

<b>Date of approval</b>	23 August 2022	<b>Approved by</b>	Academic Board
<b>Date of effect</b>	23 August 2023	<b>Review date</b>	31 August 2026
<b>Responsible Owner</b>	Executive Dean, Faculty Tertiary Education and Research	<b>Version</b>	v1 2022
<b>Functional Manager</b>	Executive Dean, Faculty Tertiary Education and Research		

## 1. Outline

- 1.1 Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (Batchelor Institute) is committed to research and research training activities that are underpinned by First Nations' ways of being, knowing and valuing the world. Acknowledging the unceded sovereignty of First Nations peoples, Batchelor Institute respects and fosters land-based knowledges and encourages the grounding of research within this context. It is committed to First Nations-led research activities which privilege First Nations', positioning, perspectives, priorities and aspirations.
- 1.2 This policy acts to:
- 1.2.1 Outline the key principles for research conducted by individuals within or associated with Batchelor Institute.
  - 1.2.2 Further Batchelor Institute's aims to achieve high-quality and transformative research
  - 1.2.3 Ensure Batchelor Institute's compliance with relevant legislative and regulatory research provisions.

## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all research activity carried out by, at, or on behalf of, Batchelor Institute. The policy, therefore, applies to all individuals who carry out research at or on behalf of Batchelor Institute whether as an employee, student or in some other representative or associated capacity ('researchers').

## 3. Summary

Batchelor Institute will promote high quality First Nations research and will be governed by ethical principles and guidelines as set out in this document and:

- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) 2006. The Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions/Expressions of Folklore: Revised objectives and principles (the 'WIPO objectives and principles')

- [Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research 2020](#). The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)
- [Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders 2018](#) NHMRC
- <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/attachments/grant%20documents/The-australian-code-for-the-responsible-conduct-of-research-2018.pdf> NHMRC
- Batchelor Institute's most current Strategic and Research Plans.
- Batchelor Institute's Research and Ethics Procedure.

## 4. Policy Statement

- 4.1 All research conducted by, through or in collaboration with Batchelor Institute will adhere to the principals identified in this policy.
- 4.2 Researchers will conduct research activities in an ethical manner consistent with the principles and other identified codes, guidelines and procedures.
- 4.3 The Graduate School Director in collaboration with Primary Supervisors of Higher Degree by Research candidates will ensure candidates adhere to the requirements of this policy.
- 4.4 In the event of an allegation of misconduct against Batchelor Institute's Research Policy, the Executive Dean, Faculty Tertiary Education and Research will instigate investigation and disciplinary action with reference to Batchelor Institutes Research Ethics Procedure and other relevant policies.

## 5. Research Principles

Research and evaluation projects conducted through Batchelor Institute will be founded on the following key principles.

- 5.1 Unceded sovereignty** - Research recognises and acknowledges First Nations lands and peoples and works to ground knowledge construction and research processes from this position.
- 5.2 Strength in Culture** – Research acknowledges, respects and builds on the cultural legacy of First Nations ancestors and knowledge holders.
- 5.3 First Nations-led** - First Nations peoples are leaders and sources of knowledge in all research activities from conceptualization to communication. Research plans, policies and activities are developed according to First Nations' needs, priorities, interests, aspirations and perspectives.
- 5.4 Decolonising agenda:** Research is committed to anti-colonial struggles through privileging and prioritising First Nations ways of being (ontologies), ways of knowing (epistemologies), ways of valuing (axiologies), and ways of doing (methodologies).
- 5.5 Cultural Accountability** – Research acknowledges diverse First Nations positionalities and experiences as well as responding with integrity to localised (land-based) cultural obligations and responsibilities.

## 6. Responsibilities

<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Responsible Officer, Committee</b>
4.1, 5.1-5.5	Adherence to research principles	Researchers must be familiar with and comply with the principles	The Researcher Research Committee
4.2	Adherence to ethical research conduct	Researchers must be familiar with and comply with research ethics guidelines and approval processes	The Researcher Research Committee Research Ethics Advisory Committee
4.3	Monitoring and Supervision of Research Candidate conduct	Higher Degree by Research Candidates must be familiar with and comply with research principles and ethical conduct	The Higher Degree by Research Candidate Graduate School Director in Collaboration with Primary Supervisors
4.4	Initiate any investigation and disciplinary action due to research misconduct	(i) Investigate misconduct claims; (ii) Initiate disciplinary action where required	Executive Dean, Faculty Tertiary Education and Research

## 7. Acronyms & Terms

<b>Acronym/Term</b>	<b>Definition/Description</b>
Batchelor Institute, the Institute	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education.
Decolonising research	Research committed to anti-colonial struggles, that prioritises Indigenous epistemologies, axiologies, ontologies and methodologies, recognizing Indigenous land, Indigenous peoples, and Indigenous sovereignty, towards self-determination.
First Nations-led research	Research that is led through the Institute's governance and/or a First Nations researcher (student or staff) and/or by First Nations communities.
First Nations	Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council.
Primary Supervisor	Primary Supervisors work with Higher Degree by Research Students according to the HDR Qualifying Guideline. Primary Supervisors must have held a PhD award for at least three years.

<b>Acronym/Term</b>	<b>Definition/Description</b>
Researcher	Person or persons who carry out research or evaluation at or on behalf of Batchelor Institute whether as an employee, student or in some other representative or associated capacity.
Research	<p>Research and experimental development (R&amp;D) comprise creative and systematic work undertaken in order to increase the stock of knowledge – including knowledge of humankind, culture and society – and to devise new applications of available knowledge. (FRASCATI Manual).</p> <p>For an activity to be an R&amp;D activity it must satisfy all five core criteria: 1 to be aimed at new findings (novel), 2 to be based on original, not obvious, concepts and hypotheses (creative), 3 to be uncertain about the final outcomes (uncertain), 4 to be planned and budgeted (systematic), and 5 to lead to results that could be possibly reproduced (transferable and/or reproducible. (HERDC 2020 Specifications).</p> <p>Evaluation can be considered to be research if it meets the above criteria.</p>
Research Committee	The Institute’s Research Committee advises the Academic Board on research policies, strategies, initiatives and innovation that promote and support the research and research training directions of the Institute. The Committee oversees the research activity of the Institute in line with the Institute’s Research Plan and the Institute Strategic Plan.
Research Ethics Advisory Committee	This Committee reports to the Research Committee and oversees and monitors the ethical conduct of research undertaken in association with the Institute.
Staff	means individuals who are employed or engaged, by or for the Institute, and whether for reward or on a voluntary basis. It includes adjuncts, volunteers, contractors and individuals employed by contractors within or outside the Northern Territory. Contractors do not include trade contractors such as those employed by facilities or campus operations.
Student	A person enrolled as a student on the Institute.

## 8. Supporting Documents

- Research and Ethics Procedure,
- Research Committee Terms of Reference,
- Research Ethics Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, and
- Higher Degree by Research Program Rules.

## 9. Modification history

<b>Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Sections modified</b>	<b>Authority</b>	<b>Details</b>
6/11/13	V1	Created	Academic Board	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Version</i>	<i>Sections modified</i>	<i>Authority</i>	<i>Details</i>
18/6/2014	2014/V2	Minor editing	Head of Higher Education and Research	Updating Divisional name
August 2023	2022 v1	All	Academic Board	Review of Policy

## 10. Feedback

If you have any comments or feedback about this Policy, please contact the Executive Dean of Higher Education and Research.