

# Appeal against the outcome of a thesis/project examination in a higher degree by research (HDR) program – University Appeals Committee (UAC)

## Information sheet

### This form is to be completed by

Students in higher degree by research (HDR) programs who wish to appeal against the outcome of a thesis/project examination to the University Appeals Committee (UAC).

### Submission requirements

You may only appeal the outcome of a thesis/project examination where there's evidence of a breach of University legislation, policy or procedure in the conduct of the examination which has had a significant impact on the examination outcome.

In order to make this appeal submission you must:

- have 'submitted' status in the relevant HDR program
- have received a **failed** final examination outcome
- lodge this submission to ensure delivery to the UAC secretariat no later than 20 working days from the date of the formal notification of the final examination outcome (the appeal deadline).

*Appeal applications that don't meet all of the above submission requirements can't be accepted and will be deemed automatically ineligible for consideration.*

In order to protect University IT systems and the integrity of your appeal submission, the completed appeal form and documentary evidence will only be accepted by email in PDF and JPG formats. If you believe the circumstances of your appeal require submission in alternative formats, please contact the UAC secretariat for advice immediately.

### What will happen next? Will I be granted a hearing of the UAC?

In lodging an appeal you are requesting a hearing of the UAC to consider your appeal against the outcome of a thesis/project examination in the HDR program.

Following receipt of a complete appeal submission, the Academic Registrar (or nominee) will, within 20 working days, decide whether your application satisfies the submission requirements and the ground of appeal stated on page 2 of this form.

Where the eligibility criteria have been deemed:

- (a) to have been met – a hearing of the UAC will be arranged and we will advise you of the date and time accordingly
- (b) not to have been met – your request for a hearing will be denied and we will advise you accordingly. This communication will explain the reasons for the determination and also advise you of your right to seek an external review of the decision.

### Communication

Your RMIT student email account will be used for correspondence related to your appeal. If you are no longer a current student, your registered personal email account will be used.

### Further assistance

1. We strongly recommend that you read the University regulations, policies and procedures governing HDR examinations and student appeals:
  - Regulations: [rmit.edu.au/about/governance-management/statutes-regulations/assessment-academic-progress-appeals](https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/governance-management/statutes-regulations/assessment-academic-progress-appeals) (refer to Part 4)
  - Policy: [policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=12](https://policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=12) (refer to 33)
  - Procedures: [policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=15](https://policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=15) (refer 57a, 58) and [policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=18](https://policies.rmit.edu.au/document/view.php?id=18) (refer to 119-120)
2. For advice on the appeal process or how to complete the form contact:  
University Appeals Committee Secretariat  
Tel. +61 3 9925 8846 or +61 3 9925 8652  
Email: [universityappeals@rmit.edu.au](mailto:universityappeals@rmit.edu.au)
3. You can also contact the RMIT Student Union for advice and support: [rusu.rmit.edu.au](https://www.rusu.rmit.edu.au)  
To make an appointment with a student rights officer, tel. +61 3 9925 5004 or email [student.rights@rmit.edu.au](mailto:student.rights@rmit.edu.au).

### Privacy

Information supplied as part of your appeal submission will be treated in a confidential manner in accordance with the RMIT *Privacy policy* and the provisions of other relevant state and Australian Government information handling acts, regulations and statutes. Refer to [rmit.edu.au/privacy](https://www.rmit.edu.au/privacy).



