



SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

THE MAHRAKHAH ABORIGINAL MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

This scholarship was established by The Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to provide financial assistance to fulltime undergraduate students achieving academic excellence.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your full-time 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 – 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 accepting your offer, and
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This scholarship provides a total benefit of \$16,000 over a term of 4 years.

ESTABLISHMENT

This scholarship was established by The Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (ADTOAC). ADTOAC is a not for profit charitable organisation that was started by the direct descendants of Mahrahkah, a traditional Awabakal woman from the Newcastle and Lake Macquarie region. ADTOAC facilitates and promotes a greater respect and understanding for Awabakal Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (including Artwork, Language, Customs and Beliefs, Sacred and Significant Sites) through education of the wider community. They have the ability to sponsor activities for the purpose of facilitating the educational prospects of Aboriginal People that will see outcomes that benefit the wider community.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from The Awabakal Descendants Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (ADTOAC).

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in 2nd year of a Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine in the Faculty of Health and Medicine with the University of Newcastle;
- Demonstrate satisfactory progression through your degree with no failed units;
- Identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and be recognised as such your community; and
- 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 with University of Newcastle and a written reference made by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community member. Please see list of accepted documents [here](#).
- You will also have the option to provide up to 3 documents which show your commitment to leadership within your community, such as a reference, proof of volunteering and community activities, leadership panel or club membership, articles or publications.
- Optional -Up to 3 documents which demonstrate your academic achievement, such as awards and acknowledgements, participation in enrichment and travel programs or internships, academic competitions or challenges, your portfolio and/or cv.

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.

Each document requested must evidence at least one of the eligibility criteria under clause A written statement/essay is to be no more than 2 x A4 pages (unless stated otherwise) excluding documentary evidence.

SELECTION

Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application and any required supporting documents, with reference to the eligibility criteria.

Selection will be made by the Indigenous Selection Panel which will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the PVC, which may include an external donor representative. Interviews may be arranged, if required.

The Selection Panel 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 application closing date.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

If accepting 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 (eg, change in study load or withdrawal from study), you agree to notify scholarships@newcastle.edu.au.
- 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 will be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around September) where you may have opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.
- 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.

BENEFIT

This scholarship is ongoing for up to 4 years and provides a total benefit of \$16,000, provided ongoing eligibility is maintained.

This is paid as \$4000 each year, with an instalment of \$2,000 after Semester 1 and Semester 2 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/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 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 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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