

Higher Degree Research (HDR) GenAI Policy

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Policy Owner	Dean
Responsible Officer	Associate Dean, Research and Scholarship
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Related Documents	HDR Supervision Policy HDR Ethics Policy HDR Responsible Conduct of Research Policy HDR Candidature Policy Academic Integrity Policy HDR Guide for Ethical GenAI Use Student Complaints & Appeals Procedure
HESF (Threshold Standards) 2021	1.4.1; 1.4.2; 1.4.3; 1.4.4; 4.1.1; 4.1.2; 4.1.3; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.2.3; 4.2.4; 6.2.1; 6.2.2; 7.2.1.
Policy Visibility	Public

1. Purpose

This policy establishes the principles and responsibilities for the ethical, transparent and appropriate use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) in HDR programs and research activities conducted under the auspices of AIH. It ensures alignment with national guidelines and maintains research integrity, academic quality, and the development of candidate capabilities.

This policy has been written in alignment with the TEQSA publication 'Gen AI strategies for research training: Emerging practice' (July 2025).

2. Scope

Applies to all HDR candidates, supervisors, research staff, and affiliated partners across AIH campuses and delivery modes, in relation to research training, supervision, thesis preparation, data management, ethics applications, and dissemination of research outputs.

3. Principles

1. Integrity and Accountability
2. Transparency
3. Ethical Use
4. Educational Value
5. Equity and Inclusion

4. Definitions

Includes terms such as GenAI, Large Language Models (LLMs), AI-Generated Content, Disclosure Statement, and Research Misconduct as defined in the Institute's Glossary and the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research.

5. Permitted Use

GenAI may support idea generation, literature summaries, language refinement, and data simulation, provided human authorship dominates and use is approved by the Principal Supervisor.

Use in thesis writing must be declared; candidates remain responsible for authorship and academic integrity.

GenAI tools may not be used to analyse confidential, sensitive or ethics-restricted data unless approved by the Institute and compliant with ethics approvals.

6. Disclosure and Documentation

Any content generated or significantly shaped by GenAI must be disclosed in the methodology or acknowledgment section of theses, publications, ethics submissions, or grant applications.

Candidates and supervisors must agree on GenAI use at the Confirmation of Candidature and revisit this at each milestone review.

7. Prohibited Use

1. Using GenAI to generate false data, fabricate sources, or mislead regarding authorship constitutes research misconduct.
2. Uploading confidential or identifiable research data into public GenAI platforms is strictly prohibited.
3. Supervisors and examiners may not use GenAI tools to assess thesis quality or draft examination reports.

8. Responsibilities

HDR Candidates: Disclose all GenAI use; ensure critical engagement with AI outputs; maintain authorship standards.

Supervisors: Guide appropriate AI use; confirm candidate understanding; report non-compliance.

Graduate Research Team: Provide training; monitor adherence; investigate breaches.

9. Training and Education

All HDR candidates and supervisors must complete training on ethical GenAI use within six months of enrolment or appointment and refresh this training every three years. Supervisors will also be informed of significant updates to AI technology, practice and regulation via updates and PD sessions as required.

10. Breaches and Appeals

Misuse of GenAI is treated under the HDR Responsible Conduct Policy and may lead to disciplinary action. Appeals are managed through the Student Complaints & Appeals Procedure.

11. Alignment with Standards

Aligned with the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2018), TEQSA HESF (2021), AQF Level 9/10 standards, TEQSA Gen AI strategies for research training: Emerging practice, and Australia's AI Ethics Principles.

12. Version Control

Version	Authored by	Brief description of Change	Approval Date	Effective Date
2025.1	Dean	Initial release of HDR GenAI Policy	06 August 2025	07 August 2025