

PhD Positions in Engineering and Environmental Biotechnology
Australian Centre for Water and Environmental Biotechnology (ACWEB)
ARC Training Centre for the Transformation of Australia's Biosolids Resource
The University of Queensland

Application deadline: Rolling (current round 30/9/2021)

Three PhD positions are available within the Australian Centre for Water and Environmental Biotechnology (ACWEB) and within ARC Training Centre for the Transformation of Australia's Biosolids Resource (<https://www.transformingbiosolids.org.au>).

The research programme can be accessed on the Biosolids TC website above, and the projects are within Theme 1: Improving technologies, and Theme 2: Enhancing product applications.

All projects involve collaboration with University Partners RMIT (Melbourne), UWA (Perth), and UNSW (Sydney). They include industrial placements with centre partners across Australia.

These positions focus on the following aspects, primarily collaborating with RMIT:

- (a) Identification of the nature and impact of non-degradable organic material in biosolids treatment trains (Project 1A)
- (b) Biological conversion of byproducts from thermal and hydrothermal treatment of biosolids (Project 1B)
- (c) Industrial utilisation of biochar and hydrochar from thermal transformation of biosolids (Project 1C)

The first project is PhD only, and while M. Phil projects can be configured for 1B and 1C, PhD projects are preferred.

The Australian Centre for Water and Environmental Biotechnology (ACWEB) is an internationally recognised centre of excellence in innovative water technology and management. The Centre has an outstanding worldwide reputation in urban water management and related fields, and an award-winning multidisciplinary team delivers practical technological solutions underpinned by fundamental scientific discoveries.

The ARC Training Centre for the Transformation of Australia's Biosolids Resource (<https://www.transformingbiosolids.org.au>) aims to bring together Australia's leading biosolid researchers and key industry and government stakeholders to advance the management, transformation, and reuse of biosolids in agriculture.

The successful candidate will join ACWEB and the ARC's Industrial Transformation Training Centres (ITTC) program. The candidate should have background in civil, chemical or environmental engineering, or environmental biotechnology, a demonstrated aptitude for undertaking laboratory/field work, have excellent communication skills and will be expected to interact regularly

with industry partners. The position includes a structured training programme, including placements with industry partners. Senior academic and project-dedicated postdoctoral support teams are available to guide students through their higher degree programme.

The student needs to be successful in securing a primary scholarship via a UQ Graduate School Scholarship (UQGSS) or equivalent. A secondary Top Up scholarship (\$5000) will be made available to successful applicants for a total package of \$33,854 tax free. Further income is available from teaching and consulting activities in the faculty of Engineering and through ACWEB depending on progression in the PhD programme.

Applications for the current UQGSS close 31/9/2021 but applications will be considered following this.

<https://scholarships.uq.edu.au/scholarship/graduate-school-scholarships-ugss-%E2%80%93-includes-rtp>

Further information on the projects and scholarship may be obtained from Prof. Damien Batstone. Applications should be submitted (including a cover letter, academic transcript, and CV) to Prof Batstone by 30/9/2021 to be considered in the current scholarship round. Further applications will be considered, but we encourage submission in the current round. The application process includes a telephone or videoconference interview.

Applications may be received following this.

Contact:

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