



Shamila, Ravendra and Roneal Naidu Scholarship

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your full-time 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 – 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 accepting your offer, and
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This scholarship is ongoing for the remaining length of the program (including Honours, if applicable) up to a maximum term of 4 years provided ongoing eligibility.

ESTABLISHMENT

This scholarship was established by Shamila and Ravendra Naidu in memory of their only child, the late Dr Roneal Naidu.

As a medical doctor, Roneal knew many patients and fellow health carers who had dreams for their children's success in life, although they often lacked the resources to achieve this.

With his early departure from life, this scholarship aims to deliver Roneal's vision, as well as that of his parents Shamila and Ravendra Naidu.

Born in Fiji and migrating to Australia, the family knows well the hard work and commitment it takes to achieve success on limited resources.

Shamila and Ravendra hope that this scholarship will provide students facing similar challenges with the opportunity, through higher education, to build a platform for their future success, independence, and the fulfillment of their dreams.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from Shamila and Ravendra Naidu.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate degree program with the University of Newcastle.
- Be enrolled full-time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent).
- 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, out-of-home care, regional or remote disadvantage, or English language difficulty. It also includes attributes of being an Indigenous Australian or having Refugee status.
- Demonstrate academic progress either by the Australian Tertiary Rank (ATAR) or equivalent required for entry for commencing students or a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 for continuing students.
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident (including New Zealand Permanent Residents) or have refugee status.
- 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. This statement will cover all scholarships you are submitting for.
- 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](#).

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.

Applicants for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-specific scholarship opportunities are required to provide evidence to support their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage. For more information about this process please see the [Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander - Establishing Status Within the University Procedure](#) and [Policy](#).

SELECTION

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

Preference will be given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Selection will be automated based on the highest equity score of applicants above the academic requirement threshold.

All applicants will be notified of an outcome via email. This will occur within 6 weeks of the scholarship application closing date.

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 (e.g., 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 the opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.

BENEFIT

This scholarship is ongoing for the remaining length of the program up to a maximum term of 4 years provided ongoing eligibility. This scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$32,000 over the full 4-year tenure provided ongoing eligibility for the term of the scholarship.

The scholarship will be paid \$4000 each semester after the relevant census dates (usually in April and September).

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

A decision will be made by Student Central 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 the 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFICER

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