Scholarships can make a real difference to your university experience.

Achievement
Access
Advancement

A scholarship can reduce the financial burden so often experienced by our student community. It allows you to focus on your education and get the most out of your time at university.

Our scholarships will help you thrive at Southern Cross.

✚ Our access scholarships will help you overcome the financial barriers to study.
✚ Our achievement scholarships will reward your hard work and academic success.
✚ Our advancement scholarships will support your success across all facets of student and sporting life.

Our donor community believes in you. They are backing you all the way.

Apply for a scholarship today.

COVER: l-r, Scholarship recipients Lachlan Crowther, Janine Mukeshimana, Taylor Harrington, Courtney Till, Steffen Westermann and Sarah Ashley.
“There is a chance to attend nursing placement overseas, and I am hoping to be able to put some money aside [from the scholarship] to take this opportunity. Given that humanitarian work is where I want to go with my nursing career, the experience will be amazing.”

Janine Mukeshimana – Bachelor of Nursing student
Mayor of Lismore Scholarship recipient
“I remember how hard the words hit me – ‘you’re not smart enough’. I lost all motivation and started cutting classes. I almost didn’t finish high school. I hit rock bottom after school, with no university acceptance, no career trajectory and no plan. I’d heard about Southern Cross’ bridging program, Preparing for Success. I was accepted and worked hard, receiving above distinction grades. For the first time in my life I’d received good grades and it felt so good. I started to believe that I was not only capable of university, but with hard work, I may actually excel at this. I received a scholarship, which enabled me to dedicate myself to my studies full-time. After my first session, the results came in – four distinctions! This made me re-evaluate my goals. I loved the idea of working in a marine-related field, but with my grades, I needed to raise the bar. With global problems surrounding marine life, I want to enable real change in the world and research is the best way I can make an impact. In 2019 I was able to live fulltime in Fiji, conducting practical coral research and studying my Honours degree. This year I’m finalising my Honours research on coral restoration and its impact on fish communities, which I hope to publish, then my next goal is to pursue my PhD through Southern Cross.”

Jordan Ivey – Bachelor of Marine Science and Management student
New Colombo Plan Scholarship recipient
Southern Cross University Scholarships

Southern Cross University is a dynamic regional university with big ideas that are making an international impact.

Our lecturers and researchers have world-leading expertise and are committed to solving real world problems around climate change, natural resource management, food security, health and wellbeing and social welfare.

With more than 20,000 students, we are committed to providing industry relevant and academically rigorous degrees. We collaborate closely with industry, government sectors, and our community partners to ensure we produce work-ready graduates for a wide range of careers.

We are proud of the achievements of our students, knowing they are set to engage with, and enrich local communities – giving back in ways that are in boundless ways.

Scholarships really make a difference. They make receiving an education attainable.
"When I commenced studies mid 2018 I was extremely anxious, though I didn’t let that stop me. It was at that time I gained confidence and was encouraged to apply for the Southern Cross Scholars Scholarship. When advised of my success, I was still busy trying to figure out what I was meant to be doing for my studies in terms of units and assessments but excited to embark on a new adventure. Being offered the scholarship was not only about the financial support but also knowing that people believed in me. It is a great honour to be the recipient. The scholarship has motivated me to succeed and give my personal best to my studies."

Taylor Harrington – Bachelor of Business student
Southern Cross Scholars Scholarship recipient
Applying for a scholarship

Our top 5 application tips:

1. Before you start, make a list of your achievements. They are worth mentioning in your application.

2. Talk about your leadership, teamwork or other skills, even if they are still developing. It might be as a result of a course, employment, sporting, creative arts or other achievement.

3. Share about yourself. Allow the University and/or donor to get to know you on paper and share your future ambitions.

4. Consider how your degree will help you give back to the community and what it means to you.

5. Re-read your application and ensure there are no spelling mistakes. You want to present yourself in the best way possible.

4 easy steps to apply

1. Start at the website
   Visit scu.edu.au/scholarships to find the scholarship for you.

2. Eligibility
   Determine what scholarships you may be eligible for. Make sure you read and understand the selection criteria for each scholarship.

3. Think about your skills
   Work your way through the form carefully, taking your time to consider your answers thoroughly.

4. The final button is important
   Submit the form – and you are done. It’s that easy.
Frequently Asked Questions

What scholarships should I apply for?

