UQ Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship

1. Definitions
In these rules –

\[ \text{GPA} = \frac{\sum(GP)}{\sum(P)} \]

where \( G \) = the result in a course; and
\( P \) = the unit value of that course.

If a student is enrolled in a course but gets no result, \( G=0 \).

**scholarship** means a UQ Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship

**relevant program** means any bachelor program at The University of Queensland.

**QTAC** means Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre

**regional or remote areas** means Inner Regional, Outer Regional, Remote or Very Remote areas as defined in the ASGC Remoteness Areas classification as described in the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2004 publication, ‘Rural, Regional and Remote Health: A Guide to Remoteness Classifications’.

**Director** means the Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit.

2. Purpose
The purpose of the scholarship is to provide assistance with education costs to financially disadvantaged Indigenous students and Indigenous students from remote areas and regional areas, who are commencing a relevant program at The University of Queensland.

3. Value and duration of the Scholarship
(1) The value of the scholarship is —

(a) \$2,000 for a student commencing study in semester 1 in the year of award; or
(b) \$1,000 for a student commencing study in semester 2 in the year of award.

(2) The maximum duration of the scholarship is —

(a) one year for a student commencing study in semester 1 in the year of award; or
(b) one semester for a student commencing study 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 an Indigenous person;
(c) is enrolled as a commencing student at The University of Queensland in a relevant program in the year of the award;
(d) is enrolled full time;
(e) has not undertaken any prior tertiary studies at bachelor level or higher (with the exception of enrichment studies undertaken during senior such as the Enhanced Studies Program);
(f) is not concurrently receiving a Startup Scholarship or Startup Loan (or any scholarship for the purpose of assisting with education costs) from Centrelink or an ICECS from UQ or another institution; and
(g) can demonstrate financial hardship or meet the regional or remote background criteria.

(2) A student meets the regional or remote background criteria if —

(a) In the period four years immediately preceding the year of award, they—

   i. Completed senior in a high school or college in a regional or remote area; or
   ii. Can demonstrate it was necessary for the student to live away from their regional or remote home to complete the whole or the majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or

   ...
iii. Lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for—
   a) Three years; or
   b) Two years if they relocated from the regional or remote area to undertake vocational education and training (eg. TAFE) in the two years immediately preceding the year of the award; and
   (b) They can demonstrate it is necessary for them to move from a regional or remote area to undertake tertiary study and will incur additional expenses as a result.

5. Award of scholarships
   (1) The scholarship is awarded on the recommendation of the Director to applicants who, in the opinion of the Director, show the greatest merit as demonstrated by –
      (a) evidence of financial need;
      (b) academic merit; and
      (c) any other information that the Director considers relevant.
   (2) Approximately half of the scholarships will be awarded to students who meet the regional or remote background criteria with the remaining scholarships to be awarded to students who meet the financial hardship criteria.

6. Payment of Scholarships
   (1) For students awarded the scholarship in semester 1, the scholarship will be paid in two equal instalments after census date in semester 1 and 2, after enrolment is confirmed.
   (2) For students awarded the scholarship in semester 2, the scholarship will be paid after census date in semester 2, after enrolment is confirmed.

7. Scholarship conditions
   (1) The scholarship will be paid in the first semester subject to –
      (a) the recipient being enrolled full-time in a relevant program on census date.
   (2) The scholarship will be paid in the second semester subject to –
      (a) the recipient remaining enrolled full-time in a relevant program on census date; and
      (b) maintaining adequate academic progress.

8. Termination of Scholarships
   The University will terminate the scholarship if
   (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.

9. Appeals Against Termination of Scholarship
   Appeals regarding the termination of the scholarship will be heard by the Academic Registrar.