



UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE ACADEMIC HIGH PERFORMERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

ESTABLISHMENT

The University of Newcastle Academic High Performers Scholarship Program recognises the exceptional achievements and outstanding dedication of the high-achieving applicants, across a range of cohorts, who are commencing their first undergraduate degree with the University of Newcastle.

This scholarship program is available to high-performing applicants, providing financial support of \$10,000 each year for the standard duration of the degree (3-5 years) as well as opportunities for formal recognition by the Vice-Chancellor and access to leadership training and academic mentoring programs within your College.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a university-funded scholarship from the Office of the Vice-Chancellor.

ELIGIBILITY - GENERAL

To be eligible for an offer of this scholarship, you will need to:

- Be commencing in any undergraduate degree with the University of Newcastle.
- Be a Year 12 School Leaver, having completed secondary school in the year prior to commencing your degree OR have completed a University of Newcastle enabling program in the year prior to commencing your degree.
- Be studying full time (min 40 units per semester or equivalent).
- Have achieved the applicable minimum admission rank.
- Not hold a concurrent scholarship of equal or higher annual value.
- Not have previously received this scholarship.
- Have satisfied any additional eligibility criteria outlined below.

The scholarship has 5 categories of eligibility:

1. ELIGIBILITY - INDIGENOUS YEAR 12 SCHOOL LEAVERS

- One scholarship is available in this category.
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the university as outlined here.
- Have achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent interstate senior secondary admission rank of greater than 95.00, not including adjustment factors.
- Have received an offer in the main school leaver admission round.

2. ELIGIBILITY – YEAR 12 SCHOOL LEAVERS

- Nine scholarships are available in this category.
- Have achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent interstate senior secondary admission rank of 99.00 or higher, not including adjustment factors.
- Have received an offer of admission in, or before, the main school leaver admission round.

3. ELIGIBILITY - EARLY ENTRY PROGRAM AND SCHOOLS RECOMMENDATION SCHEME

- Six scholarships are available in this category.
- Have performed in Year 11 at an outstanding level commensurate with an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 99.0 or higher.
- Have received an offer via the University of Newcastle Early Entry Program round and/or the Schools Recommendation Scheme (depending on available scholarships).
- Offers not taken up via the Early Entry Program may be reallocated to applicants receiving an offer via the Schools Recommendation Scheme.

4. ELIGIBILITY - REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DUX

- Three scholarships are available in this category.
- Have been recognised as Dux by your regional or remote High School in the year prior to commencing university study
- Have achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent interstate senior secondary admission rank of 95.00 or higher, not including adjustment factors.
- Have completed the appropriate application and provided confirmation of Dux status.

5. ELIGIBILITY - ENABLING TO UNDERGRADUATE

- One scholarship is available in this category.
- Have demonstrated outstanding performance in enabling programs by attaining a selection rank of 95.0 or higher (equivalent to an average Enabling mark of 97 or higher).
- Have received an offer in the main enabling to undergraduate admission round.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- To be considered for the INDIGENOUS YEAR 12 SCHOOL LEAVERS scholarship, applicants must provide evidence of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage.
- To be considered for the REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DUX scholarship, applicants must provide evidence that they have been awarded Dux or are the top-ranked student of their Year 12 cohort at their High School, such as a certificate or letter from their school.

SELECTION - GENERAL

With the exception of the Regional High School Dux Scholarship, no application is required for this scholarship as selection is based on your EARLY ENTRY or UAC admissions application/s.

Selection is based on academic merit as determined by the rank used for your admission to the University of Newcastle. Selection may preference students relocating from rural areas within the University of Newcastle preference area.

Offers will be sent following the relevant admission round.

If the number of eligible candidates exceeds the number of available scholarships, selection may consider (in order):

- Academic merit (ATAR/Selection rank).
- Locality, with preference being given to students relocating from regional and rural areas of Australia.
- The University may use a process of moderation to seek a distribution amongst the Colleges/disciplines.
- Recommendation from the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Experience, and Academic Registrar to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

Where no applicants satisfy the minimum academic eligibility criteria, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) may recommend that the scholarship be awarded to an applicant within 3 points of the required selection rank.

The number of offers made may consider enrolment projections.

Offers will be endorsed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

SELECTION - REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DUX

Applications for this scholarship must be submitted along with the required supporting documents online by the advertised application close date.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

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

- The scholarship is ongoing for the standard, full-time duration of your program (3 to a maximum of 5 years).
- 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). Relevant eligibility and ongoing academic achievement will be reviewed each semester prior to payment.
- If you are transferring out of the program for which the scholarship was awarded, you agree to contact scholarships@newcastle.edu.au to discuss any impact on the duration of your scholarship eligibility. In some instances, transferring programs may impact your scholarship duration.
- Full-time enrolment must be maintained for the duration of the scholarship (minimum 30 units per semester).
- You must maintain academic progress with a minimum GPA of 6.0 (a Distinction average) for the duration of the scholarship. If a program is ungraded, successful completion of all enrolled units with no failed courses is required.
- 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

BENEFIT

This scholarship is ongoing for the standard duration of the program for which it was awarded (3 years up to a maximum term of 5 years) and provided ongoing eligibility is maintained. Eligibility for the scholarship will be reviewed each semester.

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$30,000 to \$50,000 depending on the duration of your program.

The scholarship will be paid as \$5000 each semester, paid after the relevant census dates with payment usually finalised in April and September.

This scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it is awarded.

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 unless approved under Special Consideration provisions (see below).

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 to continue receiving and/or reserve your scholarship for a period. Please apply by writing to the Scholarships Officer via email at scholarships@newcastle.edu.au. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

Applications for Special Consideration will be approved by the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Student Experience, and Academic Registrar.

TERMINATION

Unless terminated earlier, the scholarship will end when the term has expired, and the total benefit has been paid.

The University 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 their 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).

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 within 14 days of being requested to do so by the University.

PRIVACY AND COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

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).

Please review 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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