



## UQ South Pacific Islander Association (SPIA) Scholarship

The UQ South Pacific Islander Association (SPIA) Scholarship was established in 2021 during UQ's Giving Day to support Pacific Islander students who are experiencing financial hardship. By easing the financial burden, this scholarship will allow Pacific youth the opportunity to achieve and succeed at UQ.

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship is to support Pacific Islander students who are studying or intending to study at UQ and who are experiencing financial hardship.

### 2. Definitions

In these rules-

**Approved Program** means any undergraduate program administered by UQ.

**Director** means Director, Student Affairs

**Satisfactory Academic Progress** means meeting the requirements to remain enrolled in accordance with the University's Academic Progression Procedure

**Scholarship** means the UQ South Pacific Islander Association (SPIA) Scholarship

**South Pacific Islander person** means a person who is from, or whose heritage is from Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Aotearoa NZ, Niue, Cook Islands, Tokelau, Tahiti, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Rotuma, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Kanaky New Caledonia, Kanaka Maoli Hawaii or West Papua and can provide compelling evidence of their South Pacific Islander status.

**UQ SPIA** means the University of Queensland South Pacific Islander Association

### 3. Award and value of scholarship

- (1) One Scholarship will be awarded in a year on the recommendation of the Director.
- (2) The value of the Scholarship will be \$5,000 for each year in which it is held.

### 4. Eligibility for award

- (1) An applicant is eligible for the Scholarship, if the applicant –
  - (a) submits an application for the Scholarship to the Director, by the closing date for applications;
  - (b) is a South Pacific Islander person; and
  - (c) can demonstrate financial hardship.

### 5. Selection of award

- (1) For the selection process, the Director must establish a selection committee, comprising –
  - (a) the Director, or nominee, as chair of the committee;
  - (b) a UQ Student Services staff member, as nominated by the Director;
  - (c) a UQ staff member who is a South Pacific Islander person, as nominated by the Director; and
  - (d) a representative of the UQ SPIA or nominee.
- (2) The Scholarship will be awarded on the basis of the following criteria –
  - (a) demonstrated financial hardship; and
  - (b) demonstrated commitment to the South Pacific Islander community and involvement, or intention to be involved, in UQ SPIA activities as evidenced by personal statement included in application.

### 6. Conditions for scholarship

- (1) The recipient may hold the Scholarship for one year (excluding any period for which that Scholarship is deferred or interrupted), subject to the recipient
  - (a) continuing to be enrolled in an Approved Program during the year of the award; and
  - (b) maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress in each semester that the Scholarship is held.
- (2) If a recipient fails to satisfy rule 6(1), the recipient must show cause to the Director why the Scholarship should not be cancelled.
- (3) A recipient may apply to the Director to defer or interrupt their Scholarship for a maximum of one year in exceptional circumstances during the tenure of their Scholarship.

### 7. Termination of scholarship

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(2);
- (b) if the recipient defers or interrupts their study without approval; or
- (c) if the student commits misconduct.