There are many scholarships on offer, some which are administered within the University and some that are external scholarships promoted on behalf of community organisations.

There are key categories to help guide you:

- Undergraduate or postgraduate degree
- Future or current student
- Scholarships that focus on achievement, access or advancement
- Honours Scholarships
- Indigenous Australian

You’ll need to follow the guidelines for each scholarship when applying, as they may all be as unique as you are.

For our donor scholarships, you only need to apply once and your application will be assessed against them all.

Do the scholarships support me throughout my whole degree?

This will depend on the criteria of each scholarship. Some will support you in the first year of your degree, and other scholarships are available for three or four years of your degree.

When do scholarship applications open and close?

Scholarship opportunities will open and close throughout the year depending on availability and the academic calendar. Visit the Scholarships website for more information: scu.edu.au/scholarships

Steffen Westermann – Bachelor of Business with Honours graduate, Southern Cross University Business and Information Technology Honours Scholarship recipient
What is the difference between achievement, access or advancement scholarships?

Southern Cross University’s achievement-based scholarships specifically focus on the talents and interests of the recipients including academic, artistic, athletic and other abilities.

Southern Cross University’s access scholarships are designed to assist disadvantaged students access and succeed at university and support students from one or more equity or disadvantaged groups. This may include students from low socio-economic backgrounds, low income (particularly those in receipt of Centrelink assistance), Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders, recent refugees, regional and remote students, those with primary care responsibilities, disability or medical issues.

Advancement (merit & needs) scholarships are awarded to students who have both excellent academic achievements and some form of disadvantage based on one or more of our defined equity or personal disadvantage groups above.

How will I find out if I have been awarded a scholarship?

If you have applied online for a scholarship, either UAC or our Scholarship Office will contact you to advise you of the outcome. Successful applicants will be notified after the selection process has been completed, generally 4-8 weeks from the time of the application closing date. Sometimes offers are delayed and made after the commencement of the study period.

If I am offered a scholarship, can I defer it?

Unfortunately, unlike a course offer, scholarship offers cannot be deferred. However, if you would like to take a gap year or have planned leave from your studies, you may be able to apply again. You may wish to check with the Scholarships Office for advice about your personal circumstances.

What are the expectations of me as a scholarship recipient?

Nearly all scholarships have strict ongoing eligibility requirements that may include maintaining a full-time study load and maintaining a particular academic standard.

For those who receive a donor scholarship, you will need to attend the scholarship celebration where you will personally meet your donor. You will also be required to provide a donor thank you letter.

Showing your appreciation is important, as many organisations and individuals are giving to show their support to you and to affirm their commitment to the value of education to change people’s lives.

Specific details about your scholarship are available in the Terms and Conditions provided to you in your Letter of Offer. If your circumstances change, please contact the Scholarships Office so that they can talk through your options.

Can I hold more than one scholarship?

Generally the answer is no. Usually a recipient will receive one scholarship at any one time. However, we do encourage you to apply for as many scholarships as you can to increase your chances of being successful.
What if I am unsuccessful in obtaining a scholarship?

There may be other opportunities to apply for a scholarship throughout your degree.

What if I am not a strong match for any of the scholarship criteria?

Even if you feel you do not meet every selection criteria for a scholarship, we encourage you to still apply. You may, in fact, be strong in the criteria that is most important to the donor.

The single application form means that once you have applied you do not have to keep returning to check if new scholarships are being offered. You will be automatically considered for any scholarships being offered by our donors to new students. To find the new student scholarship application form go to scu.edu.au/scholarships

Will my scholarship be taxed?

Southern Cross University does not withhold PAYG tax from coursework scholarship or award payments. It is the recipient’s responsibility to check with the Australian Tax Office and/or an independent tax adviser to ascertain whether payments received are classified as taxable income.

As a research student, where can I find information on scholarships?

Doctoral and Masters by research students are managed by the Graduate School. Visit the Graduate School webpage at scu.edu.au/graduate-school/scholarships
Contact us

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate in contacting our Scholarships Office.

📞 1800 626 481

✉️ scholarships@scu.edu.au

📍 Student Services, Goodman Plaza, Military Road, East Lismore NSW 2480

✉️ Southern Cross University
Scholarships, Student Services, PO Box 157 Lismore NSW 2480

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