



# SHAPING FUTURES POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

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## BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

Shaping Futures Scholarships provide financial assistance to postgraduate coursework students overcoming educational disadvantage.

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](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au) of any changes to your circumstances - such as 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](mailto: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 is an annual scholarship with a one-off lump sum payment. All applicants, including those who receive an offer, are encouraged to reapply each year.

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## ESTABLISHMENT

From 2021, the Shaping Futures Postgraduate Scholarship will support postgraduate coursework students, alongside our undergraduate students supported by the Shaping Futures Scholarship, to overcome adversity and educational disadvantage.

These scholarships support students who are academically capable but managing studies alongside educational disadvantages such as:

- Carer responsibilities
- English language difficulty
- Financial hardship
- Long term medical condition/ disability or ongoing effects of abuse
- Regional or remote disadvantage
- Sole parent responsibilities
- Out of home care experience
- Additional attributes such as Indigenous Australian or having Refugee status.

It is hoped that the Shaping Futures Postgraduate Scholarships will provide much needed support for students to continue study and reach their future goals.

## FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from multiple donors.

## ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of a postgraduate coursework degree program with the University of Newcastle where the majority of delivery is on-campus;
- Be enrolled in a minimum of 20 units in the term of scholarship award;
- Demonstrate that your ability to study is affected, or will be affected, by areas of educational disadvantage. These include being a carer and/or sole parent, experiencing financial hardship, a long term medical condition/disability, ongoing effects of abuse, regional or remote disadvantage, out of

home care experience, or English language difficulty. It also includes attributes of being an Indigenous Australian or having Refugee status;

- Be residing in Australia for the duration of your degree;
- 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.
- 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 committee or club membership, articles or publications.
- 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, but you can get an idea of what kinds of documents are required [here](#).

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 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.

Award of the named Shaping Futures Postgraduate Scholarships may take specific donor wishes into account.

The **Professor Alan Roberts Shaping Futures Postgraduate Scholarships in Engineering** (if advertised) are for students enrolled on campus in a minimum of 20 units in the Master of Professional Engineering program.

The **Central Coast Campus Union Postgraduate Shaping Future Scholarships** (if advertised) are open to students who are either:

- enrolled in a postgraduate coursework degree through a University of Newcastle Central Coast Campus, or
- enrolled in a postgraduate coursework degree at any University of Newcastle campus, having completed a bachelor degree through a University of Newcastle Central Coast Campus.

Selection will be made by the Multi Faculty Selection Panel which will consist of a minimum of three members chosen by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, 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](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au).
- You agree to write a letter of thanks to the donor via email to [Donor-Relations@newcastle.edu.au](mailto: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.

## **BENEFIT**

This scholarship is a one-off lump sum payment for a term of one year. This scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$5000 to be paid as a lump sum after the relevant census date in the term of award.

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.

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](mailto: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**

Student Services Centre  
University of Newcastle  
University Drive  
CALLAGHAN NSW 2308

Phone: +61 2 4921 5000

Fax: +61 2 4921 5759

Email: [scholarships@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au)

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