



# Margaret Crawshaw Schmidt Winter Research Scholarship

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## BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

The intention of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a student who has demonstrated an interest in undertaking a winter research project with the Solar and Exoplanet Research Group.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Notify [scholarships@newcastle.edu.au](mailto: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 send a thank-you message to the scholarship donor within two weeks of accepting your offer, following the instructions in your scholarship offer letter, and
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week events (usually around September).

The total value of this scholarship is \$5,000 for one year.

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## ESTABLISHMENT

Are you fascinated by the mysteries of the universe? The Margaret Crawshaw Schmidt Winter Research Scholarship is your chance to dive into real astrophysics, gaining experience with leading scientists in cutting-edge topics like solar/stellar interiors, flares, winds, and exoplanet atmospheres. Interested students should talk to a member of staff to discuss possible projects prior to making an application.

## FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship from the Margaret Crawshaw Schmidt bequest.

## ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of an undergraduate degree at the University of Newcastle.
- Be intending to study on a full-time basis (minimum 60 units per year)
- Have a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 6.0 or higher.
- Be an Australian citizen, permanent resident (includes New Zealand permanent residents) and/or an international student
- 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 300-word statement outlining your motivation to undertake a research project during the Midyear Session. The research project must fall within astrophysics, eg solar/stellar interiors, flares, winds, and exoplanet atmospheres. All interested students should discuss their proposed research project with a member of the solar and exoplanet research group prior to applying.
- A personal statement (no more than 1 A4 page) outlining your academic achievements, career aspirations in the relevant area of study, and how this scholarship would assist you. This statement will cover **all** scholarships you are applying for.

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.

Selection will be made by three Academic members of staff from the University's Solar and Exoplanet Research Group.

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.

## CONDITIONS OF AWARD

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

- You will undertake your proposed research project during the Winter Session in the year that you are awarded the scholarship.
- 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](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au).
- Agree to send a thank-you message to the scholarship donor within two weeks of accepting your offer, following the instructions in your scholarship offer letter.
- You will be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September) where you may have opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.

## BENEFIT

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$5,000 up to a maximum 1 year tenure provided ongoing eligibility is met for the term of the scholarship.

The scholarship will be paid as a lump sum of \$5000 after the Midyear Session census date.

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](mailto: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 Philanthropy will be advised and the donor or 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 scholarship payments, 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.

## **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 and 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 a 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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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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