



# The Queensland Commitment Scholarship

## 1. Purpose

This scholarship was established in 1998 and formerly known as the UQ Link Scholarship. The purpose of the Scholarship is to provide assistance to students who have experienced educational disadvantage as a result of financial hardship, who are undertaking tertiary studies for the first time.

## 2. Definitions

In these rules –

**Approved Program means** any or a combination of the following –

any undergraduate program offered at The University of Queensland; and

a postgraduate program at UQ, undertaken immediately after completion of an undergraduate program that leads to professional accreditation and is not available as an undergraduate program at UQ.

**Commencing Student** means a student who has not completed any prior tertiary study at a bachelor level or above.

**Enrolled** means being enrolled in a minimum of 4 units per semester.

**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 at the time of award. Where a recipient changes programs within or at the end of the first year of the Scholarship, they may continue to hold the Scholarship for the Minimum Completion Time of the new program. Where a recipient undertakes a subsequent related honours program, it must be commenced in the semester immediately following completion of their Bachelor program.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress** means meeting the requirements to remain enrolled under the University's Academic Progression Procedures.

**Scholarship** means The Queensland Commitment Scholarship.

**QTAC** means Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre.

**University** means The University of Queensland.

## 3. Award, Value and Selection

(1) A number of Scholarships will be awarded in a year and held in tenure in accordance with these rules.

(2) The value of each Scholarship is \$7,000 for each year that it is held.

(3) Each Scholarship will be tenable for the Minimum Completion Time.

(4) The Scholarship will be awarded to commencing students assessed by QTAC as being eligible for UQ-The Queensland Commitment Program, in accordance with The Queensland Commitment Scholarship eligibility criteria.

## 4. Eligibility and Award Criteria

(1) An applicant is eligible for the Scholarship if the applicant—

(a) will be a domestic student in accordance with the University's Fee Policy in the year of award; and

(b) will be Enrolled as a Commencing Student in the Approved Program in the year of the award, or after an approved deferral in accordance with rule 7; and

(c) has not completed any prior tertiary study at bachelor level or higher; and

(d) has not previously been awarded a Scholarship and had the Scholarship terminated; and

(e) has demonstrated significant financial disadvantage through achieving maximum points for the 'Financial Hardship' category of QTAC's Educational Access Scheme prior to commencing studies at The University of Queensland.

## 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 in the Approved Program excluding any periods of approved interruption in accordance with rule 7; and

(b) maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.

(2) If the recipient fails to satisfy rule 5(1)(a), the recipient must show cause to the University why the Scholarship should not be terminated.

## 6. Payment of Award

(1) In the first year of the Scholarship \$1,400 of the total annual value of the Scholarship will be paid in the first week of study to help offset start-up costs, with the balance to be paid in two equal semester instalments after the semester census date.

(2) In subsequent years, the Scholarship will be paid in two equal semester instalments after the semester census date.

## 7. Deferment and Interruption of Award

(1) If a recipient has been granted approval to defer their program of study at the University they must notify the Scholarships Office. A Scholarship may be deferred for a maximum of one year.

(2) Scholarship recipients may apply to the Scholarships Office to have their Scholarship deferred for a further period in exceptional circumstances only.

(3) A recipient may apply to the Scholarships Office to interrupt their Scholarship for a maximum of two semesters in exceptional circumstances during the tenure of their Scholarship.

## 8. Termination of Award

The University may terminate a Scholarship if:

(a) the recipient does not show cause to the reasonable satisfaction of the University as provided for in rule 5(2); or

(b) the recipient defers or interrupts their study without approval; or

(c) the recipient does not resume study at the conclusion of an approved period of deferment or interruption; or

(d) the student commits misconduct.