



Thomas A. Plein Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship

(Established in 2024 through a grant from the Thomas A. Plein Foundation under The Queensland Commitment matching scheme. The Scholarship is in memory of Thomas A. Plein, founder of the Thomas A. Plein Foundation who passed away in 2004.)

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and support students enrolled in an undergraduate program at The University of Queensland who are experiencing financial hardship.

2. Definitions

In these rules –

Approved Program means any undergraduate program at The University of Queensland.

Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Person means a person who can provide compelling evidence of their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status. Confirmation of 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.

Minimum Completion Time means the minimum period of time it would take to complete the Approved Program based on enrolment in 8 units per semester. Students awarded the Scholarship part way through a program will hold the Scholarship for the minimum duration for completion of their current program, less the time already enrolled.

Regional, Rural or Remote Area uses the 'Modified Monash Model' categories approach as defined by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard – Remoteness Area Structure (ASGS-RA). This means you must have lived in a geographic region classified as –

- MM2 (Regional Centres)
- MM3 (Large rural towns)
- MM4 (Medium rural towns)
- MM5 (Small rural towns)
- MM6 (Remote communities)
- MM7 (Very remote communities)

for at least five consecutive years, or for at least 10 years cumulatively.

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

Scholarship means the Thomas A. Plein Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship.

University means The University of Queensland.

3. Award and Selection Committee

- (1) One Scholarship may be awarded each year as it becomes vacant.
- (2) The expected value of the Scholarship is \$4,500 for each year that it is held, but will be limited to the annual distribution from the fund and may be more or less in some years.
- (3) The maximum duration of each Scholarship is the Minimum Completion Time.
- (4) The Scholarship will be awarded on recommendation from the Academic Registrar after consultation with a selection committee, comprising –
 - (a) Academic Registrar (or nominee);
 - (b) the Director, Student Support and Wellbeing Services (or nominee); and
 - (c) at least one further professional staff member from the Student Support and Wellbeing Services division (or nominee).

4. Eligibility and Award Criteria

- (1) An applicant is eligible for the Scholarship, if the applicant –
 - (a) submits an application to the Academic Registrar, by the closing date for applications;
 - (b) is a domestic student in accordance with the University's Fee Policy in the year of the award;
 - (c) is enrolled full-time in an Approved Program in the year of the award; and
 - (d) can demonstrate financial hardship by providing documentary evidence.
- (2) The Scholarship is awarded to the student who best demonstrates the eligibility and award criteria of evidence of financial hardship.
- (3) Preference will be given to applicants who (in order of preference) –
 - (a) are an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Person;



- (b) are from a Regional, Rural or Remote Area.

5. Conditions for Award

- (1) The recipient may hold the Scholarship for the Minimum Completion Time, subject to the recipient –
 - (a) continuing to be enrolled full-time in the Approved Program excluding any periods of approved interruption in accordance with rule 6; and
 - (b) maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- (2) If the recipient fails to satisfy rule 5(1), the recipient must show cause to the Academic Registrar why the Scholarship should not be terminated.

6. Deferment and Interruption of Award

Recipients may apply to the Academic Registrar to have their Scholarship deferred and/or interrupted for up to one year in exceptional circumstances only.

7. Termination of Award

The University may terminate a Scholarship if the recipient –

- (a) does not show cause to the reasonable satisfaction of the University as provided for in rule 5(2); or
- (b) defers or interrupts their study without approval; or
- (c) commits misconduct.