

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION BURSARY

Conditions of Award

Purpose of the Bursary

Each year, University of Canberra awards Accessible Education Bursaries to a select number of students who are impacted by disability.

The bursaries provide adaptive and/or assistive technology to help the students fully participate and succeed in their chosen studies.

Assistive technology can eliminate barriers to education and enhance access to information. It enables students to read course material, conduct research and improve their student life.

Suggested uses:

- Ergonomic equipment for computer use e.g. keyboards, mouse
- Ergonomic backpacks
- Personal devices for study - laptop, ipad etc.
- Noise cancelling headphones
- Licences to digital tools for duration of study e.g. Dragon, Jaws, Otter.ai, Speechify
- Livescribe smartpen
- Adaptive equipment/technology for the home, to support students living on campus or who have relocated to undertake study.

Bursary Details

The Bursary shall be known as the University of Canberra Accessible Education Bursary.

This Bursary is funded by the University of Canberra through the Higher Education Continuity Guarantee funds (HECG).

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be registered with InclusionUC
- Have a current (within the last 12 months) medical assessment verifying their disability and/or health condition and outlining the impact their disability on their studies and requirements to improve study access
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Be willing to be involved in publicity events and provide feedback and updates on their academic progress

Application

Details on how to apply for the University of Canberra Accessible Education Bursary, including opening and closing dates, will be advertised on the Scholarship webpage <https://www.canberra.edu.au/scholarships>. Payments will be made as soon as possible after census date.

Students are expected to apply only once through the Application portal available through the Scholarships website. Applicants must answer each question in the application form truly and to the best of their knowledge at the time of applying. Any major change in the application must be conveyed to the Scholarships Office at Scholarships@canberra.edu.au before the closing date. After this date, applications will be considered based on the original application. In case of multiple applications, the latest application will be considered.

Selection

The Bursary Committee will take the following criteria into consideration when making their selection, thus applicants are advised to address these factors in their application.

Demonstrated need for the equipment:

- What, if any, adaptive technology have you used in the past?
- What, if any, accommodations have you received (for example, alternative format text)?
- Justification of the need for any additional equipment beyond your current equipment
- Implications of not having the equipment

Number of Bursary

Student Life has a nominated budget available to provide financial support for accessible education equipment. Bursary funds are awarded based on need and allocated in accordance with the nominated budget each semester. The bursary will initially be offered for both 2025 and 2026 with a maximum amount of \$150,000 allocated annually.

Value and Tenure of the Bursary

Students may apply for funding for accessible technology/equipment/software up to \$3,000. The value of each bursary is determined by Student Life in accordance with the assistive technology being provided and the need of the student. InclusionUC will manage the acquisition and payment directly with the nominated provider. Alternatively, students can provide proof of payment for accessible technology they have purchased for the purposes of study and the bursary money will be credited directly to the student's account via electronic transfer.

Enrolment Conditions

The recipient must be enrolled as an active student after the census date for the Bursary to be awarded. In the event of a change of degree, the student must notify InclusionUC at Inclusion@canberra.edu.au. If a student is found ineligible with regard to enrolment or unsatisfactory academic results in the previous semester, the Bursary may be rescinded.

Recipient Conditions

Recipients must adhere to the University of Canberra's policies and procedures. Recipients must agree to their academic progress being made known to InclusionUC.

The recipients are encouraged to liaise and meet with the InclusionUC and provide a brief summary of how the Bursary assisted them with their studies when required. The Scholarship recipient is also encouraged to participate in publicity for the Bursary from time to time. Recipients may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the Bursary by publishing the names of the scholars. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through either the Scholarships Office, Advancement Office, or Marketing Office.

Subject to the information available at the time, the Director of Student Life may request that the payment for the semester in which a breach of conditions or withdrawal occurs be refunded in part or in full.

Providing False or Misleading Information

The awarding of a Bursary/grant is based on the information provided to the University. An award may be withdrawn at any stage if incorrect, false, or misleading information is provided, or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the false information is unrelated to the assessment in awarding the scholarship/grant.

Deferment

The Bursary cannot be deferred.

Taxation and Centrelink

Recipients are responsible for seeking taxation and Centrelink advice regarding their own individual circumstances. Scholarships/grants may be regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For information on how your award may affect your Centrelink benefits, see this website

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/>

Related Policies, Procedures and Rules

Scholarships, Prizes, Medals and Awards Policy

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/Policies/PolicyProcedure/Index/117>

Scholarships, Prizes, Medals and Awards Procedure

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/Policies/PolicyProcedure/Index/83>

Student Charter

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/Policies/PolicyProcedure/Index/200>

Student Conduct Rules

https://www.canberra.edu.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1379069/University-of-Canberra-Student-Conduct-Rules-2018-.pdf