Applying for Scholarships
In Four Easy Steps
Developed by Catholic College Wodonga 2015

Introduction

Each year, millions of dollars in scholarships are awarded to students by various organisations such as tertiary institutions, Government, societies and businesses.

There are many types of scholarships, which have different eligibility criteria, selection criteria, and methods of applying.

There isn’t a central resource you can use to find every single scholarship you may be eligible for. You will need to take the time to search through:

- Government websites
- Tertiary institute websites
- Tertiary institute scholarship brochures
- myfuture scholarships database
- Hobson’s Scholarship Search, and
- Internet search engines

This may take you a considerable amount of time, but it will be worth it if you can secure a scholarship, especially if you have to move away from home to study.

Your parents may be able to assist you with sourcing scholarships.

Step 1: Centrelink

If you are eligible for a Centrelink benefit such as Youth Allowance, you may be eligible to receive the Student Start-up Scholarship, http://bit.ly/1iIRBhW

If you have to move more than 90kms away to study your course either from or to a regional area, you may be eligible for the Relocation Scholarship, http://bit.ly/1MaHRom

Ring the Centrelink Youth and Student Services line on 132 490 and ask them for an appointment with your parents/guardians to find out if you are eligible for either.

### COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

- Student Start-up Scholarship
- Relocation Scholarship

### ELIGIBLE – YES

Currently receiving or will be eligible for a Centrelink benefit by March 2016.

There are several factors that will determine if you will be eligible for the Relocation Scholarship.

### ELIGIBLE – NO

Make the decision if you want to defer your course and try and get Independent Youth Allowance through working.

There are many factors that will determine your eligibility.

Please get advice directly from Centrelink and an accountant.

### ELIGIBLE – YES

Will come to you automatically through Centrelink after each census date at university.
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Step 2a: UAC

The majority of university courses in NSW and ACT are applied for via the University Admissions Centre (UAC). Most TAFE courses are applied for directly to the institution.

Participating universities enable you to apply for their equity scholarships via UAC through completing an online form which collects personal information that assists the universities to assess your eligibility.

This needs to be completed online by Wednesday 6 January. Go to www.uac.edu.au/equity

Step 2b: VTAC

The majority of university and TAFE courses in Victoria are applied for via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

All universities except for Australian Catholic University (apply through UAC) enable you to apply for selected equity scholarships through completing a form on the VTAC website.

The actual scholarships aren’t listed on the site and you don’t need to know if you are eligible for them. The information you enter will be sent to the universities you have applied to.

VTAC scholarship applications are now closed.

TERTIARY ADMISSION CENTRE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships from participating universities through UAC & VTAC

ELIGIBILITY

Yes if you have applied for a course from one of the participating institutions

You don’t need to know if you are eligible for any scholarships, you just put in your details and the institutions will work it out for you.

ELIGIBLE – VTAC

Closed

ELIGIBLE – UAC


Follow the links and you will receive a scholarship ID and pin.

Fill out each section and click submit. Download any required paper work for evidence (i.e., rural).

Post the paper work by the closing date.
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Step 3: Institution Scholarships

Each institution you apply for will have scholarships listed on their website.

You simply put the name of the institution and the word ‘scholarships’ into an Internet search engine and the link should come straight up- e.g., “RMIT scholarships”.

You will need to search through the scholarships that are relevant to you. These could include- undergraduate, faculty (e.g., health), campus, memorial, bequeathed, accommodation etc.

You will need to read over each one, checking the eligibility criteria and how to apply. There will be different closing dates and methods on how to apply.

INSTITUTION SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships offered by the institutions you have applied to.

Go the scholarships homepage of the institutions you have applied to and explore your options. If you find a scholarship, find out how to apply for it.

Direct Entry: You will need to apply for the scholarship directly to the university. You may have to apply via an application form or online portal.

If it says you need to apply through VTAC or UAC, you have already done this through step 2.

Step 4: Other

Once you have exhausted your options through Centrelink, VTAC/UAC, and the institutions you have applied for, you will need to find all the other scholarships floating around in cyber space.

There are all kinds- everything from the Defence Force to the Timber Merchants Society to Rural Female to Industry Cadetships.

A central scholarships database is available through the Good Universities Guide website, http://bit.ly/1lm4WPd

Click on the link and then and click on Scholarships. Use the search facility to narrow down your options.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

This includes all other scholarships you may be eligible for, including cadetships.

Go to http://bit.ly/1lm4WPd and use the search facility to narrow down your options.

Make sure to check your local and national newspapers for scholarships and also contact your local council.
# Scholarship Types

## Commonwealth

- **Centrelink scholarships** - must be receiving an approved allowance (i.e., Youth Allowance).
  
  - **Student Start-up Scholarship**: If eligible, you will receive just over $1000 per semester, [http://bit.ly/1jIRBhW](http://bit.ly/1jIRBhW)
  
  - **Relocation Scholarship**: For students who have to move either from or to a regional area to study. Strict eligibility criteria, [http://bit.ly/1MaHRom](http://bit.ly/1MaHRom)

## State & Local Government

In areas of skills shortages, sometimes State Governments will offer scholarships.

For example, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development offer scholarships for students living in Victoria who would like to study at university.

You find this information on the individual institution websites and the State Government department websites.

Local Governments sometimes offer regional area scholarships. Usually, the scholarship recipient needs to reside in the area. Contact your local/regional government office.

## Institution

Institutions usually have several categories of scholarships.

- **Access/Equity/Diversity**: For students from disadvantaged backgrounds. You generally apply through VTAC/UAC for these scholarships.

