

UC Tertiary Commonwealth Scholarships

Conditions of Award

Purpose of the Scholarship

The UC Tertiary Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in an undergraduate coursework degree at the University of Canberra Bruce Campus.

Scholarship Details

The scholarships are made of two parts which shall be known as:

1. The UC Tertiary Commonwealth Commencement Scholarship
2. The UC Tertiary Commonwealth Continuation Scholarship

These Scholarships are funded by Prime Minister and Cabinet through the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership and Strategy (OATSILS) at the University of Canberra.

Eligibility

The scholarships are open for consideration for students who are:

- Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander;
- Studying an undergraduate degree; and
- Based in a regional, rural, remote area or ACT;

Applicants must provide confirmation of Aboriginality in their applications to be assessed for the scholarships.

Application

Details on how to apply for this Scholarship, including opening and closing dates, will be advertised on the [Scholarship webpage](#). 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.

Current eligible recipients are not required to re-apply for this scholarship during their scholarship term (a maximum of 8 semesters).

Selection

The Selection Committee will consider the following parameters in the application form:

- 50% Demonstrated financial disadvantage
- 50% Engagement with community

The Scholarships Office will prepare a shortlist of applications who meet the criteria and provide this to the Scholarships committee. The Committee reviews applications and ranks these according to the parameters of the scholarship. The Scholarships Office will collate all the information and submit the Committee's recommendations for approval. A final check of eligibility is completed after the census date prior to awarding the Scholarships.

Number of Scholarships

The number of the Scholarship available each year is subject to the number of eligible applications received.

Value and Tenure of the Scholarship

The total value of the Scholarships is valued at a maximum of \$24,000 and is paid out over a maximum of 8 semesters. A part-time rate may apply if a student is enrolled in fewer than 9 credit points in a semester.

- UC Tertiary Commencement Scholarship (1st semester) is valued at \$2,000 [the part-time rate: \$1,000] and is paid via Electronic Funds Transfer as a one-time payment after census date of the Semester in which the scholarship is awarded.
- UC Tertiary Continuation Scholarship (2nd- 8th semesters) is valued at a maximum of \$22,000 (2nd semester: \$4,000 [the part-time rate: \$2,000] and 3rd-8th semesters: \$3,000 [the part-time rate: \$1,500] each) and is paid out via Electronic Funds Transfer as fortnightly stipend payments after census date of each semester following the first one.

Enrolment Conditions

The recipients must meet the following conditions to be paid the Scholarship each semester.

- Must be enrolled after the census date in an undergraduate degree at the University of Canberra.
- Must maintain a pass average, calculated based on the results of the previous semester. Where a student fails to do so, they may be required to show cause, in writing, as to why the scholarships should not be discontinued.

Recipient Conditions

The recipients are encouraged to liaise and meet with the Ngunnawal Centre and provide a brief summary of how the Scholarship assisted them with their studies as directed by the Scholarships team when required.

The Scholarship holder is also encouraged to participate in publicity for the scholarships from time to time.

Scholars may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the Scholarships by publishing the names of the scholars. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through either the UC Scholarships, Advancement or Marketing Office.

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 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 Scholarship cannot be deferred.

Intermission

Intermission is permitted for a maximum of two semesters (either continuous or separate). A recipient who goes on intermission for a third semester may have their scholarship cancelled.

Taxation and Centrelink

The 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](#)

Appendix - Scholarship Glossary of Terms

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders	Applicants for scholarships intended for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students must provide a Confirmation of Aboriginality document. To obtain this document, contact your local indigenous organisation or Lands Council. For further assistance, please contact the Ngunnawal Centre .
Academic Achievement, Academic Merit	Unless otherwise specified in the Conditions of Award, academic achievement is assessed using the Grade Point Average (GPA) for continuing students, and the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent for commencing students.
Commencing students	Commencing students are those in the first semester at the time of scholarship selection.
Disability	Applicants with a disability may be requested to provide documentation verifying their condition as defined under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992 if they are not registered with InclusionUC.
Domestic students	Domestic students are Australian or New Zealand citizens, Australian permanent residents, or holders of an Australian permanent humanitarian visa.
Credit points (CP)	Credit points reflect your study load. You can check your enrolled credit points on your MyUC portal or by viewing Unit Page , where a credit value for each unit is listed.
First-in-Family	First-in-Family students are the first member of their immediate family, including siblings, to attend university.
A former defence service person and an immediate family member of such person	Applicants seeking scholarships for former defence service members or their immediate family will be requested to provide a statutory declaration. Centrelink information may also be used to verify the eligibility.
From a regional, rural and remote area in Australia	Your postcode will be used to confirm whether you are a student from a rural and remote area based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). To qualify, your current or previous postcode must fall under one of the following categories: RA2 (Inter Regional), RA3 (Outer Regional), RA4 (Remote) or RA5 (Very Remote). You can check your classification using the ASGS classification tool .
Full-time/Part-time	You are considered a full-time student if you're enrolled in 9 credit points or more in the relevant semester. If you're enrolled in less than 9 credit points, you are considered as a part-time student.
International students	International students are citizens of a country other than Australia who hold an Australian visa such as a student visa, diplomatic visa, and other types of temporary visas. To be eligible for scholarships, students must be studying onshore.

Postgraduate	Postgraduate study refers to qualifications undertaken after completing an undergraduate degree, such as Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas and Coursework Master's degrees. It does <u>not</u> include Research degrees such as Doctor of Philosophy and Master by Research programs.
Refugee students	Students who hold a permanent refugee or humanitarian visa.
Student residences	The University's student residences include UC Lodge, Weeden Lodge, Cooper Lodge and Campus West. For scholarships requiring applicants living in student accommodation, residency will be verified with UniLodge, who manages these facilities.
Undergraduate	Undergraduate study includes post-secondary education such as Diplomas and Bachelor's degrees. It does <u>not</u> include non-award courses such as bridging and foundation programs.