



SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

Gardner Cavanagh Scholarship for Indigenous Students

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The intention of this scholarship is to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students facing educational disadvantage at the University of Newcastle.

If you accept 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 – 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 for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

This is an ongoing scholarship with a total value of up to \$25,000.

ESTABLISHMENT

This scholarship was established by Ms Jann Gardner and Mr Tony Cavanagh to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students facing educational disadvantage. After the failure of the Voice referendum, Jann and Tony decided to do something practical to help close the gap by assisting First Nations students, who may not otherwise get the opportunity, to fulfil their potential through the power of a university education.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from Ms Jann Gardner and Mr Tony Cavanagh.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in first year of an eligible undergraduate program with the University of Newcastle.
- Be enrolled in one of the following eligible programs:
 - B Renewable Energy Engineering (Honours)
 - B Climate Science and Adaptation
 - B Coastal and Marine Science
 - B Environmental Science and Management
 - B Environmental Engineering (Honours)
 - B Electrical and Electronic Engineering (Honours)
 - B Laws (Honours) Combined
 - B Criminology / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Business / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Arts / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Social Science / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Communication / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Commerce / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Biomedicine / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Psychological Science / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Science / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Media and Communication / B Laws (Honours)
 - B Laws (Honours) / Diploma of Legal Practice
 - B Development Studies / B Laws (Honours)
- Be enrolled full-time (min 30 units per semester or equivalent).
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the university as outlined here.
- Have the ATAR required for entry to your program if a new student; or a GPA of 4.0 if you are a continuing student.
- Not hold another University of Newcastle donor-funded or sponsored scholarship concurrently.

Preference will be given to applicants:

- Studying eligible programs relating to Renewable Energy and STEM.
- From a rural or remote area, particularly those with high schools participating in the [Connected Communities Strategy](#).

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.
- 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 and will be consistent with assessments currently undertaken with the University Admissions Centre (UAC). You can get an idea of the types of disadvantage and documents required [here](#).

SELECTION

Selection is based on an assessment of the scholarship application. The selection committee will aim to make scholarship offers to students who are assessed as being most in need of support, however, will also consider the applicant's personal statement.

Selection will be made by the Indigenous Selection Panel which will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the Pro Vice-Chancellor – Indigenous Strategy and Leadership and may include a donor representative.

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

For applicants not receiving an offer, this does not mean you have been assessed as ineligible. The number of applications often far exceeds the number of scholarships available so it may mean that other applicants have been assessed as being in greater need of support at this time. Do not let an unsuccessful outcome deter you from applying for other scholarships and reapplying every year you study.

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 (e.g., 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 the opportunity to meet with donors and/or their representatives.

BENEFIT

This scholarship is an annual lump sum payment of \$5,000 for the duration of your degree (up to five years) and must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of up to \$25,000. Paid after the relevant census dates (usually in April and September).

The scholarship benefit and number of scholarships awarded may vary and will be determined by the funding available each year.

The scholar will have the opportunity to participate in non-compulsory mentoring opportunities with the donor where they can seek advice and guidance on navigating university, studying, professional development etc.

PERIODS OF LEAVE

This scholarship does not provide a period of leave or deferral.

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 the University of Newcastle; or
- 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 their 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 scholarships@newcastle.edu.au. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

A decision will be made in consultation with the Office of Alumni & Philanthropy.

PRIVACY

If applying for a donor-funded scholarship, the application or a summary of the 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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