

How do I...

BECOME A PEER WRITING ASSISTANT

The Peer Writing Assistance (PWA) program supports Macquarie's research candidates in managing thesis writing and research-related activities. The program is based on the principle of collaborative learning in which a more experienced research candidate works together with a fellow candidate to share resources and skills, coordinate efforts to solve a problem, or explore alternative strategies to develop effective work and study habits.

If you are confident in academic and research writing, and have an interest in mentoring, how can you apply to be a Peer Writing Assistant?

TO BE ELIGIBLE:

- You must be a current PhD candidate at Macquarie
- You must be trained as an HDR Mentor
- You have an excellent academic record and strong research writing skills

HDR MENTORS

The HDR Mentors Program is a student initiative that provides peer-to-peer support among research candidates across Macquarie University. HDR Mentors aim to cultivate collegial relationships in a safe, open and collaborative forum. Mentors are

Before you can apply to be Peer Writing Assistant, you must first join the HDR Mentors Program. The Mentors training program is designed to equip you with effective communication and problem-solving skills, as well as to grow your capacity to build rapport and empathise with peers from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds. These skills are essential to the role of a Peer Writing Assistant.

PWA INFO SESSION & RECRUITMENT

Once a year, there is an information session and recruitment drive for new Peer Writing Assistants. If you are an active HDR Mentor who is able to demonstrate a strong academic record and significant research writing experience, you will be invited to:

- submit a 1-page expression of interest detailing why you wish to be a peer writing assistant and how you will make a valuable contribution to the program
- Submit a sample of your writing (e.g. journal article, thesis chapter, conference paper)

If your application has been shortlisted, you will be invited to attend an interview process.

And if your interview is successful, you will be invited to attend a series of training workshops and role-play sessions to prepare you for the role of a Peer Writing Assistant.

LINKS

Join HDR Mentors:

<https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-research-program/training-support-and-tools/mentoring/join-us>

Macquarie's PWA Program Website:

<https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-research-program/training-support-and-tools/mentoring/peer-writing-assistance>

Dr Florence Chiew
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How Do I...? Guidelines are produced by HDR Learning Skills for HDR and MRes candidates. They provide succinct, user-friendly advice consistent with best practice and MQ Policy and Procedures at time of writing

FIND OUT MORE

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