

Construction Industry Doctoral Program (CIDP)

University of Newcastle



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

[The Office of NSW Building Commissioner \(OBC\)](#) and [University of Newcastle](#) have established a unique doctoral research program to allow industry practitioners obtain a PhD in a field related to construction.

Meeting industry needs through research

The Construction Industry Doctorate Program (CIDP) is a vocational PhD program that matches leading construction industry organisations with world-class research expertise, facilities, and resources.

CIDP is designed to support The Construct NSW Reform Strategy, aimed at producing more trustworthy buildings through a more customer-focused, ethical, sustainable, innovative, and digitally enabled construction industry.

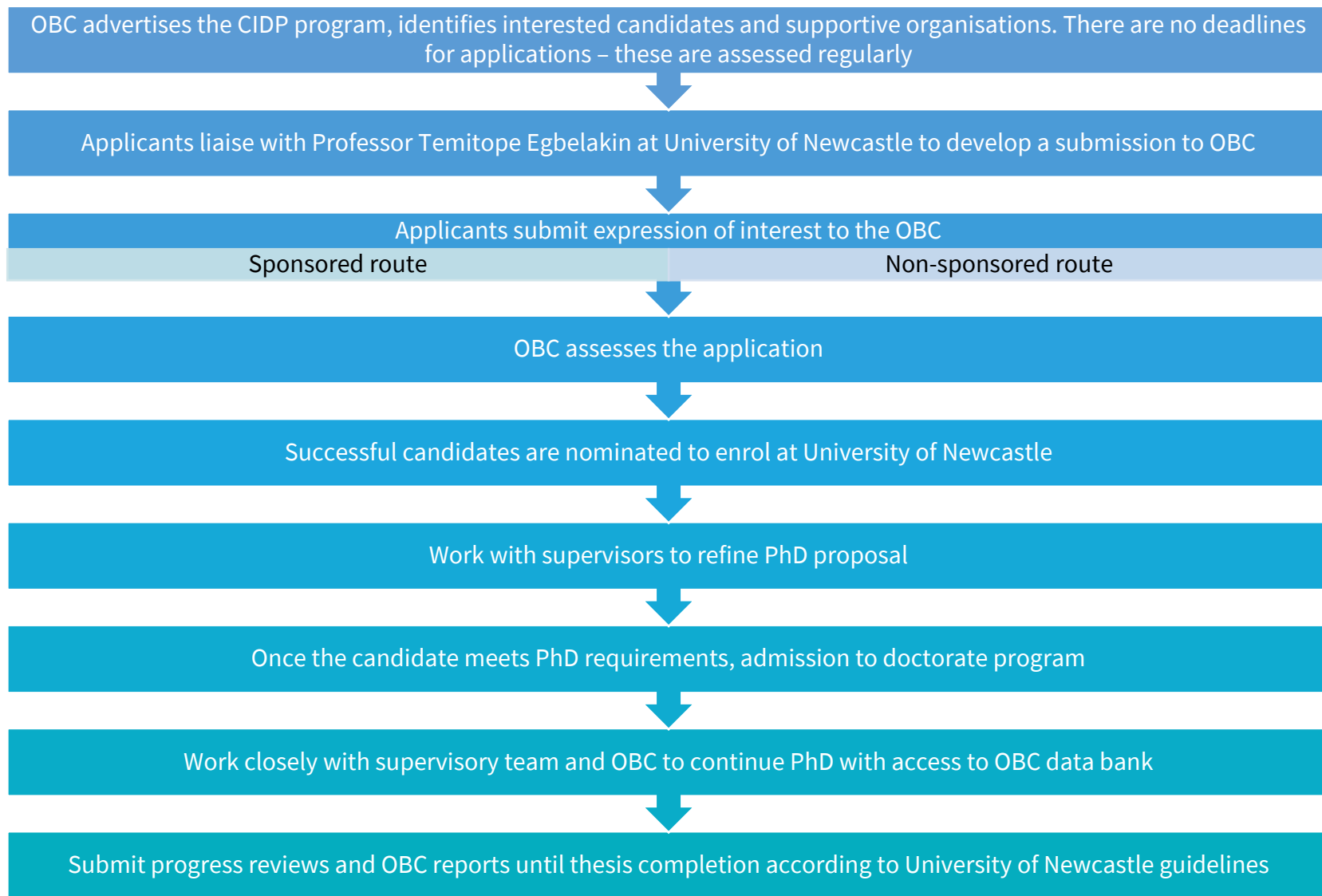
The CIDP provides exciting opportunities for thought-leaders from across the construction industry to challenge old institutional models, practices and norms, and to transform traditional ways of thinking by imagining a more trustworthy built world.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to industry professionals who can satisfy the following requirements:

1. Australian citizen or permanent resident
2. Minimum of ten years' industry experience in the Australian built environment industry
3. Provide three industry referees to attest to applicant's expertise and competency to undertake research
4. Experience of research in a work and/or study context
5. Intend to work in the Australian construction industry after completing the CIDP
6. To have completed:
 - i. recognised master's degree by research, or bachelor's degree with first- or second-class Honours (division 1), or
 - ii. an equivalent or higher qualification, or
 - iii. other evidence of general and professional qualifications demonstrating potential to pursue graduate research study
7. Have support from your organisation (if you are an employee of the sponsoring organisation).

Application Process



Priority topics impacting the construction industry

This world-first initiative encourages research into the priority topics impacting industry. These topics are not prescribed – applicants are encouraged to develop their own topics in conversation with University of Newcastle and the Office of the NSW Building Commissioner (OBC).

Current priority industry reform topics have been identified as:

- Multi-dimensional Construction Workforce
- Construction Project Management
- Modern methods of construction
- Sustainable construction
- Precast construction
- Hazardous materials in the built environment
- Remediating combustible cladding: peeling back the layers
- Project procurement, contracts and governance
- Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA)
- Post-Disaster Reconstruction
- Community Resilience
- Smart and Resilience Cities
- Gender in Construction

How long will it take?



At University of Newcastle, you must complete your doctorate within 4.0 years full-time and 8 years part-time. The quickest you can complete is 3 years and 6 years in full-time and part-time modes respectively.

Successful candidates who are employed by the company sponsoring them are expected to be able to work on the research project for at least 50% of their time. Those who are not employed by the company sponsoring them are expected to spend a substantial proportion of their time (typically 70-80%) at the premises of their collaborating company, depending on the nature of the project.

How much will it cost?

Domestic students do not pay a fee to complete a doctorate. However, there may be costs involved in attending conferences and collecting data. If you are not working, you will need to cover your living expenses. You may apply for a scholarship to receive University of Newcastle [Research Training Program \(RTP\)](#) stipend.

If you are intending to work during your doctorate, it is crucial you have the support of your employer. If you are not working during your doctorate then you may be able to secure external sponsorship to help cover any expenses, or you may decide to cover any expenses yourself.



What organisations can sponsor?

Program success depends on the support of sponsoring organisations. CIDP welcomes supportive organisations from all sectors of related industries:

- Private sector organisations such as contractors, consultants, suppliers, manufacturers and other corporates
- State owned and public sector organisations
- Non-government organisations
- Governments (Federal, state or local)
- Government funded research organisations

University of Newcastle support to PhD students

The University of Newcastle is committed to assist PhD students throughout their research journey, from the point of research initiation until graduation.

You may find further information about the PhD process and additional support in these [FAQs](#).



How to apply?

This doctoral degree program operates as part of the University of Newcastle doctoral research programs.

If you need further information or wish to apply for CIDP at University of Newcastle, please write to Professor Temitope Egbelakin at T.Egbelakin@newcastle.edu.au

