If you are enrolled in a Masters by Research program, it is possible to upgrade to a PhD program via the HDR Milestone process.

You can undertake a milestone upgrade if:

- You have consumed 1 EFTSL or less
- Have successfully completed a timely Masters by Research Confirmation of Candidature

What do I need to do?

At the time of your scheduled Masters by Research second milestone review, present a PhD-level Confirmation of Candidature. This presentation must show that your research can be expanded to PhD level.

You must also provide a research plan / timeline showing how you will complete the PhD on time.

What is PhD-level research?

Successful upgrade

If your upgrade is successful, your consumed Masters candidature will be included in your PhD time. You will also be required to present a PhD Second Milestone Review. The milestone dates and maximum completion date will be recalculated.

Unsuccessful upgrade

If your upgrade is unsuccessful, you will be required to present the Masters Second Milestone Review within four weeks of the upgrade presentation. Your remaining milestone and maximum completion dates will not change.

It is normally not possible to make a second attempt at an upgrade, as there is not enough candidature time to complete a timely PhD.

Further information

At the School of Graduate Research website.