What is the LEAD Scholarship?
The Leadership, Excellence and Diversity (LEAD) Scholarship supports students who have experienced educational, social and/or financial disadvantage. There are multiple scholarships offered each year to deserving students who aspire to study an undergraduate law program at UQ.

The scholarship includes:

6 $8000 per year for up to five years to help with living and study expenses.

Academic mentors
Regular check-ins with your two-person mentor team throughout the semester.

Community and social support
Events and activities with more than 30 other LEAD scholars and support from the Law life & wellbeing Coordinator.

Non-residential college membership
Optional non-residential memberships at a UQ college in first-year, providing an additional support network.

How to apply
There are three things you will need to complete in order for your application to be considered:

1. LEAD Scholarship application (see detailed steps on page 4)
2. QTAC application with UQ Law as first or second preference (see detailed steps on page 4)
3. Admission scheme application/s (see page 4 for more information).

Plus, there are some additional things (like providing supporting documentation) you can do to give yourself the best chance of being selected. Examples of other documents to include are listed on page 5.

KEY DATES

July 2021: QTAC applications open
2 August 2021: LEAD applications open
12 November 2021: LEAD applications close
27 November 2021: LEAD Scholarship interviews (Round 1)*
21 January 2022: LEAD Scholarship interviews (Round 2)*
29 January 2022: LEAD Scholarship offers
For QTAC closing and offer dates please refer to the QTAC website.

*Subject to change.

“It doesn’t matter what your story is or the challenges you have had to overcome. What matters is how you respond to those challenges. The difficulties in your journey can make you stronger.

As you commence your studies at the law school, we’re here to help you navigate the course program, take advantage of the many opportunities and chart your future directions, whatever they may be.”

Dr Barbora Jedlickova and Professor Nicholas Aroney
Not sure you’ll get the ATAR you need for law?

Both the UQ Undergraduate Law Admission Scheme (ULAS) and QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS) can help boost your standing.

UQ Undergraduate Law Admission Scheme (ULAS)

ULAS is an alternative entry pathway open to Australian citizens and humanitarian visa holders. It supports eligible applicants from disadvantaged and/or culturally diverse backgrounds. You must be currently in Year 12 or have done no more than one year of tertiary education. To be eligible, you’ll need to meet one of these criteria:

• come from a low-income family
• be an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person
• or be the first in your immediate family to attend university.

You’ll also need to:

• meet the prerequisites for the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) program and
• achieve a minimum ATAR or selection rank of 90.00 (before adjustments)
• apply for QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (details below).

Learn more about ULAS

QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS)

This scheme awards ATAR adjustments under strict conditions. LEAD Scholarship applicants who also complete the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) through QTAC will be given preference. QTAC will undertake an independent assessment based on the supporting documents you provide.

Learn more about EAS

Why are EAS and ULAS important for my LEAD Scholarship application?

Discover the examples below to understand why you need to apply for EAS and ULAS at the same time you complete your LEAD application.

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<th>Example 1:</th>
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<td>Rhonda wasn’t very confident she would achieve the necessary ATAR score to study law at UQ. When applying for the LEAD Scholarship, she also applied for ULAS and the necessary QTAC EAS application as well. When her results were released, Rhonda achieved a raw ATAR score of 96, meaning she would normally miss out on an offer to study law at UQ. Luckily, her EAS application was successful and she was granted 2 ATAR adjustment points. With her adjusted ATAR of 98, Rhonda was able to receive an offer to study law at UQ, making her now eligible to be considered for a LEAD Scholarship.</td>
<td>Liam was applying for a LEAD Scholarship because he came from a financial hardship background. He was confident he would achieve a high ATAR score, but applied for ULAS as a safety measure. He also completed his EAS application with QTAC under the category of ‘financial hardship’. As anticipated, Liam achieved an ATAR of 99 and received an offer to study law at UQ without needing to rely on ULAS. Since Liam had also completed his EAS application though, it meant his LEAD Scholarship application was stronger and the panel was able to shortlist him for the first round of interviews – and offer him a scholarship.</td>
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Note: these examples are based on the entry requirements in 2021 and are subject to change in 2022. Offers for the LEAD Scholarship are conditional on an offer of a place in a law program at UQ.

“My introduction to studying law at The University of Queensland would have been less advantageous and lacking countless opportunities if I was to not have the amazing experience of being a non-residential member to a college.”

Juliet, LEAD scholar
Eligibility criteria

An applicant is eligible to be considered for the award of a LEAD Scholarship in a year, if the applicant:

(a) is or will be a domestic student in the year of award
(b) will be completing senior schooling in Australia in the year of application
(c) intends to enrol as a commencing student at The University of Queensland in an approved program in the year of the award
(d) expects to gain admission to an approved program in the year of the award on the basis of predicted senior results and any applicable adjustment factors, or on the basis of special entry pathways
(e) has not completed any prior tertiary study at bachelor level or higher
(f) can demonstrate educational, social and/or financial disadvantage, and
(g) is available to participate in a formal interview with UQ on a date set by the University.

Read the full scholarship rules online

Not sure if you’re eligible?

Apply anyway. Final decisions for the scholarship are at the discretion of the UQ Law School and if not this one, there may be a number of other scholarships we can recommend for you.

“Becoming a Leadership, Excellence and Diversity scholar meant the world to me. Coming from a relatively humble background, the idea of law school seemed so daunting and almost out of reach. Receiving this scholarship allowed me to enter my studies with confidence. Not only did the bursary give me a sense of financial security but it also gave me a community of people who have my back. My fellow scholars, along with our advisors, have been there for me through thick and thin. Life doesn’t stop when you leave highschool, so it is so important to have a network of people who you can rely on.

