



M&E MacDonald Development Studies Scholarship

Terms and Conditions

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 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 total value of this scholarship is \$22,500, paid as \$7,500 per annum up to a maximum of 3 years.

Multi-year scholarships will be paid to recipients for the standard full-time duration of the original degree program, including Honours where applicable.

ESTABLISHMENT

The M&E MacDonald Scholarship for Development Studies is established to support undergraduate or honours students with ambition to make a positive difference in our world. Ambition to apply their studies to shaping human and social futures in the local, national or global arena. Human and social challenges such as poverty, inequality, political instability, environmental sustainability or community and social development.

Recognising some students face additional challenges or disadvantages in pursuing their ambition, this scholarship provides assistance to students within the Development Studies program experiencing financial challenges, regional or remote disadvantage, or other personal circumstances impacting study.

The donors for this scholarship value supporting students who are committed to transform their own lives, and after graduation transforming the lives of others, by undertaking the Development Studies program at the University of Newcastle.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENT

This scholarship is donor-funded by the MacDonald family.

ELIGIBILITY

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

- Be enrolled in a Bachelor of Development Studies program with the University of Newcastle;
- Be intending to study on a full-time basis (minimum 60 units per year);
- Demonstrate academic achievement either by an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent of 75 or higher for commencing students, or a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.0 for continuing students;
- Demonstrate that your ability to study is affected, or will be affected, by educational disadvantage such as carer or sole parent responsibilities, financial hardship, a long-term medical condition or disability, the ongoing effects of abuse, regional/remote disadvantage or applicant attributes such as being an Indigenous Australian, having a Refugee background, or placement with an Out-of-Home Care (OOHC) provider. More information about the circumstances you can claim and the associated documentation requirements is available on UAC's [equity scholarship categories and supporting documents](#) page.
- Be an Australian citizen or an Australian permanent resident (including holders of a permanent humanitarian visa and New Zealand citizens with permanent residency) OR international student;
- 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 this scholarship would assist you. This statement will cover all scholarships you are applying for.
- You may be required to provide documents supporting your educational disadvantage claim(s) – document requirements (if any) will be identified when you apply based on your scholarships application responses, but to get an idea of what kinds of documents are required please see UAC's [equity scholarship categories and supporting documents page](#).

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.

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 three years and must be taken up in the year for which it was awarded, unless otherwise specified.
- You will remain enrolled in the Bachelor of Development Studies program (including combined 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 satisfactory academic progress, a GPA of 5.0 or higher and continuing to meet the eligibility criteria 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 email.
- You will be available to attend a presentation ceremony during Scholars Week (usually around August/September) where you may have the opportunity to meet with the donors and/or their representatives.

BENEFIT

The scholarship provides a total benefit of \$22,500, paid as \$7,500 per annum up to a maximum of 3 years. The scholarship will be paid as a \$3,750 lump sum each semester after the relevant census date.

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 will provide sustained support for up to 3 years, subject to meeting ongoing eligibility requirements.

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 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. Please provide appropriate documentary evidence to support your request.

A decision will be made by the Scholarships Office 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

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