



Peter Høj and Mandy Thomas Indigenous Student Scholarship

(Peter Høj served as the Vice-Chancellor of The University of Queensland from 2012 to 2020. Following the public launch of UQ's first comprehensive philanthropic campaign, Peter Høj and his wife Mandy Thomas established an endowed accommodation scholarship supporting Indigenous Australian students. This gift was inspired by both Peter's belief in the personal and economic value of educational pursuits and the need to ensure greater access to historically disadvantaged members of the Australian community. Further, throughout his time in Australia, Peter has admired and learned from the country's Indigenous peoples – in the Queensland community, throughout Australia and certainly on the UQ campus. This scholarship is meant to support the next generation of Indigenous students working to create change in their communities and in the world, and – in a small, yet meaningful way – to address this historic inequity.)

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Peter Høj and Mandy Thomas Indigenous Student Scholarship is to assist Indigenous students to undertake studies at The University of Queensland.

2. Definitions

In these rules –

Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person means a person who can provide compelling evidence of their Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status. Confirmation of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status under the common seal of a community organisation may be provided. Where exceptional circumstances apply, statutory declarations and other forms of documentation may be considered. Original or certified copies of supporting documentation must be provided.

Accommodation means a standard room at the UQ Residences.

Approved Program means any program at UQ.

Dean means the Dean of the Graduate School.

Minimum Completion Time for a coursework student means the minimum period of time it would take to complete the Approved Program based on enrolment in 8 units per semester in semester 1 and semester 2 each year or 16 units per calendar year for higher degree by research students. Students awarded the Scholarship part way through an Approved Program will hold the Scholarship for the Minimum Completion Time, less the time already enrolled.

PVC(IE) means Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement).

Satisfactory Academic Progress for a coursework student means meeting the requirements to remain enrolled under the University's Academic Progression Procedure or for higher degree by research students means meeting the requirements to remain enrolled under the University's Higher Degree by Research Candidature Progression Procedure.

Scholarship means the Peter Høj and Mandy Thomas Indigenous Student Scholarship.

UQ means The University of Queensland.

3. Award and Value of Scholarships

- (1) A number of Scholarships may be awarded each year, as tenure becomes available, on recommendation of the PVC(IE).
- (2) Each Scholarship will be tenable for the Minimum Completion Time and may be renewed for a maximum total period of two years in extenuating circumstances as considered relevant by the Academic Registrar after consultation with the PVC(IE) and the Dean where a higher degree by research student.
- (3) The value of each Scholarship is the cost of Accommodation paid directly to the providers of the Accommodation for each year in which that Scholarship is held.

4. Eligibility for Scholarships

- (1) An applicant is eligible for a Scholarship, if the applicant—
 - (a) submits an application to the PVC(IE), by the closing date for applications;
 - (b) can demonstrate financial need;
 - (c) is an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person; and
 - (d) is enrolled in an Approved Program in the year of award.

5. Selection of Award

- (1) For the selection process, the PVC(IE) must establish a selection committee, comprising –
 - (a) the PVC(IE) or nominee, as chair of the committee;

- (b) the Academic Registrar (or nominee);
 - (c) a representative from the Graduate School as nominated by the Dean; and
 - (d) any other representatives as may be determined from time to time by the chair of the committee, with University staff comprising the majority.
- (2) The Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of the following criteria –
- (a) demonstrated financial need;
 - (b) academic ability;
 - (c) personal qualities, including leadership potential; and
 - (d) any other matter that the selection committee considers relevant to the applicant's future success in their field of study.

6. Conditions for Scholarships

- (1) Offers for the Scholarship will be conditional on enrolling in an Approved Program at The University of Queensland in the year of the award, or after an approved period of deferment in accordance with rule 7(1).
- (2) A recipient may not hold another accommodation scholarship the Academic Registrar considers similar.
- (3) A recipient may hold the Scholarship for the Minimum Completion Time subject to the recipient–
 - (a) continuing to be enrolled full-time in an Approved Program, excluding any periods of approved interruption in accordance with rule 7(1);
 - (b) maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress; and
 - (c) ongoing residence at the provider of the Accommodation.
- (4) Where a recipient has their Scholarship extended in accordance with rule 3(2), the recipient may hold their Scholarship for the extended duration subject to 6(3)(a)-(c).
- (5) If a recipient fails to satisfy rule 6(2), 6(3) or 6(4), the recipient must show cause to the Academic Registrar after consultation with the PVC(IE) and the Dean where a higher degree by research student, as to why the Scholarship should not be cancelled.

7. Deferment and Interruption

- (1) In exceptional circumstances:
 - (a) a recipient may apply for deferment of the Scholarship for a maximum period of one year; and
 - (b) the Scholarship may be interrupted on application, for a maximum cumulative period of one year from the date interruption of the Scholarship took effect.

8. Termination of Scholarship

- (1) The University may terminate a Scholarship:
 - (a) if the recipient does not show cause to the reasonable satisfaction of the University as provided for in rule 6(5); or
 - (b) if the recipient defers or interrupts their study without approval; or
 - (c) if the student commits serious misconduct.