HECS Scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students

The University of Tasmania is offering up to 20 HECS Scholarships to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to undertake studies in either of the following two courses:

- Bachelor of General Studies (Education Pathway) or
- Associate Degree (Education Support).

These scholarships have been set up for students commencing in 2016, to work towards increasing the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teachers in Tasmanian schools, by providing support to Year 12 leavers who have not met degree entry requirements and current Aboriginal Education Workers or Teaching Assistants in the State and Catholic systems.

Year 12 leavers may qualify for a HECS scholarship for study of up to 100% of a full-time university load in eligible units throughout 2016.*

Current Aboriginal Education Workers or Teaching Assistants may qualify for a HECS scholarship for study of up to 25% of a full-time university load throughout 2016. This may be made up of two 12.5% units or one 25% unit each year.*

How do I qualify for a HECS scholarship?

This opportunity is available to commencing students who are members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and who are:

1. 2015 Year 12 leavers commencing study in the Bachelor of General Studies - Education Pathway. Students who have part-time work in a school (paid or voluntary), may elect to enter the Associate Degree of Education Support.

2. Current Aboriginal Education Workers or Teaching Assistants commencing study in the Associate Degree of Education Support or the Bachelor of General Studies - Education Pathway, who

- are employed by the Department of Education (DOE), Tasmanian Catholic Education Office (TCEO) and other Catholic schools in Tasmania, TasTAFE or one of many Independent schools throughout the state; and
- are employed on a continuing basis (full-time and part-time) or who are on a fixed-term contract of 12 months or more;
- will continue to be employed within the sector while undertaking the HECS scholarship units; and
- are eligible for a Commonwealth supported place under the HECS-HELP system (this applies to most people - see studyassist.gov.au for eligibility guidelines); and
- are not currently receiving any other UTAS HECS scholarships.
How do I apply?

There are a number of steps to take in order to get started.

- Download a HECS Scholarship application form - utas.edu.au/future-students/hecs-scholarships
- Submit your application to Fees.Unit@utas.edu.au by the 14th December 2015
- You will be contacted regarding your eligibility shortly after the closing date.
- If you are eligible, you will be invited to attend a briefing session which will provide you with specific information for applying for your course as well as other important information to help you get started with your studies.
- Once you have received your offer of a place, follow the instructions provided to accept the offer and arrange to attend a Ready for Uni workshop. Here you will receive necessary information and have the opportunity to complete your enrolment for the units you will be studying.
- Complete your enrolment in eStudent (utas.edu.au/enrolments)
- The scholarship deduction will appear on the fees invoice sent to you by the University of Tasmania.
- Education workers who have been away from study for a number of years should plan to attend “UniStart” – an introduction to study at the University of Tasmania. This four-day course takes place just prior to the start of each semester, and is also available online.

The HECS Scholarship is available for study until 31 December 2016.

* Information on current course fees can be found at: www.futurestudents.utas.edu.au/course-costs.

Please note - UTAS reserves the right to limit enrolments in high demand units and courses, so act early to avoid disappointment.

#The University of Tasmania reserves the right to amend scholarship allocation against units if necessary for administrative purposes. A maximum of 100% load per year applies for eligible staff studying for professional and/or personal development.