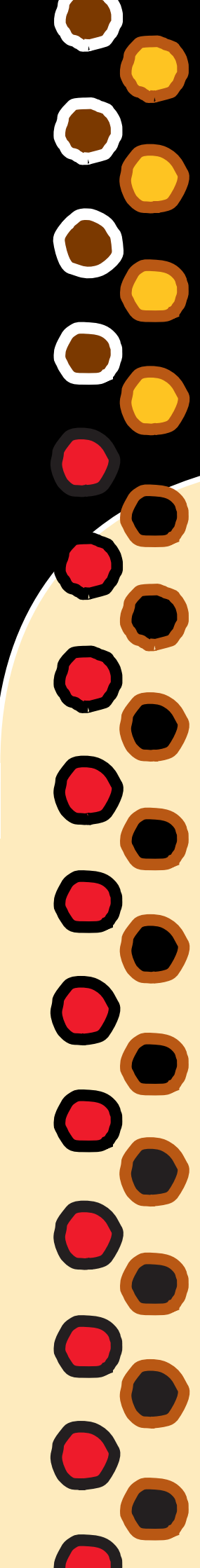




Indigenous Scholarships





If you believe that scholarships are only for academically gifted students, or for students who have financial hardship, or are just too elite to apply for, then you should reconsider.

The University of Western Sydney is not just about just obtaining an education, we also strive to engage our Indigenous students who will also get involved and make a difference to the university community.

UWS has a range of scholarships on offer for both new and continuing Indigenous students. With a multitude of scholarships available, you should take advantage of the opportunities

Indigenous Scholarships made possible by UWS

Badanami Start-up Grant

The Badanami Start-up Grant was established to assist all commencing Indigenous student with commencing tertiary studies. The Indigenous start-up grant is a one-off payment to all commencing Indigenous at UWS.

Value: \$2,000 one-off payment at the commencement of your degree.

UWS Indigenous Achievement Scholarship

The UWS Indigenous Achievement Scholarship was founded to recognise, reward and harness the academic abilities of the university's most talented Indigenous students, while at the same time supporting educational development activities and student involvement in Indigenous communities. Indigenous students who are currently enrolled or commencing at UWS for the very first time are encouraged to apply for a Indigenous Achievement Scholarship.

Value: \$5,000 per year, for up to five years (\$2,500 per year for part-time equivalent)

Commonwealth Scholarships

The Commonwealth Scholarships program is the result of the Commonwealth Government's aim to facilitate choice in higher education and increase higher education participation by students from low socio-economic backgrounds. There are three scholarships available as part of this program:

- Indigenous Access Scholarship
- Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship
- Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship

*See UAC website for more information:
www.uac.edu.au

Indigenous Scholarships made possible by UWS Supporters

Landcom Indigenous Scholarship

The Landcom Indigenous Scholarship was established to provide Indigenous students enrolled in a business related degree with the opportunity to gain on-the-job paid work experience, whilst undertaking their business studies.

Value:

- \$2,000 one-off initial payment to cover textbook and study tools;
- \$7,000 payment toward course costs
- Up to \$46,000 in paid work experience

The Slade Group Reconciliation Scholarship

The Slade Group are committed to providing ongoing opportunities for Indigenous students enrolled or commencing in an undergraduate Business related degree.

Value: \$5,000 one-off payment at the commencement of the degree. For one year only.

Department of Sport and Recreation Scholarship

NSW Sport and Recreation's purpose is to assist the people of NSW participate in sport and recreation, with a vision of a community that uses sport and recreation to improve its well being. This Indigenous Sport and Recreation Scholarship was established to provide ongoing opportunities for Indigenous students enrolled in a PDHPE or Sport and Exercise Science degree.

Value: \$10,000 per year for up to three years.

UWS Indigenous Scholarship Application

1. Student Details

Student ID No.

UAC ID No.

Year (i.e. 1st, 2nd)

2. Personal Details

First Name

Surname

Male Female DOB

Origin Australian Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander

Home Phone

Work Phone

Mobile

Email

Postal Address

3. High School Details

School Name

School Address

UAI (if applicable) HSC Completed

High School subjects completed:

Subject	Level	Subject	Level

4. Scholarship Preference

Please print the name of all scholarships that you wish to be considered for. You may apply for any you believe that you may be eligible. More detailed information about each scholarship can be found at <http://www.uws.edu.au/scholarships>

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

5. Personal activities, community activities and special interest

Refer overleaf to assist with completing this section. Please attach additional information separately if insufficient space.

