



UTS Scholarship Conditions of Award

Indigenous Education Costs Scholarship

Unit: Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research

This document sets out the conditions of award for the below scholarship ('Scholarship') and the obligations of recipients ('Recipient') and the University of Technology Sydney ('UTS') in regard to this Scholarship. The administrative processes to support awarding this Scholarship will be managed, and may be amended, in accordance with UTS Rules, Policy and Procedures.

1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME

Indigenous Education Costs Scholarship

2. PURPOSE

To provide Indigenous students with financial assistance towards their education costs to support their academic success.

3. VALUE AND BENEFIT

3.1 Number of Recipients

The annual number of Recipients is dependent on availability of Commonwealth funding and the number of eligible candidates.

3.2 Benefit/s to Recipient

The maximum total value of the Scholarship to each Recipient is \$2,700.

3.3 Payment of benefit/s

- Each Recipient will receive two payments by electronic funds transfer to their nominated bank account.
- Each payment will be \$1,350 unless enrolled part-time in which the recipient will receive a pro-rata payment.
- Payment will usually be made within four weeks after the census date in Autumn and Spring sessions.
- Payments are subject to the Recipient satisfying ongoing eligibility criteria as defined in clause 8.

4. DURATION

The maximum duration of the Scholarship is one (1) year.

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for the Scholarship an applicant must:

- be of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent and provide either:
 - a Confirmation of Aboriginality from a Local Aboriginal Land Council or other Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation; or
 - a UTS Statutory Declaration form accompanied by two written references from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people from the applicant's community who can confirm their identity and are not an immediate family member; and
- be intending to enrol, or currently enrolled, in an eligible course, which includes:
 - an undergraduate award course; or
 - a postgraduate award course; or
- not receive other Commonwealth funding which may make them ineligible for this Scholarship; and

- apply using the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) Equity Scholarship application form and therein demonstrate financial disadvantage through:
 - receiving a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (e.g. ABSTUDY, Parenting Payment Single, Disability Support Pension, Carer Allowance); or
 - providing comprehensive information demonstrating exceptional financial hardship.

Alternatively, students can arrange a financial assessment with the UTS Financial Assistance Service to evidence financial disadvantage. This option is only available when an applicant cannot demonstrate financial disadvantage as specified above and in the UAC Equity Scholarship application.

6. RECIPIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

- Recipients are selected based on meeting the eligibility criteria.
- Applicants that meet the eligibility criteria are not guaranteed a Scholarship as the number available is based on Commonwealth funding available to UTS each year.
- The Selection Committee may choose to award scholarships on a relative needs basis, taking into consideration other disadvantages as outlined in the applicant's UAC Equity Scholarship
- For undergraduate students, preference is given to students commencing, or enrolled in, their first undergraduate course.
- Continuing students who have not maintained a minimum pass average (minimum WAM 50) in the previous session may be considered for the scholarship subject to consultation with the Director, Indigenous Students & Community Engagement, Jumbunna

7. SELECTION

Eligible candidates will be presented to a Scholarship Selection Committee which will undertake the selection of Recipients.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will consist of three (3) relevant members of the UTS community, Chaired by the Director, Indigenous Students & Community Engagement Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research (their nominee).

Scholarship offers will be authorised by the Chair of the Scholarship Selection Committee in line with the Scholarships and Prizes Policy.

8. ONGOING RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

8.1 Academic progress:

- Students are expected to maintain a minimum pass average (minimum WAM 50) per session.

8.2 UTS Enrolment:

The Recipient:

- should continue to be enrolled full-time or part-time in an eligible course at UTS; or
- may apply to UTS Scholarships to transfer the Scholarship to another eligible UTS course, if a course transfer is being sought.

8.3 Leave / Deferral/Course withdrawal:

- If the Recipient defers the UTS offer or withdraws from the UTS course after the start of their first session, the Scholarship will be terminated and any scholarship payment already made for the session for which they withdraw may need to be reimbursed to UTS.
- Leave of absence is not permitted for this Scholarship.

