



Edith Ethel Ward Perpetual PHD Scholarship for COPD and Lung Disease Scholarship Conditions

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

The intention of this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to a PhD student researching lung disease.

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 graduate-research@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.

The total value of this scholarship is \$10,000, plus a \$2,000 travel component per annum up to a maximum of 3.5 years.

ESTABLISHMENT

The donor established this scholarship to honour her mother, Edith Ethel Ward. Edith was a young, widowed housewife during the Depression years of the nineteen thirties. There was no government aid, however, Edith was born with an endless supply of resilience to withstand hard times. Although untrained, she took on dress making and with the aid of a kerosene light and a treadle sewing machine supported herself and her daughter.

The donor hopes that the recipient of this scholarship will be passionate about their project and use it for work in the laboratory. To the successful student she gives the following advice;

“My hope is that you will be passionate about your project and use it for the work done in the laboratory. To successfully take your PhD to completion, you will need to be empathetic to those affected by this condition. Be persistent, do not be afraid to talk to people and be interested in who they are, so that together you can work for the best outcomes. Read widely across disciplines, and in great depth. This will be the only time in your research life that you have the true luxury of time to grow. The small details you’ll discover in your research will take you beyond the completion of your PhD. This scholarship will help you on your journey by providing a reliable constant in an adventure that is well worth the effort.”

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This is a donor-funded scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship, applicants must:

- Be enrolled in a College of Health, Medicine and Wellbeing PhD degree in the research area of lung disease. Preference will be given to candidates whose research is in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD);
- Have successfully completed confirmation by the application closing date;
- Must be enrolled and maintain full-time enrolment for the duration of the PhD candidature;
- Will not be in receipt of a supplementation scholarship of above \$11,000 from 1 January 2026;
- Must submit application and required documentation no later than the application closing date;
- Not be the recipient of another University of Newcastle Donor funded scholarship concurrently.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

As part of the application process, applicants must submit:

1. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) detailing academic and research achievements.
2. A written statement (maximum one A4 page, excluding documentary evidence).
3. A supporting letter from the applicant's supervisor.

Applications that do not include all required documentation will not be considered.

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 Panel will be made up of a minimum of 3 academic staff members nominated by the Dean of Graduate Research.

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 graduate-research@newcastle.edu.au.
- The scholarship is tenable for 3.5 years. The scholarship must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- This scholarship is subject to annual review. Continuation of the scholarship and payment of the scholarship benefit are subject to the scholar maintaining satisfactory academic progress and continuing to meet the eligibility criteria of the scholarship. Documentary evidence may be requested to confirm ongoing eligibility.
- The scholar shall not be required by the donor or the University to undertake employment as a condition of award of the scholarship.
- Scholars will be required to provide an annual report outlining the impacts and outcomes of their research
- The scholar approves the disclosure of their name and details regarding their research topic, candidature progress and scholarships to the donor.

BENEFIT

The supplementation scholarship provides a benefit of \$10,000 and an additional \$2,000 for study related travel per annum for a maximum term of 3.5 years provided ongoing eligibility. 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

A scholar may apply in writing to reserve or defer the scholarship benefit due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances. An application must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence. Periods of approved leave or deferral must not exceed two consecutive semesters of study and shall not reduce the tenure of the

scholarship. All applications for periods of leave must be submitted to the UON Graduate Research Office prior to the affected semester of study.

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 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

Where a scholar cannot meet the conditions of the scholarship due to illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances, they may apply in writing to the scholarships office. Applications must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence and a decision will be made in consultation with the Office of 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).

Please review the University of Newcastle [Privacy Management Plan](#).

The University reserves the right to make amendments to these terms and conditions without prior notice.

Revised: January 2026