- **Indigenous**

- **Academic Merit/Excellence**: You often don’t need to apply for these scholarships, as you will be automatically considered based on your ATAR.

- **Course Scholarship**: The course you would like to apply for may have its own scholarship.

- **Campus**: Some universities offer campus wide scholarships.

- **Faculty Scholarships**: Faculties often have their own scholarships to enable access to their courses.

- **Rural/Regional Scholarships**: Aims to encourage students from regional areas to apply for their courses.

- **Sport Scholarships**: For talented and elite athletes.

- **Accommodation Scholarships**: Many student Colleges and Residences have scholarships.

## Memorial

There are numerous memorial and personally sponsored scholarships all over the country. It is difficult to find all the ones relevant to you, but a good place to start is the institute website.
How did you hear about the scholarship? I first heard about the scholarship from my Careers Adviser. I had already applied for scholarships relevant to my university (Charles Sturt) but I didn’t think of looking for any outside of this. From then on, and I still do this today, I simply Google for scholarships and my university has a great filtering system that allows you to view scholarships out there that you are eligible for. For this particular scholarship I had to write an essay about my passion for eventually working rurally and some of my ideas I have about the future of local allied healthcare.

How has it benefited you? The scholarship prize was a one off payment of $5000 in my first year of studies. At the end of this first year I had to follow up with the organisation to confirm I was still studying the same course and achieving good results. I didn’t have to report on what I used the money for or some industry bodies/companies/sectors can offer sponsorships at selected or multiple institutions. There are usually more industry scholarships offered in study areas of National skills shortages such as nursing, engineering and IT.

You can contact industry bodies yourself and ask if they will sponsor you for some of your course fees. They may make a donation or provide some paid work experience.

Co-operative scholarships are formed when an institution, industry body and a student enter into a partnership where the student will study at the institution in a specified course, the industry body will offer some financial assistance to the student and the student will agree to undertake graduate employment or further training at the company for a specified amount of time.

You will find information about these scholarships on institution websites.

Some institutions offer bonded scholarships, where you enter into a contract stating that you will meet certain obligations in return for the scholarship. For example, you may be bonded to work for a certain company or work in a rural area for a period of time once you complete your course. You will find information about these scholarships on institution websites.
anything like that. For someone who was still able to live at home while studying and had worked full time for a year I must admit I did feel a little selfish winning it.

However, I also didn’t realise the costs that simply come along with being university student such as travel costs, personal costs that relate to placement such as accommodation if you are away from home and not to mention some enormous textbooks.

Looking back, just having a bit of relief from some of these financial pressures as a new university student was fantastic.

**Why should Year 12 students apply for scholarships?**

I would encourage anyone to keep applying for scholarships- any kind of any amount. When you begin university you will appreciate that any kind of financial assistance will always help in some way.

Never be deterred from going for any scholarships if you feel you haven’t got a chance because you will never know if you don’t apply. Even the application process and getting to understand how some of these organisations work is beneficial.

One tip that I can offer is having a folder organised on your computer of documents that are commonly asked for when applying for a scholarship such as a resume, copy of any VCE results etc. because sometimes all of this can be overwhelming and seem like a lot of work, especially if you have to write an essay on top of providing documents.

It is definitely something that is worth taking an hour or two to do properly because it is extremely rewarding if you are awarded a scholarship. Please view the following link for information about the scholarship- [http://bit.ly/1eUPls3](http://bit.ly/1eUPls3)

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**Deakin Accommodation Scholarship**

Upon commencing my first year of studies at Deakin University in Geelong I received a full accommodation scholarship that would last the duration of my course. This meant that for the 4 years I was studying at university I would be provided with free on campus accommodation.

I applied for this scholarship along with a number of others through the Deakin and VTAC websites as soon as I knew I had been accepted into my course. The application process was extremely simple and barely took up much time, especially for what it was worth. This scholarship has been extremely beneficial as I was able to move away from home without stressing about the financial complications that often accompany moving out.

On campus accommodation has enabled me to make life long friends, settle into the Geelong community and keep up with the study demands of my course. Applying for scholarships is easy, fast and most definitely worth your while. Going to university can be financially overwhelming for many families and it is important that you take any opportunity you have to minimise this stress.

You never know which scholarships you might be eligible for so jump online, put your name down and take your chances as there is nothing to lose and so much to gain.
Scholarship Examples

- **Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme**: For rural students who would like to study Pharmacy in 2016 at any Australian university. Up to $10,000 per year for four years. Selection will be based on number of years living in a rural area, number of years at a rural primary school, and financial need.

- **Royal Australian Medical Undergraduate Scholarship (RAMUS)**: For rural and remote students who have applied for medicine at university, can demonstrate financial need, and can demonstrate commitment to working in a rural area post graduation. 20 available.

- **A Start in Life**: for young people who may find it difficult to access tertiary study due to financial disadvantage.

- **Victoria Department of Education and Training**: offers several scholarships for Year 12 students planning to study full time in 2016. There are various scholarships each with their own selection criteria.

- **Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Scholarships Program for Rural and Regional Students**: for students who want to study full time at university in 2016.

- **ACAS/ Coca Cola Agriculture Scholarship**: This is for students will be studying an agriculture TAFE or university course. You must apply for membership for a local agricultural show society. The scholarship is worth $2000.

- **Rural Finance Undergraduate Scholarships**: For students applying for agriculture related university or TAFE courses. Worth up to $6000 per year. Must have lived in Victoria for at least 3 consecutive years.

- **Applications are now open**, [http://bit.ly/1LXoHBn](http://bit.ly/1LXoHBn)


- **Applications are now open and close 25 January**, [http://bit.ly/1IyuJ0r](http://bit.ly/1IyuJ0r)
