

UC Care Leaver Scholarship

Conditions of Award

Purpose of the Scholarship

This Scholarship aims to support young people from out-of-home care backgrounds in overcoming barriers to accessing and succeeding in Higher Education by providing financial assistance and opportunities to engage with a range of support services that foster their success at the university.

Scholarship Details

The Scholarship is known as the UC Care Leaver Scholarship and is funded by Student Life, the University of Canberra.

Threshold Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Scholarship, applicants **must** satisfy all of the following threshold criteria.

Applicants must:

- a) be an Australian citizen;
- b) be an undergraduate student at the University of Canberra;
- c) have no previous university qualification; and
- d) be from an out-of-home care background (i.e., those who have spent all or part their childhoods in foster care, residential care or with extended family in kinship care).

Application

Applications are submitted via our [Scholarship webpage](#), which provides details including opening and closing dates. Applicants should review the [Terms and Definitions page](#) and **must** confirm that all threshold eligibility criteria are met before applying.

To be considered for this Scholarship, applicants must ensure the following sections of the application are completed correctly in addition to their personal details. Applications submitted without the required supporting documentation outlined below (where applicable) may not be considered.

Student Scholarship Details section	
<i>Have you previously completed an undergraduate degree at any other institution?</i>	Select 'No.'
<i>Do you come from an out-of-home care background?</i>	Select 'Yes.'

Financial Need and Equity Scholarships section	
<i>Would you like to be considered for a scholarship based on financial need and equity?</i>	Select 'Yes' to the question and complete the follow-up questions including the statement question on your financial hardship or disadvantage.
Personal statements section	
Provide a statement (maximum 250 words) outlining your out-of-home care background.	
Additional information section	
<i>Additional documents</i>	Provide supporting documentation such as proof of residence in a placement or group home, or a support letter from your carer or relevant support agency. It is strongly recommended that you provide supporting documentation to demonstrate your financial hardship. For more information on the types of documentation that may be submitted, please refer to the Terms and Definitions page.

Applicants may apply once through the Scholarship website. Multiple applications for different scholarships are only permitted if additional space is needed for scholarship-specific personal statements.

All questions in the application form must be answered truthfully and to the best of the applicant's knowledge at the time of submission. Applicants are encouraged to complete all written responses in their own words. Submissions that sound personal and draw on real experiences may be viewed more favourably than those that appear to be AI-generated.

Any significant changes to the application must be communicated to the Scholarships Office at scholarships@canberra.edu.au before the closing date. After this date, applications will be assessed based on the original version. Where multiple applications are received for the same scholarship, the most recent submission will be considered.

Selection

The Scholarship Committee will assess applications under the following criteria:

- 50% - Personal statement outlining the applicant's out-of-home care background
- 50% - Financial need (a written statement and supporting evidence)

The Scholarships Office will shortlist eligible applications for consideration by the Committee, which will review and rank them in accordance with the selection criteria of the Scholarship. The Committee's recommendations will be submitted to Director, Student Connect for approval. After the census date, a final eligibility check will be undertaken before confirming the award and arranging payment of funds.

Number of Scholarships

One (1) Scholarship may be awarded each Semester. The Committee reserves the right not to make an award or to make an award at any time to an eligible person.

Value and Tenure of the Scholarship

Each Scholarship is currently valued at \$5,000 and is paid as a one-off payment via electronic funds transfer. Payment will be processed in the next scheduled payment run after the census date once the eligibility has been confirmed.

Enrolment Conditions

The recipient must be enrolled after the census date for the Scholarship to be awarded.

Recipient Conditions

Information relevant to the Scholarship will be shared between the University of Canberra and the Donor for the purpose of administering the Scholarship. The recipient must adhere to the University's policies and procedures and agree to the disclosure of their academic progress to the Donor.

Recipients are encouraged to meet with the Donor and to provide a brief written summary of how the Scholarship assisted them with their studies. Scholarship-related publicity may also be requested from time to time, including interviews and photographs. The University may also publicise the Scholarship by publishing the names of recipients. Arrangements for such publicity will be coordinated through the Scholarships, Advancement or Marketing Office.

The students are also encouraged to sign up for a financial planning session to ensure they can pay the remainder of their fees and engage with a Student Success Coordinator for Student Success Coaching throughout their first year of study.

Concurrent Scholarships

Recipients may not usually be permitted to hold this scholarship concurrently with other scholarships.

Providing False or Misleading Information

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

Deferment

The Scholarship 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](#).

Related Policies, Procedures and Rules

- [Scholarships, Prizes, Medals, and Excellence Awards Policy](#)
- [Scholarships and Prizes Procedure](#)
- [Student Charter](#)
- [Student Conduct Rules](#)