



Friends of the University Environmental Sustainability Scholarship in STEM

Terms and Conditions

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

The intention of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a student enrolled in an undergraduate STEM program with a focus on Environmental Sustainability 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 for this scholarship.
- Agree to send a thank-you 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 \$5,000 for a term of 1 year.

ESTABLISHMENT

The Friends of the University were established in 1981 to foster an awareness of the university and its place in the community, and to conduct activities including fundraising that promote the interests of the university. Since that time, via their biennial book fair, the Friends have raised over \$1,000,000 and contributed towards scholarships, art works, music, rare books, infrastructure and more.

The Friends of the University have a wonderfully long history with the university, and it is through their continued fundraising efforts and their belief in wanting to provide students with opportunities for financial support that the Friends fund a whole suite of scholarships across the various areas of University of Newcastle.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This scholarship is funded by the Friends of the University.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of an undergraduate STEM degree program that has a focus on Environmental Sustainability within the College of Engineering, Science and Environment at the University of Newcastle;
- Have the ATAR (or equivalent) required for entry to your program if a new student, or a minimum GPA of 4.0 if you are a continuing student. Please note that you do not need to provide evidence of this as we will use University reporting;
- Demonstrate that your ability to study is affected, or will be affected, by educational disadvantage such as carer or sole parent responsibilities, financial hardship, a long-term medical condition or disability, the ongoing effects of abuse, regional/remote disadvantage or applicant attributes such as being an Indigenous Australian, having a Refugee background, or placement with an Out-of-Home Care (OOHC) provider. More information about the circumstances you can claim and the associated documentation requirements is available on UAC's [equity scholarship categories and supporting documents](#) page. To view the process for establishing your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status visit the Wollotuka Institute's [study with us](#) page;
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently;
- This scholarship is open to both full-time and part-time students;
- This scholarship is open to both domestic (Australian/New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents) and international students

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.
- You may be required to provide documents supporting your educational disadvantage claim(s) – document requirements (if any) will be identified when you apply based on your scholarships application responses, but to get an idea of what kinds of documents are required please see UAC's [equity scholarship categories and supporting documents page](#).

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 Office 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 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.
- The scholarship is tenable for 1 year and must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- You will remain enrolled in an eligible program for the duration of the 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.
- 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 provides a total benefit of \$5,000, paid as a lump sum in Semester 1.

Payment is typically received 2–3 weeks after the census date, or 2–3 weeks after you accept your offer if the census date has already passed.

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

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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