



**Australian
National
University**

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE ACT (NPA ACT) SCHOLARSHIP IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION IN NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURE RESERVES

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. INTRODUCTION

Each year, the Fenner School of Environment and Society ('the School') within the ANU College of Systems and Society ('the College') may offer an award known as the National Parks Association of the ACT (NPA ACT) Scholarship in Biodiversity Conservation and Protection in National Parks and Nature Reserves ('the Award').

The objective of the Award is to enable young researchers and practitioners to undertake quality research in areas pertaining to the conservation of flora and fauna in national parks and nature reserves, in the ACT and surrounding areas.

Funding for this Award has been provided by the National Parks Association of the ACT (NPA ACT) under an external funding agreement with the Australian National University.

2. BENEFITS

The value of the Award is stated in your letter of offer. The duration of the Award is 12 months. The Award is paid in equal instalments at the beginning of each semester 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 the Award are responsible for the costs of books, study materials, accommodation and all other costs of study.

3. ELIGIBILITY

The Award is available each year to a commencing or continuing ANU student who:

- (a) is a domestic student;
- (b) has not previously been awarded this scholarship;
- (c) receives an offer of admission to an Environment Honours Specialisation, Master (Advanced), or PhD program offered by Fenner School of Environment and Society within the ANU College of Systems and Society or ANU College of Science and Medicine; and
- (d) has a career GPA of 5.0 or higher.

4. APPLICATION

The application is submitted on the prescribed form. Any requirement for supporting documentation and forwarding details will be stated on the application form and/or ANU Scholarships website. The application and all supporting documentation (where applicable) must be submitted on or before the closing date published on the ANU Scholarships website.

5. SELECTION

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Only applicants who meet all the eligibility criteria will be considered. Selection is made based on the applicants:

- i. Academic merit
- ii. Relevance of the proposed research to the conservation of flora and fauna in national parks and nature reserves in the ACT and surrounding areas. This may include studies on invasive species or park/reserve management
- iii. Quality of the proposed research project.

Additional factors that may be considered include reports from the applicant's academic referees.

The Award is offered to a student by a Selection Committee chaired by the Director of FSES, who nominates two additional FSES ANU staff members as part of the Selection Committee.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to make no award if it considers there is no applicant of sufficient merit. The Selection Committee 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 Award is permitted to hold concurrent student financial awards in accordance with the relevant ANU procedures, including the ANU coursework scholarships, grants and bursaries procedure and the Higher Degree by Research Scholarships procedure, as applicable to their program of study.

7. DEFERMENT

The Award cannot be deferred.

8. ONGOING ELIGIBILITY

A recipient of this Award is required to enrol in a full-time study load for each session as defined in the Policy: *Glossary - student policies and procedure*.

A recipient requests permission, in writing, from the Director of FSES 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 meet the academic progress rules and policies relevant to their program of study to retain the Award.

If a recipient is unable to meet the academic progress rules and policies relevant to their program of study in any semester a formal warning is sent.

If the recipient does not meet the academic progress rules and policies relevant to their program of study in a subsequent semester, they risk having their Award suspended or ceased.

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

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;
- (c) on the date on which the recipient withdraws or ceases to attend the University other than for approved absences;

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- (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 the Award;
- (f) if a recipient changes their program or course without permission to retain the Award;
- (g) if a recipient fails to meet the minimum academic performance requirements; or
- (h) if a recipient breaches academic or behavioural standards set by the University under the Student academic integrity Policy and/or the Discipline Rule;
- (i) if it is identified that the recipient has breached the financial cap for student financial awards (including scholarships, grants, and bursaries), as outlined in the University's Scholarships Policy;

whichever is earliest.

10. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

Subject to the information available at the time, the Director of FSES or approved nominee may request that the payment for the semester in which the breach of conditions or withdrawal occurs be refunded in part or in full.

11. PROVIDING FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

Selection for the Award is based on the information provided to the University. The 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 for the Award.

12. VARIATION TO CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis, section 7 of these Conditions of Award may be varied by the Dean of the ANU College of Systems and Society on the recommendation of the Director of FSES or approved nominee.

13. TAXATION

Recipients are responsible for seeking independent taxation advice regarding their own individual circumstances. Recipients receiving Centrelink benefits should be aware that student financial awards may affect their Centrelink payments. Student financial awards are generally regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For more information, visit

- <https://www.ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/Host/?anchor=IMST&anchor=IMST&anchor=IMST/questions#IMST/questions>
- <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/income-from-scholarships-for-students-and-apprentices?context=43921>

14. 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:

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

15. 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

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made through the Fenner School of Environment and Society within the ANU College of Systems and Society or the ANU Marketing and Communications Division.

16. DISCLOSURE AND DONOR CONTACT

For the purposes of reporting on the impact of student financial awards, the name, program name and demographics (for example: age, country or town of residence) relating to a recipient of the Award may be disclosed to donors supporting the Award. This will not include recipient contact details. The recipient may be asked to write a personal note of thanks or to meet with donors. Any contact between a donor and a recipient will be facilitated by the ANU Advancement Office or an authorised representative of the University.

17. CONTACT WITH THE AWARD OWNER

All enquiries regarding the Award and changes, issues, or further information after acceptance should be made to:

Fenner School of Environment and Society, ANU College of Systems and Society

Email: fes.coursework.enquiries@anu.edu.au

18. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of the Award is subject to *The Australian National University Act 1991* as amended, and to the Statutes, Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of the University.

The Award does not carry any commitment by the University for future employment.

These Conditions of Award should be read in conjunction with the University's student financial awards policy and coursework scholarships, grants and bursaries procedure available from the ANU website.

19. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES & RULES

Policy: Student financial awards - https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_007803

Procedure: Scholarships, grants and bursaries (coursework) - https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_009607

Procedure: ANU Higher Degree by Research - Scholarships - https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_7926390

Policy: Student Academic Integrity- https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_6477101

ANU Discipline Rule - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00998>