



Singapore Alumni Scholarship

ESSENTIALS

The Singapore Alumni Scholarship provides financial assistance to fulltime and academically achieving undergraduate students who are overcoming educational disadvantage.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your full-time enrolment and academic progress with a GPA of 5.0 or higher for the duration of the scholarship.
- Agree to the essay requirement for this scholarship and provide this within 3 weeks of acceptance to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au.
- 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 scholarship is for a term of one year, however recipients are able to apply for 'follow on' scholarships in future years of study.

ESTABLISHMENT

The Singapore Alumni Scholarship was established in 2011 by a committee of Singapore Alumni, chaired by Dr Peter Tay. This Singapore Alumni Scholarship Committee initiated fund-raising from Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents who studied at the University of Newcastle. It is the intent that these scholarships be used to assist gifted students who are overcoming adversity to study at the University of Newcastle.

To be eligible for this scholarship, students must be academically gifted but are also facing hardship from factors such as being from a low socio-economic background, coming from a rural or remote area, living with disabilities, or carer and/or parenting responsibilities.

Donations for this Singapore Alumni Scholarship have come from Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents who are UON Alumni. These individuals take great pride in the achievements of Singapore and value their relationship with UON. They hope that this Scholarship will further strengthen the relationship between Singapore and Australia. The University of Newcastle expects beneficiaries of this Scholarship to respect the values and aspirations of those who have made this very generous donation.

The history of the Singapore Alumni Scholarships would not be complete without a special mention of UON alumnus and generous donor, Dr Peter Tay, who was instrumental in the establishment, governance and fundraising of the Singapore Alumni Scholarship Fund that supports these scholarships. Peter showed exceptional leadership with his peer-to-peer fundraising efforts and from 2011 until today, Peter has tirelessly rallied his fellow Singapore alumni from UON to donate towards the Fund. After three fund-raising campaigns, the Singapore Alumni Scholarship Fund needed A\$170,000 to reach its target. Peter spearheaded a Golden Jubilee campaign, as part of the 50th anniversary of the University in 2015. That goal was achieved and surpassed, and the fund

has now reached over A\$500,000 and can support at least five students each year. Peter continues to consistently update his fellow Singapore Alumni on the Fund, showing them the impact that their donations is making to students in need.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate degree program at the University of Newcastle.
- Be enrolled full-time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent).
- Demonstrate the impact of educational disadvantages such as carer and sole parent responsibilities, financial hardship, long-term medical condition, a disability, the ongoing effects of abuse, regional/remote disadvantage, and English language difficulty.
- Equity scholarships will also consider applicant attributes such as being an Indigenous Australian, having a Refugee background, or placement with an Out-of-Home Care provider.
- Demonstrate academic achievement of an ATAR75 or GPA of 5.0 or higher (depending on your year of study).
- If successful, be willing to submit an essay of approximately 400 words on Singapore and one or more aspects of its people, economy, geography, history, culture, political system, etc. The essay shall focus on the student's field of study, demonstrate analysis or critical thinking, and be of an acceptable standard.
- Not be the recipient of another UON Donor funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation must be submitted with the scholarship application:

- A written statement (approx. 1 A4 page) outlining your academic achievements, your experience of financial hardship, career aspirations in the relevant area of study, and discussion of 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.

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

SELECTION

Selection is based on assessment of the scholarship application and suitability for the individual scholarship.

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

Successful recipients will be communicated to by 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.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

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

- The scholarship is tenable for one year. The scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- You will continue to meet relevant eligibility criteria for the duration of the scholarship unless special consideration is approved (see below).
- The successful recipient/s will provide **the required essay within (3) weeks** of notification of scholarship offer in a MS Word document sent to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au . The essay will be of a suitable

academic standard and properly referenced. Scholars agree that the essay is their own work and no part of it has been generated and/or copied from generative AI Tools.

- 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 will not be required by the donor or the university to undertake employment as a condition of award of this scholarship.
- You agree to write a letter of thanks to the donor via email to Donor-Relations@newcastle.edu.au within two weeks of receiving your scholarship.
- You will aim to be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around September) where you may have the opportunity to meet with the donors of your scholarship.

BENEFIT

The scholarship currently provides a total benefit of \$5,000 paid following the census date in the year of award.

PERIODS OF LEAVE

A scholar may apply in writing to reserve the scholarship benefit because of illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances. An application must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence. Periods of approved leave or deferral must not exceed two consecutive semesters of study and shall not reduce the tenure of the scholarship. All applications for periods of leave must be submitted to the Scholarships Office within the affected semester of study.

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.

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 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

Student and Academic Administration
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Email: scholarships@newcastle.edu.au

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