8.4 Academic Integrity:

- UTS takes Academic Integrity very seriously and breaches (e.g. plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are considered Academic Misconduct. For more information on Academic Integrity at UTS can be found on the UTS Current Students pages of the UTS website.
- Any Academic Misconduct allegations proven by the University (and upheld if appealed) may result in the termination of this Scholarship and the University might require the Recipient to repay the total benefit received at the time of termination.

8.5 Other obligations and conditions:

- The offer of the Scholarship is made subject to information provided by the Recipient being true and accurate.
- Before accepting their offer, the Recipient is encouraged to seek advice from Jumbunna about scholarship conditions and ongoing eligibility requirements.
- The offer of the Scholarship is only valid for the intake defined in the Scholarship letter of offer and cannot be deferred.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, the Recipient agrees to the Conditions of Award.
- Recipients must comply with all UTS Rules, Policies and Procedures, including those relating to conduct.
- The Recipient is responsible for advising UTS Scholarships of any changes in circumstances that would make them ineligible for continuation of the Scholarship, for example, but not limited to, reducing study load to part-time or deferring study.
- Any change in circumstances of the Recipient not addressed by these Conditions of Award will be considered by UTS Scholarships and/or the Scholarship Selection Committee case-by-case.
- The acceptance of this Scholarship offer may mean the Recipient does not qualify for certain other forms of Commonwealth assistance.
 - A person in receipt of the Indigenous Education Costs Scholarship may not qualify for assistance intended for the same or similar purpose under the *Social Security Act 1991*, the ABSTUDY Scheme and the *Student Assistance Act 1973*, the *Veterans' Children Education Scheme*, or the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme 2004* (section 24(2), *Indigenous Student Assistance Grants Guidelines 2017*).
- If the Recipient is receiving any Commonwealth funding, it is their responsibility to communicate to the relevant Commonwealth department that they are in receipt of this Scholarship.
- The acceptance of this Scholarship offer may be reported, if relevant, to:
 - an employee of the Services Australia;
 - an employee of the Services Australia administered by the Minister administering the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*;
 - an employee of the Services Australia administered by the Minister administering section 258 of the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004*. (Section 25(1), *Indigenous Student Assistance Grants Guidelines 2017*).
- The Recipient may be invited to consent to the use of their name, quotations, photographs, or videos of themselves for the promotion of UTS scholarships.

9. TERMINATION OF RECIPIENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarship may be terminated if:

- The Recipient ceases to meet the eligibility criteria; or
- The Recipient breaches any conditions of the Scholarship; or
- The Recipient has a misconduct allegation proven, after consultation with the Director, Student Administration, the delegate able to award the Scholarship deems that it is not appropriate for the Recipient to continue to hold the Scholarship.
- If the scholarship is terminated due to breaching any conditions or misconduct, the Recipient may be required to reimburse UTS for any scholarship payments already made.

10. FUNDING

10.1 Internal UTS funding:

Not applicable.

10.2 External Funding:

Funding is provided by a grant from the Commonwealth Government Indigenous Student Success Program (ISSP). The budget for 2024 is \$90,000.

11. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

11.1 Owning Faculties/Units: UTS Scholarships & Jumbunna Institute for Indigenous Education and Research

11.2 Managing Faculties/Units: UTS Scholarships

12. PUBLICATION OF CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- UTS Scholarships must be notified of these Conditions of Award prior to approval.

- On approval, the Conditions of Award must be forwarded to UTS Scholarships for publication of clauses 1 to 9 on the UTS website.
- Recipients must be notified of clauses 1 to 9 at the time of Scholarship offer being made.

13. DOCUMENT REVIEW

The formal review date for this document is by the end of 2024.

14. APPROVAL*

Endorsement from all stakeholders listed at clause 11 must be sought before final approval. Approval must be in accordance with the Scholarships and Prizes Policy and UTS Delegations.

Endorsed by: Liz Treacy Bascunan
Title: Deputy Head, Admissions Services and Scholarships,
Future Learner Recruitment and Admissions, Lifetime Learner Experience Unit
Date 23 May, 2024

Endorsed by: Maree Graham
Title: Director, Indigenous Students & Community Engagement, Jumbunna Institute for
Indigenous Education and Research
Date 23 May, 2024

Approved by: Alex Sabharwal
Title: Director, Student Administration, Current Learner Services
Date