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____ Date / / 20

Supporting Document Checklist *All applicants must provide the following certified documentation or the application will not be considered:*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Scholarship Application form (signed) | <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation of Aboriginality (if no, please contact Course Information Centre 1800 897 669) | <input type="checkbox"/> Birth Certificate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant academic transcripts/qualifications (if applicable) | <input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth Financial Assistance Payments (if applicable) e.g. Abstudy, parental, carers, disability) | <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other financial payments (if applicable) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other relevant certificates (if applicable) e.g. Volunteer, community, leadership work. awards, prizes | <input type="checkbox"/> Referee Report |

Guidelines for Competing for UWS Scholarships

Being competitive for a scholarship competition generally requires the same type of preparation asked of job applicants. As a result, if you are laying a strong foundation for the career you intend to pursue, you will likely be a good candidate for scholarships in your field.

Start early! Many scholarships have application periods several months in advance of the actual award, and require extra preparation. Students should visit the scholarship website to research scholarship opportunities.

What can I do to be a good candidate for scholarships?

Strive for excellence in challenging classes. Go beyond getting good grades. Get to know people, especially professors, advisors, administrators, employers. These relationships provide opportunities for career and scholarship networking, mentoring relationships, and potential references for the future.

- Get work, internship and volunteer experience in your field or in other fields of interest to you.
- Expand your knowledge of the world, people, places and events in any way you can by reading, travelling, or participating in intercultural events, etc.
- Get involved in interesting extra-curricular activities that are meaningful to you.
- Seek out leadership positions within groups/activities that are important to you.
- Keep up on the news, and read a variety of opinions. Learn to defend your views and admit the strengths in others' arguments.

What strategies can I use to increase my chances of winning a scholarship?

- Apply for large and small scholarships- they can work like building blocks.
- Know the eligibility requirements and deadlines for various scholarships.
- Always allow yourself plenty of time to write and review your application before the due date.
- Work on your communication skills. Many scholarships require interviews.
- Don't give up if you are turned down. Many highly qualified people are turned down at some point, but go on to find other awards or opportunities that suit their interests.

Writing a Personal Statement

When you apply for a scholarship, you will need to write a personal statement addressing the criteria. Understanding the terminology and having a plan will permit you to put together the best possible response.

First, determine what the scholarship selection committee wants to know about you:

- academic qualifications?
- social skills?
- leadership or commitment to service?

Choose examples from your life that you want to highlight in your application and which clearly demonstrate the qualities that the selection committee will be seeking. For academically oriented awards, teachers who have had you in class would be best to give you some examples of where you have excelled. For awards that seek leadership skills or service, you should speak to your employers, or organisations you are active in,

advisors, or mentors to give you some key qualities to include in your statement. Certificates or letters of recommendation from relevant people to back up your personal statement will certainly assist your application.

How much do I need to tell in the personal statement?

Put yourself in the selection committee's shoes. If you want to write a strong personal statement, you want to ensure that it is concise and that you show all the qualities the committee is seeking in its ideal applicants. You don't want to leave the committee guessing.

Ask yourself the following questions when thinking your personal statement through:

- Do they want to know about academic qualifications only?
- Do they want to know about personal characteristics?
- Do leadership and service experiences make a difference to them?
- Is financial need relevant?
- Is it significant if you have overcome hardship?
- Are interpersonal skills and experience working with diverse groups important to the committee?
- What would this award entitle you to do, and how are you suited to doing this?
- Is there any particular format or length that the letter must conform to?

Other things to remember when applying:

Pay attention to detail. When you are applying to several scholarships at once it is very easy to confuse the requirements specified by each and to overlook critical details. Read all of the information provided carefully. If in doubt, make a phone call. What many students fail to realise is that scholarship providers are in the business of awarding scholarships and they enjoy helping students get the financial assistance they need.

Presentation, Presentation, Presentation. Always type responses to essay questions. Take the time to type any responses, even those that seem informal. It can't hurt you but it can always help. Additionally, if the application itself must be filled in by hand use your best penmanship. No white out, smudges, smears, etc.

Get help reviewing your application. Have a parent or friend review the information on your application. Plain paper isn't yet equipped with spell check so an extra pair of eyes will help you identify any errors.

Have a teacher give you feedback on your personal statement.

This is critical. If you can't find a teacher to read your essay, find an adult or even a peer who will. They can tell you if it is cohesive, if the piece directly addresses and proves your thesis, and if a judge will like it. Scholarship selection committees are people just like your parents and teachers (sometimes students forget this), so any feedback that they can provide you with is an invaluable resource. The editing process can be tedious, but it always pays off.

Follow the submission rules precisely. Don't eliminate yourself because you sent your application in the wrong colour envelope. Scholarship officers typically outline very specific submission rules and it is important that you follow their guidelines. Find out whether your scholarship can be emailed or if a stamp and envelope is necessary. If you are unsure about a rule, call or write the scholarship provider in advance. Don't wait till the last minute.