



CSIRO Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Energy Transition Scholarship

Terms and Conditions

Background and Summary of Key Conditions

The intention of this scholarship is to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to pursue studies that support Australia's energy transition.

If accepting an offer of this scholarship, you will:

- Maintain your enrolment in an eligible program 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 - that 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 (as per the instructions in your offer email);
- Be available for a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September).

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$75,000, paid as \$15,000 per annum (\$7,500 each semester) for the duration of the scholarship provided ongoing eligibility is met. The scholarship may be awarded for a maximum of five years and will be capped at the standard duration of the recipient's original degree, including Honours where applicable.

Funding Arrangement

This scholarship is funded by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Establishment

The CSIRO Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Energy Transition Scholarship has been established to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to undertake study at the University of Newcastle in disciplines that contribute to Australia's energy transition. The scholarship is open to students across a broad range of study areas, including (but not limited to) engineering and technical disciplines, environmental science, mathematics, data science and policy.

This scholarship acknowledges that the transition to a sustainable energy future requires diverse skills, knowledge and perspectives. It recognises the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach and values the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems in addressing complex energy challenges, encouraging applications from students whose studies align with these evolving needs.

Eligibility

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

- Be enrolled in your first or second year of an eligible program (including combined programs) with the University of Newcastle. Eligible programs include:
 - Bachelor of Chemical Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Computer Science
 - Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Design (Architecture)
 - Bachelor of Development Studies
 - Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Environmental Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Environmental Science and Management
 - Bachelor of Information Technology
 - Bachelor of Mathematics (including advanced program)
 - Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Mechatronics Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Renewable Energy Engineering (Honours)
 - Bachelor of Science
 - Bachelor of Social Science
 - Bachelor of Software Engineering (Honours)
- Be enrolled on a part-time or full-time basis;
- Have a minimum GPA of 4.0 if you are a continuing student, or ATAR (or equivalent) required for entry to your program if a new student;
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status per the process outlined on the Wollotuka Institute's [study with us page](#);
- Be an Australian citizen or an Australian permanent resident (including holders of a permanent humanitarian visa and New Zealand citizens with permanent residency);
- Not have previously received this scholarship;
- 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 a scholarship would assist you. This statement will cover **all** scholarships you are submitting for.
- An outline of your interest in the scholarship and aspiration to contribute to Australia's energy transition.
- Option to provide up to 3 documents which demonstrate your academic achievements, such as awards, participation in enrichment and travel programs or internships, academic competitions, portfolio or cv. Transcripts are not required for UON students

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.

Information for Indigenous-Identified Applicants

This scholarship is specifically identified for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students. To be considered for this scholarship, you'll need to complete a separate process to establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity and heritage with the University.

If you have already established your status, you do not need to complete this process again for scholarships (or any other university supports) as the Scholarships Office will already have the necessary information.

If you are new to this process, you can:

- find out how to establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status by visiting the Wollotuka Institute's [study with us page](#)
- read about the required documents in the [Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander - Establishing Status within the University Procedure](#)

We recommend you get this process underway as soon as you know you want to study with the University of Newcastle.

Important: You do not need to upload documents for establishing status within the scholarship portal.

Selection

Selection is a competitive process based on assessment of the scholarship application, supporting documentation (where required), and the eligibility criteria for the scholarship.

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 which may include one external donor representative. Interviews arranged as required.

The Selection Panel will communicate the details of successful recipients to the Scholarships Office, and all applicants will be notified of an outcome via email. Applicants will be notified of the outcome via email, usually within 4–8 weeks of the scholarship closing date.

Where there is only one eligible applicant for a scholarship, the Scholarships Office may award without referral to a selection panel, in consultation with the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy.

Conditions of Award

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

- You will continue to meet all relevant criteria in the Eligibility section above for the duration of the scholarship, unless special consideration ([see below](#)) is approved.
- If your circumstances change in a way that impacts your eligibility (e.g., change in study load or withdrawal from study), you will notify scholarships@newcastle.edu.au.
- The scholarship is tenable for up to 5 years and must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- This scholarship is subject to semester review. Continuation of the scholarship and payment of the scholarship benefit are subject to the scholar maintaining a GPA of 4.0 or higher, satisfactory academic progress and continuing to meet the eligibility criteria of the scholarship. A recipient who withdraws from all courses before completing a semester will normally not be eligible for continuation of the scholarship or payment of subsequent instalments unless an approved period of leave or special consideration has been granted.
- You will remain enrolled in an eligible program at the University of Newcastle for the duration of the 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.
- 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.

In the year following your graduation, this scholarship may support an additional year of eligible postgraduate study. Please contact scholarships@newcastle.edu.au for more information and to see if you are eligible.

Benefit

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$75,000, paid as \$7,500 each semester up to a maximum of 5 years provided ongoing eligibility is met and will be capped at the standard duration of the original degree program, including Honours where applicable. The maximum 5-year term applies regardless of study load, meaning part-time students will not be funded for any additional time taken to complete their degree.

Payments are typically received 2–3 weeks after the semester census date, or 2–3 weeks after you accept your offer if the census date has already passed.

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 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 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 experiencing circumstances that may affect your ability to meet the scholarship conditions, you may apply for special consideration. Please apply by writing to the Scholarships Office via email to scholarships@newcastle.edu.au. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

A decision will be made by 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 Office

University of Newcastle
University Drive
CALLAGHAN NSW 2308

Phone: +61 2 4921 5000
Email: scholarships@newcastle.edu.au
Established: July 2026
Scholarship Code: EXT_384