ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SCHOLARSHIP

ESSENTIALS
This scholarship aims to support an outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate student. If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

• Maintain your full time enrolment in our program as well as 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 offer, and
• Be available to engage with The Wollotuka Institute and to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This scholarship will support you for the remaining standard duration of a single degree program, to a maximum of 4 years.

ESTABLISHMENT
The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship was established through contributions from the University, industry donors, community organisations and the annual Reconciliation Scholarship Dinner Dance.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT
These are donor-funded scholarships made possible by funds raised within the university, the community, and the Reconciliation Scholarship Dinner Dance.

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

• Be enrolled in any year of any undergraduate program with University of Newcastle;
• Be enrolled full time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent);
• Have achieved the required admission rank for your program and, for continuing students, have a GPA of 4.0 or higher;
• Identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and be recognised as such by your community;
• 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.
• Documents for establishing Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status within the University of Newcastle. Please see a list of accepted documents here.

• You will also have the option to provide documents evidencing your community leadership accomplishments and academic achievements during the application.

**SELECTION**

Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application, academic merit, and any required supporting documents.

Selection will be made by the Wollotuka Selection Committee which 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 usually 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 (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 2 weeks of accepting your offer.

• You agree to engage with The Wollotuka Institute on a regular basis and 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**

The scholarship provides a benefit of $10,000 annually. This will be paid as $5000 after semester one and two census dates, usually in April and September.

The scholarship is ongoing for the remaining standard duration of your program with a maximum tenure up to 4 years.

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 shall not reduce the tenure of the scholarship.

**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. This includes consideration for periods of part-time study. Please apply by via email to the Scholarships Officer 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 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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