

Higher education scholarship application guideline 2025

Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade

Document title	Higher education scholarship application guideline 2025
Contact details	Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade
Approved by	Executive Director Workforce, Skills and Migration
Date approved	2024
Document review	Annually
TRM number	DITT2023/00916

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
1.0	21 February 2023	Rebecca Tilbrook	First draft
1.1	September 2023	Rebecca Tilbrook	Revised for 2024
2.0	August 2024	Rebecca Tilbrook	Changed into an application-specific guideline

Acronyms	Full form
NTG	Northern Territory Government
HECS	Higher Education Contribution Scheme
ATAR	Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank
IB	International Baccalaureate
CDU	Charles Darwin University
SOPL	Skilled Occupation Priority List
NTCET	NT Certificate of Education and Training

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1. Overview

The Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (the department) seeks to grow a skilled, agile, and capable workforce to meet business and community needs now and for future demand.

To support this, the Higher Education Scholarship (the scholarship) program, encourages NT school graduates to undertake tertiary studies leading to employment in the Territory.

Each year, up to 20 scholarships are available for eligible NT Year 12 graduates. The scholarships provide financial support of \$5,000 per year for recipients to pursue their first undergraduate degree.

2. Key Dates

Date	Milestone	Description
Early December	Applications open	Applications open in GrantsNT
Mid-February	Applications close	Applications close
March	Applications assessed	Applications assessed by panel
April	Applicants advised of outcome	Applicants, whether successful or unsuccessful, will be notified of the outcome

3. General Information

The Higher Education Scholarship aims to support young people in the Northern Territory to acquire in-demand skills and qualifications, enabling them to secure employment and contribute to key industries within the Northern Territory.

All qualifications being studied in the Territory are eligible, however qualifications undertaken interstate must be considered a high priority under the [Northern Territory Skilled Occupation Priority List](#).

Successful applicants will be required to sign a funding agreement, which is a legally binding document that specifies the terms and conditions, requirements and expectations between the department and the scholarship recipient.

4. Who can apply

Eligibility checklist

Applicants who meet all eligibility criteria will be given priority preference. However, the panel reserves the right to award scholarships to applicants who do not meet all eligibility criteria but have demonstrated merit commensurate with the program's intent.

- Are an NT resident*
- Are an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Graduated year 12 in 2023 or 2024
- Completed the NTCET or equivalent and received an [ATAR/IB](#) of at least 85
- Are enrolled to study full-time
- Are enrolled in your first undergraduate degree in the NT**

Notes:

*This is inclusive of students who were at boarding school interstate and are returning to the Northern Territory, where their parents/guardians are resident/s.

**Scholarships may be awarded for study interstate if your course isn't available in any form in the NT and is considered a high priority occupation.

5. Who cannot apply

Ineligibility - You can't apply for a higher education scholarship if you:

- Have gained entry to university through the Tertiary Enabling Program (TEP) or equivalent
- Work for an Australian, state, or territory government
- Will be working full-time during study periods
- Are completing a traineeship or apprenticeship
- Receive a scholarship, bursary, stipend, or funding from another source, excluding:
 - Australian Government Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY
 - one-off merit scholarships paid in one year or less
 - access and equity grants
 - subsidies and grants not paid to you directly, such as an accommodation scholarship or textbook bursary.

6. Course requirements

What can be funded

- Funding is only available for the recipient's first undergraduate degree, at the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level 7, i.e., Bachelor Degree. If you are enrolled in a Bachelor Honours Degree (AQF level 8), you will be funded for the Bachelor component only.
- All Bachelor Degrees being studied in the Territory are eligible, however qualifications undertaken interstate must be considered a high priority occupation on the [NT Skilled Occupation Priority List](#).
- The scholarship is paid for the minimum time it takes to complete the degree at the full-time study load.
- If enrolment is in a double degree, it will be paid at the minimum time it will take to complete one qualification of full-time study.
- Scholarship holders can choose to defer their payments to the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS).

What can't be funded

- Qualifications at AQF levels 1 to 6, and 8 to 10 (inclusive)
- Courses outside the Northern Territory that:
 - are not listed as high priority on the NT SOPL
 - are available in the NT, regardless of major
 - are a double degree, available separately in the NT.

7. How to apply

To apply for the Higher Education Scholarship, follow these steps:

Step 1. Read over the scholarship application guidelines to confirm you are eligible.

Step 2: Check you have all required evidence/information as outlined below.

Step 3. Fill in the higher education scholarship application form through GrantsNT.

Application requirements	
Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation of Australian citizenship/evidence of permanent residency <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of NT residency (e.g. photo ID, bill) <input type="checkbox"/> NT Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET) <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)/International Baccalaureate (IB) <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmation of full-time enrolment 	Personal statement, covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> How the scholarship will assist you <input type="checkbox"/> Why you have chosen your particular degree <input type="checkbox"/> The career path you wish to take <input type="checkbox"/> Your intentions to work in the NT after graduation <input type="checkbox"/> The positive impact you hope to have on the NT community

8. Assessment process

You will be required to [register](#) and apply for the scholarship through [GrantsNT](#) by the closing date.

A confirmation email will be sent on receipt of your application. If further information is required to progress your application, you will be contacted via email.

Applicants who meet all eligibility criteria will be given priority preference. However, the panel reserves the right to award scholarships to applicants who do not meet all eligibility criteria but have demonstrated merit commensurate with the program's intent.

Assessments will be completed by the end of April; you will be notified of the outcome via email.

8.1. If your application is successful

Upon successful application, you will be required to sign a grant agreement, which legally binds you to continue meeting the scholarship terms and conditions.

Additionally, you will need to submit a talent release form, and a vendor creation application, which allows the NT Government to pay you.

Please note that the scholarship funds can only be used for the approved course and institution specified in the agreement.

8.2. If your application is not successful

If your application is not successful and you believe it should be reconsidered, you can appeal to the Scholarship Administrator within seven calendar days of receiving the decision.

Your appeal must be in writing and include any supporting information as relevant.

Your request will be reviewed, and the original decision may be upheld, amended, or overturned. The decision made following the review is final and cannot be further reviewed, however you may be eligible to apply again the following year.

9. Contacts

For more information, contact the Scholarship Administrator:

Ph. 08 8999 8862

E. scholarships@nt.gov.au

All correspondence and notifications about your application will be sent via email.