



INDIGENOUS COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION COSTS SCHOLARSHIPS

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. INTRODUCTION

Each year the *Australian National University* ("The University") may offer a number of awards known as the *Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship* (the award").

The objective of the award is to assist indigenous students with education costs related to studying at ANU.

Funding for this award has been provided by *the Australian Commonwealth Government*.

2. BENEFITS

The value of the award is stated in the letter of offer. The duration of the award is *a maximum of three years*. The award is paid in 2 equal instalments after census date unless otherwise stated in the letter of offer.

The recipient is responsible for making payment of all tuition fees by the prescribed date as set out by the University each session. Recipients of this award are responsible for the costs of books, study materials, accommodation costs and all other costs of study.

3. ELIGIBILITY

The award is available each year to a prospective or continuing ANU student who:

- (a) is an Australian citizen;
- (b) is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent
- (c) identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person;
- (d) is accepted as such by the community in which they live, or formerly lived;
- (e) enrolled/enrolling in an undergraduate, postgraduate or research degree;
- (f) Is able to demonstrate low socio-economic status either:
 - (i) through being in receipt of a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (such as Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance, etc); or
 - (ii) on the basis of an assessment conducted by or on behalf of the eligible scholarship provider.

4. APPLICATION

All applicants applying for admission through the ANU Admission Scholarship and Accommodation Application System will be automatically considered for the award based on them meeting the eligibility criteria and electing to be considered for scholarships.

5. SELECTION

Selection is made on the basis of an applicant meeting the eligibility criteria. As there are limited scholarships available, the scholarships are awarded based on those considered in the most need, with preference given to students from a rural or regional area.

The award is offered to a student by the University Coursework Scholarships Committee. Membership of this committee is outlined in the ANU Coursework Scholarships procedure.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit. The Tjabal Centre may also vary the number of awards and/or offer the award at other times in exceptional circumstances or based on the standard of applications or students (where funds allow)

6. CONCURRENT HOLDING OF AWARDS

A recipient of the Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship is permitted to hold concurrent scholarships as outlined in the ANU Coursework Scholarships procedure. A recipient will not be permitted to receive assistance concurrently from two or more Commonwealth sources for the same purpose.

7. DEFERMENT

The award cannot be deferred.

8. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

A recipient of this award is required to enrol in a full-time load of at least 18 units per semester. A recipient requests permission, in writing, from the *Director, Tjabal Centre* to hold the award on a part-time basis. If approved, payments of the award will be made on a pro-rata basis.

Recipients are expected to maintain a minimum Grade Point Average *GPA of 4.0 or above* each semester (with the average being across all courses taken in a particular semester or session/s overlapping that semester).

If a recipient is unable to achieve the required GPA in any semester a formal warning is sent.

If the recipient does not meet the required GPA in a subsequent semester they risk having their award suspended or terminated.

An award recipient is given the opportunity to explain their performance and how their performance can be remedied before a decision on the suspension or termination of an award is made.

Recipients will be required to provide evidence of their ongoing eligibility in relation to their low-socio economic status each semester prior to payment being issued. Students will be requested to send a copy of the most current income statement. In the situation a student is not receiving a Government or Centrelink benefit, they will be required to provide recent payslips from any employment they are undertaking.

9. CESSATION OF AWARD

The award ceases or should be surrendered:

- (a) if a student no longer meets the eligibility requirements
- (b) at the conclusion of the period outlined in section 2; or
- (c) on the date on which the recipient withdraws or ceases to attend the University other than for approved absences;
- (d) if a recipient fails to enrol as required in section 8;
- (e) if a recipient changes to part-time enrolment without receiving permission to retain their scholarship;
- (f) if a recipient fails to meet the minimum academic performance requirements;
- (g) if a recipient breaches academic or behavioural standards set by the University under the Academic Misconduct & Discipline Rules;

whichever is earliest.

10. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

Subject to the information available at the time, the *Director, Tjabal Centre* may request that the payment for the semester in which the breach of conditions or withdrawal occurs be refunded in part or in full. Payments will be recovered in accordance with section 27 of the Indigenous Student Assistance Grants Guidelines 2017.

11. PROVIDING FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

The awarding of a scholarship/grant is based on the information provided to the University. An award may be withdrawn at any stage if incorrect, false or misleading information is provided or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the false information is unrelated to the assessment in awarding the scholarship/grant.

12. TAXATION & CENTRELINK

Recipients are responsible for seeking taxation and Centrelink advice regarding their own individual circumstances. Scholarships/grants may be regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For information on how your award may affect your Centrelink benefits, see this website

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/>

13. ACCOMMODATION

It is the recipient's responsibility to obtain residential accommodation. Information on student accommodation and application forms are available from the University Accommodation Services. Information may be found on the Web at:

<http://study.anu.edu.au/accommodation>

14. PUBLICITY

The recipient may be requested to participate in publicity for the award from time to time. This may include publicity in the state or territory of residence or of schooling. Recipients may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the award by publishing the names of the recipients. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through the Strategic Communications and Public Affairs Office of the University.

15. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of this award is subject to The Australian National University Act 1991 as amended, and to the Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Resolutions of the University.

The award of a scholarship/grant does not carry any commitment by the University for future employment.

These conditions of award should be read in conjunction with the University's Coursework Scholarships Policy & Procedures available from the ANU website.

16. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES & RULES

ANU Coursework Scholarship Policy -

https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_007803

ANU Coursework Scholarship Procedure -

https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_009607

ANU Academic Misconduct Rules - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2015L02025>

ANU Discipline Rules - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2015L02046>

Indigenous Student Assistance Grants Guidelines –

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2017L00036>

Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Education) 2010 -

https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2010L00696/Html/Text#_Toc255297242