQF Level 9 qualification  AND  Current research experience in a relevant discipline demonstrating an original contribution to knowledge. Supporting evidence may include peer-reviewed research outputs (including non-traditional research outputs), completion of work towards a doctoral degree, research related award and/or prizes and expert commentary.  Evidence of research experience must be sufficient to allow consideration of the nature, amount and duration of research previously undertaken, including the extent of independent research, against the usual requirements for the award of a doctoral degree. |

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| **RELATED POLICY DOCUMENTS AND supporting documents** | |
| Legislation | N/A |
| Policy | [Higher Degree by Research Policy](https://sharepointpubstor.blob.core.windows.net/policylibrary-prod/Higher%20Degree%20by%20Research%20Policy.pdf) |
| Procedure | [Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Supervision Procedure](https://sharepointpubstor.blob.core.windows.net/policylibrary-prod/Higher%20Degree%20by%20Research%20(HDR)%20Supervision%20Procedure.pdf) |
| Local protocol | N/A |
| Form | N/A |