



SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

LGBTQIA+ SHAPING FUTURES SCHOLARSHIP

ESSENTIALS

The LGBTQIA+ Shaping Futures Scholarships provide financial assistance to fulltime undergraduate students who identify as LGBTQIA+ and are overcoming educational disadvantage.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your enrolment and academic progress with 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 – which may impact your eligibility for this scholarship,
- Agree to write a message of thanks to the donor via email to Donor-Relations@newcastle.edu.au within 2 weeks of your offer, and
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This is an annual scholarship with a one-off lump sum payment. All applicants, including those who receive an offer, are encouraged to reapply each year.

ESTABLISHMENT

The Shaping Futures Scholarship Fund was established in 2011 with the aim of helping those students who are most in need.

Shaping Futures Scholarships support students who are academically capable but managing studies alongside educational disadvantages such as:

- Carer responsibilities
- English language difficulty
- Financial hardship
- Long term medical condition/ disability or ongoing effects of abuse
- Regional or remote disadvantage
- Sole parent responsibilities
- Additional attributes such as Indigenous Australian or having Refugee status.

It is hoped that the Shaping Futures Scholarships will provide much needed support for students to continue to overcome disadvantage and maintain their achievements.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

These are donor-funded scholarships made possible by generous donations from alumni, donors, businesses and the community, and funds are continually sought via the Shaping Futures Appeal.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate program with University of Newcastle;
- Be enrolled full time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent);
- Identify as LGBTQIA+;
- Demonstrate that your ability to study is affected, or will be affected, by areas of educational disadvantage. These include being a carer and/or sole parent, experiencing financial hardship, a long term medical condition/disability, ongoing effects of abuse, regional or remote disadvantage, or English language difficulty. It also includes attributes of being an Indigenous Australian or having Refugee status.
- Have a GPA of 4.0 or higher if you are a continuing student, or ATAR required for entry to your program if a new student;
- Be an Australian citizen or Permanent Resident, including Humanitarian PR; and
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.

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.
- You *may* be required to provide documents to support your educational disadvantage claims. These will be identified when you apply based on your individual application responses, but you can get an idea of what kinds of documents are required [here](#).

SELECTION

Selection is based on assessment of the scholarship application and suitability for individual scholarships within the Shaping Futures scholarship program. The selection committee will aim to make scholarship offers to students who are assessed as being most in need of support, however will also take into account the applicant's personal statement and any specifications around award of individual 'named' scholarships within this program (such as the area of study or campus location).

Selection will be made by the relevant Faculty Selection Committee or the Multi-Faculty Selection Committee which will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) or the Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellor.

The Selection Committee will communicate the details of successful recipients to the delegated Scholarships Officer, and all applicants notified of an outcome via email. This will usually occur within 6 weeks of the scholarship close date.

For applicants not receiving an offer, this does not mean you have been assessed as ineligible. The number of applications often far exceeds the number of scholarships available so it may mean that other applicants have been assessed as being in greater need of support at this time. Do not let an unsuccessful outcome deter you from applying for other scholarships and reapplying every year you study.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

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

- You will continue to meet relevant eligibility criteria (see the section titled "Eligibility" above) for the duration of the scholarship, unless special consideration is approved (see below).
- If your circumstances change in a way that impacts your eligibility (eg, change in study load or withdrawal from study), you agree to notify scholarships@newcastle.edu.au.

- You agree to write a letter of thanks to the donor via email to Donor-Relations@newcastle.edu.au within 2 weeks of accepting your offer. You will be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around September) where you may have opportunity to meet with donors and/or their representatives

BENEFIT

This scholarship is annual and must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded. All applicants are encouraged to reapply each year.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$4000, to be paid as a lump sum. Payment will be after semester one census date, usually in April.

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

PERIODS OF LEAVE

This scholarship does not provide a period of leave or deferral.

TERMINATION

A scholarship will be finalised when the tenure is completed and full payment has been made. Early termination of the scholarship may apply if:

- The scholarship conditions are not met, including relevant eligibility criteria maintained;
- The scholar completes study and/or ceases to be a student with University of Newcastle;
- The scholar has committed serious misconduct.

When early termination is required, the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy will be advised and undertake the most appropriate action in consultation with the Donor/Sponsor and Student Central.

Ongoing scholarships will not be paid out in full in instances where the recipient completes study before the full scholarship tenure has passed.

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 Officer via email to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

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

PRIVACY

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 the Scholarships Officer if you give permission for any short articles or newsletter items to be published. You may have the option to provide a photo, quote and 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.

Established: 2016

Revised: November 2019