

## Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship (ICAS) Guidelines

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide assistance with relocation and/or accommodation costs to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who are enrolled in an Approved Program. Preference is given to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who are from a Regional or Remote area.

### 2. Definitions

In these rules –

**Scholarship** means the UQ Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship.

**Approved Program** means any coursework program at The University of Queensland.

**Full-Time** enrolment means that a recipient is enrolled in a minimum of 6 units.

**Part-Time** enrolment means that a recipient is enrolled in a minimum of 4 units, but no more than 5 units.

**Regional or Remote** means Inner Regional, Outer Regional, Remote or Very Remote areas as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) system. Applicants who indicate that they are from a Regional or Remote area must demonstrate that they have met one of the following –

- (i) completed senior in a high school or college in a Regional or Remote area; or
- (ii) relocated from their Regional or Remote home residence to complete the whole or majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or
- (iii) lived in a Regional or Remote area for –
  - (A) three years; or
  - (B) two years if they relocated from the Regional or Remote area to undertake vocational education and training (e.g. TAFE) in the two years immediately preceding the year of the award; or
- (iv) were required to relocate from a Regional or Remote area to undertake tertiary study and will incur additional expense as a result.

### 3. Value and duration of the Scholarship

- (1) The value of the Scholarship is \$2,500 for each semester in which the Scholarship is held for recipients enrolled Full-Time. The Scholarship will be paid pro-rata where a recipient is enrolled Part-Time.
- (2) On each occasion the Scholarship is awarded, the maximum duration of the Scholarship is –
  - (a) two semesters for a student awarded the Scholarship in semester 1 in the year of award; or
  - (b) one semester for a student awarded the Scholarship in semester 2 in the year of award.

### 4. Eligibility for Scholarship

- (1) An applicant is eligible for the award of a Scholarship in a year, if the applicant –
  - (a) is an Australian citizen;
  - (b) is a person of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and who is accepted as such by the community in which they live or have lived;
  - (c) provides ‘confirmation of Aboriginality and/or Torres Strait Islander status’ under the common seal of an incorporated community organisation. Other forms of documentation may be considered where exceptional circumstances apply.
  - (d) is enrolled in an Approved Program in the semester of the award; and
  - (e) is not concurrently receiving assistance from another Commonwealth source for the same purpose (For example: a relocation scholarship payment from Centrelink).

### 5. Award of Scholarship

- (1) The Scholarship is awarded on the recommendation of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) to applicants who in the opinion of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement), show the greatest merit as demonstrated by –
  - (a) academic merit;
  - (b) any other matter that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) considers to be relevant.
- (2) Preference will be given to students -
  - (a) with evidence of financial disadvantage;
  - (b) from a Regional or Remote area.

**6. Payment of Scholarship**

- (1) For students awarded the Scholarship in semester 1, the Scholarship will be paid in two instalments after census date in semester 1 and 2, in accordance with 3(1) and subject to 7(1) below.
- (2) For students awarded the Scholarship in semester 2, the Scholarship will be paid after census date in semester 2, in accordance with 3(1) and subject to 7(1) below.

**7. Conditions of Scholarship**

- (1) The Scholarship will be paid subject to the recipient –
  - (a) being enrolled in an Approved Program; and
  - (b) maintaining satisfactory academic progress, if awarded the Scholarship for two semesters.

**8. Termination of Scholarship**

The University will terminate the Scholarship -

- (a) if the recipient does not comply with the Scholarship conditions in section 7; or
- (b) once maximum duration of the Scholarship has lapsed; or
- (c) if the student commits serious misconduct.