



SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

McNair Foundation Indigenous Scholarship

ESSENTIALS

The **McNair Foundation Indigenous Scholarship** will provide reward, recognition and financial assistance to an Indigenous student studying an eligible undergraduate program.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain full time (minimum 30 units per semester) enrolment and academic progress with a GPA of 4.0 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 scholarship offer.
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This is an ongoing scholarship for a maximum of 3 years of your undergraduate program, including Honours.

ESTABLISHMENT

The McNair Foundation Indigenous Scholarship was established by the McNair Charitable Foundation in 2019 to support Indigenous students to complete their undergraduate studies at the University of Newcastle.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year (including Honours) of an undergraduate program offered by the College of Medicine, Health and Wellbeing, OR an Education program within the School of Education.
- Be enrolled full time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent).
- Demonstrate academic progress either by the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent required for entry for commencing students, or a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 for continuing students.
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the university as outlined here.
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.
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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.
- Documents for establishing Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status with UON. Please see list of accepted documents here: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/establishing-status-docs>
- Any applicant that does not submit the required documentation, including documentary evidence, will not be considered for selection.

SELECTION

Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application and any required supporting documents. The Selection Committee will take into account prior academic achievement, community leadership, and involvement with extra-curricular activities.

Selection will be made by the Indigenous Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Strategy and Leadership.

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

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

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

- You will continue to meet relevant eligibility criteria for the duration of the scholarship, unless special consideration is approved (see below). This includes ongoing full time enrolment in an eligible program and maintaining a minimum GPA of 4.0.
- 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 will not be required by the donor or the university to undertake employment as a condition of award of this scholarship, but are encouraged to participate in learning experiences and opportunities to engage provided within this scholarship program.
- 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 may also provide contact details and permission for them to contact you regarding the industry opportunities associated with this scholarship.
- 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 ongoing for up to 3 years provided ongoing eligibility is maintained and must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$30,000 over a 3 year tenure.

The scholarship currently provides a benefit of \$10,000 per annum to be paid as two lump sums of \$5,000 after Semester One and Semester Two 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

A scholar may apply in writing to reserve or defer of 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.

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 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 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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Revised: