



Chalk & Behrendt Indigenous Scholarship Conditions

Terms and Conditions

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

The intention of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students studying Law at the University of Newcastle.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your enrolment and academic progress with the University of Newcastle for the duration of the scholarship
- Notify scholarships@newcastle.edu.au of any changes to your circumstances - such as reduced study load, change in program, or withdrawal from study - that may impact your eligibility or rate of payment for this scholarship.
- Agree to send a message to the scholarship donor within two weeks of accepting your offer (as per the instructions in your offer email);
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September).

The total value of this scholarship is up to \$30,000. If the recipient is studying on a full-time basis, the scholarship will be \$7,500 per annum up to a maximum of 4 years. For a student studying on a part time basis, the scholarship will be paid on a pro rata basis. Multi-year scholarships will be paid to recipients for the standard full-time duration of the original degree program, including Honours where applicable.

ESTABLISHMENT

Chalk & Behrendt is one of Australia's leading and largest native title and Aboriginal land rights specialist law firms. The firm is a profit-for-purpose legal and consulting practice with a vision for social justice, inclusion and sustainability and, in particular, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to participate fully in Australian society and its economy on their own terms. For over 30 years, Chalk & Behrendt has worked alongside Indigenous clients to support land rights, governance, economic participation and community development – helping clients pursue their goals and build their own futures.

The firm has established this scholarship because its directors and staff are passionate about supporting the next generation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lawyers.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This scholarship is funded by Chalk & Behrendt.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for this scholarship, you will need to:

- Be enrolled in 2nd, 3rd, 4th or 5th year of Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Combined program or Juris Doctor at the University of Newcastle;
- Demonstrate academic achievement by having a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 for continuing students;
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the university as outlined [here](#).

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

As part of your application, you will need to prepare:

- A personal statement (approx. 1 A4 page) outlining your academic achievements, career aspirations in the relevant area of study, and how this scholarship would assist you. This statement will cover all scholarships you are applying for.

Any applicant that does not submit the required documentation, including documentary evidence, will not be considered for selection.

As part of your application, you will need to agree to the terms and conditions regarding privacy and collection of personal information set out in the Declaration and Authority at the start of your application.

INFORMATION FOR INDIGENOUS-IDENTIFIED SCHOLARSHIPS

This scholarship is specifically identified for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students. To be considered for this scholarship, you'll need to complete a separate process to establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the University.

If you have already established your status, you do not need to complete this process again for scholarships (or any other university supports) as the Scholarships Office will already have the necessary information.

If you are new to this process, you can:

- find out how to establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status by visiting the Wollotuka Institute's [study with us page](#)
- read about the required documents in the [Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander - Establishing Status within the University Procedure](#)

We recommend you get this process underway as soon as you know you want to study with the University of Newcastle.

Important: You do not need to upload documents for establishing status within the scholarship portal.

SELECTION

Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application and any required supporting documents, with reference to the eligibility criteria.

Selection will be made by the Indigenous Selection Panel which will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the Pro Vice-Chancellor – Indigenous Strategy and Leadership.

The Selection Panel will communicate the details of successful recipients to the Scholarships Office, and all applicants will be notified of an outcome via email within 6 weeks of the scholarship application closing date. Where there is only one eligible applicant for a scholarship, the Scholarships Office may award without referral to a selection panel, in consultation with the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

If accepting this scholarship, you agree to the following conditions:

- You will continue to meet all relevant criteria in the [Eligibility section](#) above for the duration of the scholarship, unless [special consideration](#) (see below) is approved.
- If your circumstances change in a way that impacts your eligibility (e.g., change in study load or withdrawal from study), you will notify scholarships@newcastle.edu.au.
- You will remain enrolled in one of the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) combined or Juris Doctor programs for the duration of the scholarship.
- Students enrolled in a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) combined program studying part time or full time may be eligible for this scholarship. Part-time students will be paid at a rate of \$1,875 per semester, up to a maximum of \$30,000 (total scholarship value).
- This scholarship is subject to semester review. Continuation of the scholarship and payment of the scholarship benefit are subject to the scholar maintaining satisfactory academic progress, that is, GPA of 4.0 or higher, and continuing to meet the eligibility criteria of the scholarship.
- Agree to send a message to the scholarship donor within two weeks of accepting your offer, following the instructions in your scholarship offer letter.
- You will be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September) where you may have opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.

BENEFIT

This scholarship is ongoing for the remaining duration of the Bachelor of Laws (Combined), or Juris Doctor program.

The scholarship provides a maximum total benefit of \$30,000 over 4 years fulltime study (pro rata for part-time), provided ongoing eligibility is met for the term of the scholarship.

The scholarship will be paid as a \$3,750 lump sum each semester after the relevant census dates for fulltime study (30 units or more). Students enrolled part-time (10 or 20 units) will receive pro rata payments of \$1,875 each semester.

This scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded. Multi-year scholarships will be paid to recipients for the standard duration of the original degree program, including Honours where applicable.

The scholarship benefit and number of scholarships awarded may vary and will be determined by the funding available each year.

PERIODS OF LEAVE

You may apply in writing to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au for consideration to reserve your scholarship if you are unable to study due to illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstances. An application must be supported by documentary evidence.

Periods of approved leave for the scholarship:

- must not exceed two consecutive semesters of study; and
- will not be counted towards the term of the scholarship.

TERMINATION

Unless terminated earlier, the scholarship will end when the term has expired, and the total benefit has been paid.

The Scholarships Office may terminate the scholarship before the term has expired if:

- The scholarship conditions are not met, including relevant eligibility criteria being maintained.
- The scholar completes study and/or ceases to be a student with the University of Newcastle; or
- The scholar has committed serious misconduct (as determined in accordance with the University's relevant policies and rules).

If the scholarship is terminated early, the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy will be advised and the donor notified.

Ongoing scholarships will not be paid out in full in instances where the recipient completes or discontinues study before the full scholarship term has expired.

If you have provided false or misleading information and as a result you were awarded or continued to receive the scholarship, the scholarship may be stopped, and you may be required to repay any scholarship benefits to which you are not entitled to within 14 days of being requested to do so by the University.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

As a scholarship recipient, if you are unable to meet the conditions of the scholarship due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances, you may apply for special consideration. Please apply by writing to the Scholarships Office via email to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

A decision will be made by Scholarships staff in consultation with the Office of Alumni & Philanthropy.

PRIVACY AND COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

If applying for a donor-funded scholarship, the application or a summary of information provided with the application may be provided to an external donor and/or their representative. This is for the purpose of scholarship selection and otherwise to inform the donor that the terms of the donation are met.

You may be asked by Scholarships staff if you give permission for any short articles or newsletter items to be published. You may have the option to provide a photo, quote or short paragraph about yourself for this.

The University of Newcastle is committed to the protection of your personal information and privacy. The University will only disclose your personal information to the extent necessary for the purpose of the provision of this scholarship (including scholarship selection and assessing ongoing eligibility requirements).

When applying, please review the Declaration and Authority at the start of your application which includes additional information in relation to privacy and the collection of personal information and links to the University of Newcastle [Privacy Management Plan](#), [Web Privacy Statement](#), and [UAC Privacy Policy](#).

The University reserves the right to make amendments to these terms and conditions without prior notice.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFICE

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