



*Destination Australia – an Australian Government initiative*

## **University of New England Destination Australia Scholarships (Honours/Grad Dip)**

### **Terms and Conditions**

#### **Background**

The University of New England has been selected by the Commonwealth Government as one of the tertiary education institutions that will award a number of the new Destination Australia Program (DAP) scholarships for commencement in the 2020 academic year. UNE welcomes the opportunity to provide DAP scholarship support to new domestic and international students interested in undertaking study at Australia's oldest regional university, located in the scenic New England region in northern NSW, with seven residential colleges at its main Armidale campus.

UNE has a long and strong record of world class research in numerous fields. In ERA 2018, UNE gained a top 5-star rating of 'Well above world standard', for 15 specific research fields including: Agriculture, Land & Farm Management; Animal Production; Ecology; Environmental Science & Management; Evolutionary Biology; Genetics; Geology; Macromolecular & Materials Chemistry; Pure Mathematics; Soil Sciences; and Zoology. UNE was rated the second top 4-star category of 'Above World Standard', or 3-star for 'World Standard', for another 12 specific research fields.

## Conditions of Award – (Honours/Grad Dip)

### Eligibility

A scholarship holder:

- Must be a student intending to enrol in an accredited Honours/Grad Dip course of study at UNE in 2020
- Must maintain ongoing residency in the Armidale area for the duration of the scholarship
- Must maintain a student visa, where applicable, for the duration of the scholarship

### Additional UNE Requirements

A scholarship holder

- Must not have completed a research degree at the same level as the proposed candidature.
- Honours is here defined as 48 credit point, full-year Hons research program.
- Must be enrolled in their degree as a full-time, on-campus student.
- Candidates awarded a scholarship for Honours/Grad Dip will be encouraged to progress to HDR study subject to eligibility and satisfactory progress.

### Duration of Scholarship

The scholarship period has the capacity for extension when the student progresses from Honours/Grad Dip to a HDR course (see above).

### Commencement

A scholarship holder must commence studies by the date specified in the offer letter, or the scholarship may be withdrawn and reallocated to another applicant. Candidates who accept the scholarship and subsequently reject it, may only be eligible to re-apply in the following year if the scholarship is relinquished for reasons acceptable to UNE, and within six months of the scholarship's payments commencing.

### Destination Australia Scholarship

The Destination Australia Program Scholarship amounts to AU\$15,000 tax free per annum.

### Application Process

*Honours students* should complete the Honours Students Scholarship Application Form on the UNE website.

### No Extension of DAP scholarships

The University will not extend the duration of a DAP scholarship specified in the university's original agreement with the scholarship holder.

DAP scholarships are not available for part-time study.

### Off-Campus Study

DAP scholarships will not be approved for off-campus study.

### Changes to Course Level

Where an HDR candidate upgrades to a higher level course, or takes an exit pathway to a lower level course, the allocation of their DAP scholarship will be reviewed and determination made, with the proviso that the originally specified duration of DAP scholarships cannot be extended.

### Research at Other Organisations

---

- HONOU - H

The University may approve DAP scholarship holders to conduct research at other, approved research facilities for a limited time.

### **Research Overseas**

The University may approve DAP scholarship holders to conduct research at approved research facilities overseas for archival research or field work, normally for no longer than six months.

### **Field Work in Australia**

The University may approve DAP scholarships holders to conduct field work away from the University. The DAP scholarship makes no additional contribution towards expenses for field work or research away from the University for a limited time, though it is possible (but not guaranteed) that a student's supervising Faculty or School may choose to provide some financial support for field work.

### **Termination of the DAP Scholarship**

DAP Scholarship payments will cease upon the submission of the thesis or at the end of the scholarship, whichever occurs first. Scholarships will be terminated before this time under any of the following conditions:

- (i) If the scholarship holder ceases to meet the eligibility criteria;
- (ii) If, in the opinion of the University, the scholarship holder is not carrying out the course of study with competence and diligence, or in accordance with the offer of scholarship, and no suitable alternative arrangements can be made for the continuation of the HDR candidature;
- (iii) If the scholarship holder does not meet progression requirements to the next phase of study (i.e. Hons/Grad Dip to HDR).
- (iv) If the scholarship holder ceases to be a full-time student;
- (v) On the death, incapacity, resignation or withdrawal of the scholarship holder;
- (vi)
- (vii) If the scholarship holder fails to resume study at the conclusion of an approved leave of absence, or does not make arrangements to extend that period of leave; or
- (viii) If the scholarship holder has committed serious misconduct, including, but not limited to the provision of false or misleading information.
- (viii) A scholarship holder in their fourth year of DAP funding will not be eligible to apply for a UNE completion scholarship.

If the scholarship is terminated it may not be reinstated unless the termination occurred in error.

Termination of the scholarship due to failure to meet the scholarship conditions may result in the scholarship recipient's being required to repay part or all of any instalments already received.

### **Administration**

The University will be fair and equitable in the use of its discretionary powers. The University recognises the rights of scholarship holders to appeal against decisions. In the first instance problems should be directed to Research Services. The University will pay the scholarship holder all entitlements under the award.

### **Specific Student Obligations**

Scholarship holders shall:

- diligently and to the best of their ability apply themselves to the successful completion of their degree;
- abide by the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research;
- abide by the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research;
- abide by the Australian code of practice for the care and use of animals for scientific

- purposes; and
- conform to the regulations, including disciplinary provisions, of the University, as described in the University of New England's policies and rules.