I have suffered hardships and adversity throughout my university studies. However, I have always felt comforted by the fact that I have this diverse group of people who I can go to for support. Whenever I am struggling to balance my personal life and my academic life, I know I will always have my fellow scholars and liaisons to help me out. In some cases, the Scholarship has even been a lifeline for me. When I had no idea what I wanted out of my degree, my LEAD peers were there to guide me. When I suffered personal trauma, they were there to lean on. I have made lifelong friends because of this. The LEAD Scholarship has never let me down, and it won’t let you down either.”

Jacob, LEAD scholar
Submitting your application – key steps

Keep the below checklist handy as you complete your online submission. Steps can be completed in any order, and many processes can be paused and restarted at a later date.

1. Apply for the LEAD Scholarship
   - Complete the online form to apply for the LEAD Scholarship.
   - Provide a personal statement (no more than two pages) that addresses all of the following:
     - any educational disadvantage you have faced. This might be as a result of home environment and responsibilities, personal illness or disability, living in a rural or remote area, or other educational disruption. Note, you do not have to have experienced educational disadvantage to be eligible for this scholarship
     - any financial disadvantage you have faced
     - education and career aspirations
     - academic, service, leadership, cultural and sporting achievements
     - any additional information that will help the selection committee get to know you.
   - Attach relevant documents
     Don’t forget to attach copies of all your available report cards from your senior schooling (e.g. Year 11 & 12).
   - Apply for LEAD Scholarship

2. Apply for UQ Law via QTAC
   - Submit your QTAC application
     e.g. Put Bachelor of Laws (Honours) or a Bachelor of Law (Honours) dual degree as your first or second preference in order to be eligible.
   - Apply for QTAC

3. Complete your admission scheme/s applications
   - Complete your UQ Undergraduate Law Admission Scheme (ULAS) application (tick the relevant checkbox at the same time as your LEAD Scholarship submission).
   - Complete your QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS) application (you can do this at the same time as your QTAC submission).
     There are five categories for EAS:
     1. Financial Hardship
     2. Home Environment and Responsibilities
     3. English Language Difficulty
     4. Personal Illness or Disability
     5. Educational Disruption.
     Depending on your circumstance and the category you apply for, the supporting documentation required will differ. Please refer to the QTAC EAS cover sheets for guidance. We encourage you to provide as much supporting documentation as possible, as this will assist us when assessing your application for LEAD.
   - Note: if you are unable to complete the EAS application, please contact lawlife@uq.edu.au as soon as possible.
   - Apply for ULAS
   - Apply for EAS

Disclaimer: EAS and ULAS applications are not essential for the LEAD Scholarship however applicants with a completed EAS application will be given preference.
Application tips

• Start early! Get your scholarship application underway as early as possible as there are quite a few items you will need to start organising, and each one can take some time to complete.

• Get in contact if you need help or assistance, we have a dedicated LEAD Scholarship coordinator who can answer your questions about your application.

• Tell your story – we want to get to know you as an individual, so don’t be afraid to be yourself.

Supporting documentation

Not sure what to provide as supporting documentation for your application? Review our recommended examples below.

Financial hardship
- Current Centrelink income statement, statutory declaration, tax income assessments.

Medical hardship
- Letter of support from your doctor (on organisational letterhead with original signature), current Learning Access Plan.

Leadership, cultural, sporting, community service, and extra-curricular achievements
- Letter of support (on organisational letterhead with original signature), certificate of participation confirming your achievement/enrolment.
- Screenshots of emails will not be accepted.

Academic achievement
- Certificates of academic achievements, school report cards, or other relevant documents.
- Photos of trophies or medals will not be accepted.

Referee statement (optional)
- Reference letter (on organisational letterhead with original signature).
- Informal, unsigned letters, or those written by family members will not be accepted.

Register to join our Information Session on Monday 10 October 2021 if you have any further questions about this scholarship.

“The LEAD Scholarship has afforded me, as the first immediate member of my family to attend university, with the opportunity to pursue a degree in law. The financial aid awarded over a five-year period has allowed me to prioritise my education and still enjoy the benefits of having a job – only without the stresses that are often associated.”

Michelle, LEAD scholar

Watch Michelle’s video
I’ve applied. What next?

Once the application period has closed, we will begin to review all applications and shortlist candidates for our two rounds of interviews. Our first round of interviews will take place in late November/early December 2021. Our second round of interviews will take place in mid-January 2022.

Preparing for your interview
Interviews can be daunting, but this is your best chance to show us who you are and why you’re the right person for the scholarship.

Practise talking about yourself out loud
One of the most common interview questions is “tell us about yourself?”, so it pays to have a think about the best way to answer that, as well as why you want to study law and why at UQ. Practising in front of a mirror (as awkward as it can be) is a really valuable way to improve upon your answers and delivery. Don’t forget to prepare some questions for the interviewer too. If you’re doing an interview remotely by videoconference ensure you practise using the software and review these tips.

Plan your trip
Universities are big places and sometimes buildings can be hard to find. Ensure you plan your journey to the St Lucia campus and leave extra time after you arrive to find a park and get to the building. UQ has a handy app UQ Maps you can download.

Personal presentation
Pay attention to your personal presentation, as first impressions count. Dress neatly in smart clothes, ensure your hair is brushed etc.

Be yourself
We want to get to know the real you, so just be yourself and let your personality shine through.

Breathe!
When we get nervous we often forget to breathe properly. Take a few deep breaths before you arrive and if you get nervous, remember it’s okay to pause and take a breath.

Find out more about what it’s like to study law at UQ
Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws student Ella North shares her experience as a first year law student in this post.

“Studying law is both a challenging yet highly rewarding feat, and preparation is key!”

For more information, please contact
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