

## **ECU Vice Chancellor's Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Scholarship Application Information**

This scholarship was established to provide financial support for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander to complete a Bachelor's degree at ECU. The scholarship funds are payable each semester, until the completion of a Bachelor's degree at ECU. Applicants are asked to demonstrate leadership and contribution within the Indigenous and/or university community.

One scholarship is on offer valued at \$5000 per year for full-time enrolment (pro rata for part time - minimum 30 credit points). A \$2500 (or pro rata) payment is made each semester after census date (max 7 semester payments)

### **Who is eligible?**

To be eligible for the ECU Vice Chancellor's Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Scholarship you MUST:

- be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent, that is, identified as being an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and accepted as such by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community;
- have completed a minimum of 120 credit points towards your ECU Bachelor's degree;
- be enrolled as either a fulltime OR part-time student (minimum 30 credit points);
- be able to demonstrate leadership and contribution within the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community and/or within the University community and/or wider community.
- not be in receipt of any other significant scholarships (excluding the Commonwealth Scholarships);
- have maintained an academic status of good standing at the end of each semester (as defined in the ECU handbook)

### **How can I demonstrate leadership and contribution within the community?**

Examples of leadership and contribution in the community could include:-

- charity work, fundraising, volunteering etc.
- Membership on committees, boards, groups etc.
- mentoring, coaching, public speaking,
- representing ECU or the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community at sporting events, conferences, open days etc.

### **What are the Selection Criteria used to assess the successful scholarship applicants?**

The Selection Committee will assess applications based on:

- Academic Merit.
- Demonstrated leadership and contribution to the community.
- Interviews for short-listed applicants.

### **How will the scholarship be paid?**

Providing the eligibility requirements have been met the successful applicant will be paid \$2500.00 (or pro rata for part-time study) each semester, after the census date for that semester. All payments will be made direct to the recipient's nominated bank account.

The scholarship will be payable until the completion of the degree, normally up to four (4) semesters for fulltime study or the part-time equivalent, plus one semester to allow for failed or repeated units. Where a recipient is enrolled in a four (4) year degree program, or stays on for an honours year at the end of a three (3) year degree program, the scholarship will be payable for a maximum of seven (7) semesters.

Recipients are advised to make their own enquiries with Centrelink and the Australian Tax Office as to the impact of the scholarship on your financial circumstances.

### **How will I know if I am successful?**

All applicants will be notified of the outcome by email to their student email.

### **Can I appeal?**

Applicants have the right of appeal against process issues, but NOT against committee decisions or assessor ratings and comments.

To initiate an appeal on due grounds, a letter which specifies the grounds for appeal should be sent to the Scholarships Office within 10 days of the date on the outcome notification letter.

All applications are assessed on information provided in the initial application, no extra information will be considered with an appeal.

If you have any further questions regarding your unsuccessful application please contact the Scholarships Office.

### **How do I apply?**

To apply you will need to:

- Submit an online application for the ECU Vice Chancellor's Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Scholarship available on the ECU Online Scholarship Applicant Portal.
- Attach a copy of your resume
- Attach a letter of support from a current employer, community leader or ECU staff member