



SCHOLARSHIP TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DOWNER EMPOWERING WOMEN IN STEM SCHOLARSHIP

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

The intention of this scholarship is to support women studying STEM-related degrees who face regional and remote disadvantages.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship you will:

- 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 send a thank-you message to the scholarship donor within two weeks of accepting your offer, following the instructions in your scholarship offer letter
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September).

This scholarship is for a term of one year with a total benefit of \$5000.

ESTABLISHMENT

Downer has been enabling communities to thrive in the Hunter for more than 100 years. As the Hunter region diversifies towards a clean energy future, Downer will be part of the journey – partnering with industry to support the transition, whilst enabling regional communities to thrive.

Recognising the value in higher education and keeping skills and knowledge in the Hunter region, the Downer scholarship has been established to:

- Develop and attract the advanced skills that will be needed in the future technology-led utilities sector and energy transition
- Support regional students financially while encouraging them to pursue a career in a STEM-related industry
- Provide students with an opportunity to participate in professional development at Downer
- Promote Downer's support for education pathways and our commitment to working towards improving the social, environmental and economic well-being of the Hunter and NSW.

Downer is looking for students who reflect its values of Safety & Sustainability, Delivery, Relationships and Thought Leadership.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from the Downer Group.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate degree in Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics at the University of Newcastle
- Be intending to study on a full-time basis (minimum 60 units per year).
- Have met entry requirements if a new student; or maintained a minimum GPA of 4.0 if you are a continuing student (please note you do not need to provide evidence of this as we will use University reporting)
- Be female
- Demonstrate that your ability to study is or will be affected by a regional or remote disadvantage
- Preference will be given to students who reside in the Upper Hunter, Maitland, Lake Macquarie or Newcastle electorates, particularly those who can demonstrate a strong connection to their community and have an interest in pursuing a career in the region
- Be an Australian Citizen
- 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 (no more than 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.
- 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.

SELECTION

Selection for this scholarship does not require a review by a selection panel, however is highly competitive and based on a thorough assessment of each application, considering both the eligibility criteria and the applicant's demonstrated educational disadvantage.

The Scholarships Officer will assess applications in the following order of priority:

- Fulfillment of all eligibility criteria.
- Evidence of educational disadvantage.
- Academic merit (may be considered where relevant).

Once a recipient is selected, Scholarships staff will recommend the awardee to the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy for final approval.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome via email within six weeks of the scholarship application closing date.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

If you accept 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.
- Agree to send a thank-you 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 the opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.

BENEFIT

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$5,000 for a term of 1 year, provided ongoing eligibility for the term of the scholarship is met.

The scholarship will be paid as \$2,500 each semester. Payment will generally be made 2-3 weeks following the relevant census dates.

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 or sponsor 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 scholarship payments, 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 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 and 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 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 a 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

Student and Academic Administration
University of Newcastle
University Drive
CALLAGHAN NSW 2308

Phone: +61 2 4921 5000
Email: scholarships@newcastle.edu.au

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