

Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship (ICECS) Guidelines

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide assistance with education costs to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who are enrolled in an Approved Program.

2. Definitions

In these rules –

Scholarship means the UQ Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs 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 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 \$1,500 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 Aboriginal 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: an ABSTUDY start-up loan or a student start-up loan 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) being from a Regional or Remote area;
 - (c) evidence of financial disadvantage;
 - (d) any other matter that the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) considers to be relevant.

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 for 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.