



## UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

### Hunter New England Population Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship

#### Terms and Conditions

#### 1. Introduction

The University of New England has established undergraduate scholarships to encourage qualified and motivated students to study at UNE.

The recipients of the Hunter New England Population Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship will be an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who will commence or continue full-time, on-campus studies in Nursing at the University of New England in the year following application.

Some scholarships may affect Centrelink payments. It is the recipient's responsibility to seek advice from Centrelink.

#### 2. Details

Value: \$5,000 First Year student

\$6,000 Second Year student

\$7,500 Third Year student

Number awarded: During 2015 the scholarships will be awarded to a 1st, 2nd & 3rd year student, continuing until the end of the three year degree.

During 2016 the scholarship will be awarded to a 1st year student for a minimum of 2 years, with the possibility of extension subject to funding availability.

During 2017 the scholarship will be awarded to a 1st year student for a minimum of 1 year, with the possibility of extension subject to funding availability.

Duration: 3 years – dependant on availability of funds from Hunter New England Population Health

Study Mode: Full-time, on-campus

### 3. Eligibility

The applicant must:

- Be an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student
- Enrolled in a Nursing degree at the University of New England
- Prove financial need, and
- Must be registered with Ooralá Aboriginal Centre at UNE for student support (continuing students only).

### 4. Selection

- The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of academic merit as indicated by the applicant's performance in the NSW HSC (or equivalent) or recent academic results.
- The Undergraduate Scholarships Committee will also consider:
  - involvement and leadership activities; and
  - commitment to the proposed course.
- The applicant should attach evidence to support financial need, which may be:
  - A copy of a Centrelink statement; and /or
  - Their parent's/parents' Income Tax Return/s (if dependent); and /or
  - A letter from an authorised person (eg. Community leader, School principal, minister of religion, accountant) that comments on the applicant's financial circumstances.
- The applicant should provide a statement describing how they would benefit from a scholarship. The statement should also indicate any special reasons the applicant should be awarded a scholarship, any obstacles they have overcome in their path to study, particularly financial, geographic, cultural or other disadvantage.

### 5. Report/s

For commencing students: 1 (one) – School Principal's Report or an Academic Referee's report from previous education provider such as TAFE.

For continuing students  
in 2015 & 2016: 1 (one) – Academic Referee's Report

Students will be required to provide evidence of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status to UNE by submitting a 'Confirmation of Aboriginality' document (or 'Confirmation of Aboriginality and/or Torres Strait Islander Status' document), stating that the student:

1. Is of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; and
2. Identifies as an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; and
3. Is accepted as an Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in the community in which they live or have lived

The confirmation document is to be issued by an incorporated Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation from the community in which the student lives, or has lived, and is to include the organisation's common seal.

#### 6. Closing Date

End of January

#### 7. Conditions

- The applicant must not be in receipt of any other UNE scholarship.
- The scholarship shall be administered by and awarded on the recommendation of the Undergraduate Scholarships Committee. The scholarship is dependent on funding being available from Hunter New England Population Health.
- Where the scholarship is awarded to a continuing student it will only be paid for remaining years of the course.
- There will be no commitment by the University to employ the recipient.
- It is expected that the recipient will be enrolled in at **least 6 units per year**. If only enrolled for 6 units each year, the recipient will be enrolled in three units in Trimester 1 and three units in Trimester 2 with no obligation to be enrolled in Trimester 3. **The recipient is not able to enrol in only 2 units per trimester.**
- It is a requirement that recipients of the Hunter New England Population Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship maintain regular contact (at least three visits per trimester) with the Student Support Officer at the Oorala Aboriginal Centre and register for ITAS (Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme), where appropriate. The recipient must make their first contact at Oorala Aboriginal Centre before the census date in the teaching period that the scholarship is awarded. If a student fails to make contact before the census date, the scholarship will be immediately withdrawn.
- In cooperation with the Oorala Aboriginal Centre the recipient is also required to provide support and mentorship to Aboriginal nursing students in year groups below that of the recipient. Opportunities will be provided by Hunter New England Population Health for the student to develop mentorship skills.

- The scholarship payment of either \$5,000 (five thousand) for a first Year student, or \$6,000 (six thousand) for a second Year student, or \$7,500 (seven thousand five hundred) will be made directly to the recipient's bank account in two instalments, within a month of the Trimester One and Two census dates.
- Any changes to enrolment after receiving an instalment must be notified to the Undergraduate Scholarships Team. If the recipient no longer satisfies the conditions of the scholarship they may be required to repay the instalment.
- Continuation of the scholarship is subject to satisfactory academic progress:
  - The recipient maintaining a GPA of at least 4.0 in each trimester. For continuing students, results for Trimesters Two and Three will be combined for the purpose of calculating eligibility for continuation of the scholarship in Trimester One in the second and subsequent years.
  - It is expected that the recipient will be enrolled full-time, on-campus unless a unit is offered only as an off-campus unit and it is a requirement of the course. Where three or more units within a trimester are offered only as off-campus units (including fully online units, and the units are a requirement of the course, a student may appeal to the Chair of the Undergraduate Scholarships Committee for continuation of the scholarship.
  - The recipient is expected to complete the course in the minimum period of candidature applicable to the course.
- Recipients will be required to submit brief reports (by 14<sup>th</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> November each year) on their progress with their studies and involvement in sporting, cultural and community activities as well as participation in University life.
- The Hunter New England Population Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship will offer to recipient's voluntary work during university breaks. This voluntary work will involve activities across Population Health programs, such as immunisation, health promotion, or healthy school programs.
- The recipient will be required to attend the annual scholarships presentation event if they are invited to do so. Recipients may be asked to participate in activities to promote the Hunter New England Population Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship and UNE Scholarships in general, including public speaking, donor liaison, media interviews and photographs.
- UNE may change these Conditions on written notice to the recipient.
- Hunter New England Population Health also supports an annual academic award in Nursing for the Aboriginal student in each year with the highest academic achievement. The scholarship recipient will be considered for this award along with all other Aboriginal students studying nursing at UNE.

## 8. Acceptance of Conditions

- In accepting a Hunter New England Health Aboriginal Nursing Scholarship, the recipient acknowledges that they are accepting the terms and conditions outlined above.

- Failure to meet the requirements of these terms and conditions may lead to the termination of the scholarship.