



# RBA First Nations Scholarship

## Terms and Conditions

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### BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF KEY CONDITIONS

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 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) and meet with the donor should they be in attendance;
- Be willing to provide a statement for university publications including the Gift, outlining the impact of this partnership with RBA;
- The donor may offer the scholarship recipient opportunities to connect for professional experience, including internships.

The total value of this scholarship is \$30,000 paid as \$10,000 per annum for a term of up to three years.

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### ESTABLISHMENT

The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) is an independent Commonwealth-controlled entity that works for the betterment of all Australians. As Australia's central bank, the RBA conducts monetary policy, maintains strong financial systems and issues the nation's currency. The RBA provides banking and payment services to around 90 Australian Government agencies and the corporate banking section.

The RBA designs and produces banknotes for Australia and 35 other countries through our subsidiary, Note Printing Australia, as well as passports, and birth, death and marriage certificates.

The RBA First Nations scholarship aims to support and grow the number of First Nations students studying degrees and subjects aligned to the Bank's work. As the nation's central bank, the RBA works to include representation from our diverse communities within its workforce.

### FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This scholarship is funded by The Reserve Bank of Australia.

## ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in any year of one of the following programs (including combined) at the University of Newcastle:
  - Bachelor of Arts
  - Bachelor of Laws (Honours)
  - Bachelor of Business
  - Bachelor of Commerce
  - Bachelor of Business Analytics
  - Bachelor of Commerce
  - Bachelor of Computer Science
  - Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering (Honours)
  - Bachelor of Development Studies
  - Bachelor of Information Technology
  - Bachelor of Mathematics
  - Bachelor of Software Engineering
- Be enrolled full time or part time;
- Demonstrate academic achievement either by an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) (or equivalent) required for entry into your program for commencing students, or a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 for continuing students;
- Establish your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status per the process outlined on the Wollotuka Institute's [study with us page](#);
- Confirm your interest in undertaking an internship with the RBA;
- Students may 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. This statement will cover all scholarships you are applying for.
- The application will include a free text question asking you to outline your interest in associated future opportunities with the RBA.

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 SCHOLARSHIPS

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 will be made by the Scholarships Office with consideration of the eligibility criteria and any additional factors relevant to the purpose of the scholarship, in this order:

- All eligibility criteria for the scholarship being met
- Academic merit (cumulative GPA or ATAR or equivalent admission rank).

*Preference will be given to students who are studying full time*

All applicants will be notified of the outcome via email within six weeks of the scholarship application closing date.

Meeting the eligibility criteria does not guarantee receipt of a scholarship. Scholarship selection is competitive and is based on the relevant selection criteria, the number of eligible applicants, and the scholarships available. Applicants who are unsuccessful in one offer round may still be considered for later rounds within the same scholarship year, where applicable, and are encouraged to apply for future opportunities.

## 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](mailto:scholarships@newcastle.edu.au);
- The scholarship is tenable for up to three years and must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified;
- You will remain enrolled in one of the eligible programs for the duration of the scholarship.
- This scholarship is subject to semester review. Continuation of the scholarship and payment of the scholarship benefit are subject to the scholar maintaining a minimum 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;
- 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) and meet with the donor should they be in attendance;
- Be willing to provide a statement for university publications including the Gift, outlining the impact of this partnership with RBA.

## **BENEFIT**

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$30,000, paid as \$5,000 in each semester for the 3 year duration of the scholarship.

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

Where a recipient completes their program before the end of the scholarship tenure, scholarship payments will cease and the remaining scholarship value will not be paid.

The scholarship payment 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 notified.

Ongoing scholarships will not be paid out in full in instances where the recipient completes or discontinues 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 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 Office 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 Scholarships staff 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 Scholarships staff if you give permission for any short articles or newsletter items to be published. You may have the option to provide a photo, quote 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**

Student and Academic Administration  
University of Newcastle  
University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308 Australia

Phone: +61 2 4921 5000

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

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