2021
Wilson Security
Indigenous Scholarship
Application guidelines
Introduction

The Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship is a joint initiative between the Oodgeroo Unit, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and Wilson Security. The scholarship is valued at $2000 for one year, comprising $1000 financial assistance Semester 1 and Semester 2.

Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship

One scholarship will be offered to an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander student enrolled a full-time undergraduate degree at QUT.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must:
- be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent and provide a Confirmation of Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Descent form stamped with a Common Seal belonging to a registered organisation
- be enrolled at Queensland University of Technology at the census date
- maintain a full-time study load and grade point average of 4.

Applicants may be studying externally or on-campus.

Timing and payment of scholarship monies

Scholarships will be awarded in Semester 1, 2021 and paid to the scholarship recipient in two equal installments—one payment of $1000 following census date in Semester 1, the second payment of $1000 following census date in Semester 2. Payments will be made as soon as possible after the census dates in Semesters 1 and 2.

Termination of scholarship

The Oodgeroo Unit, QUT in consultation with Wilson Security, may terminate a recipient’s scholarship if the recipient does not maintain a full-time study load or a grade point average of 4 each semester.

The scholarship recipient who does not maintain a grade point average of 4 may be considered for continuation of scholarship if they can demonstrate a strong desire to continue their academic program and adhere to the recommended course of action as suggested by Oodgeroo Unit, QUT. The scholarship recipient should apply in writing to the scholarship panel to request continuation of their scholarship.

Student support including mentoring is provided and the scholarship recipient will be encouraged to apply for specialised academic extension—Keystones of Success: Supporting our future leaders.

If the scholarship recipient wishes to change their academic program, they should advise the scholarship panel in writing and seek approval to continue their scholarship support.

Should a scholarship recipient need to suspend their scholarship for one or more semesters (maximum one per academic year), they should apply to the scholarship panel in writing for approval. Should the suspension be approved, the funds will be held by Oodgeroo Unit, QUT for payment to the scholarship recipient once they continue their studies at the end of the suspended period.

Tax and other benefits implications

Scholarship payments will contribute to recipient’s taxable income and may also impact entitlement to Commonwealth benefits such as ABSTUDY.

The scholarship applicant and/or recipient are encouraged to contact Centrelink, the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and/or their taxation agent to obtain advice about the implications of the scholarship payments on current earnings and benefits.

Information about taxation on scholarships is also available from the ATO website at: https://www.ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/Is-my-scholarship-taxable/

Application process

Applicants are required to fully complete the 2021 Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship application form, proof of Aboriginality and/or Torres Strait Islander heritage status, a written submission of 500 words or less per question answering the following in their own words:

- How have you demonstrated your academic potential in the past and your potential now within the university context? How will this scholarship further support your academic goals? (40% weighting)
- Please describe your personal attributes e.g. community involvement, career aspiration, interests and what drives you. (40% weighting)
- What specific personal circumstances and equity needs would you like the panel to consider that may impact on achieving success within your chosen course? How will the scholarship assist in overcoming these? (20% weighting)

Other documents

Applicants should attach documentary evidence of additional material that they believe will support their scholarship application. These should include, but may not be limited to:

- academic transcripts (from high school, TAFE and/or previous study)
- academic transcript if a continuing QUT student
- Please attach a copy of your academic record from QUT Virtual
• certified copy of documentation supporting Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander heritage (if not already provided to the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT)
• a current resume/curriculum vitae.

**Submitting the application**

Applications must be submitted to the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT by **Friday 5 March 2021**.

Applicants are required to submit an application via the link:  

All required documentation is to be provided by the closing time and date. Any incomplete or late application may not be considered.

**Selection process**

The **Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship** applications will be reviewed and assessed by a selection panel.

Scholarship applicants are assessed on the basis of all information submitted in their application and having regard to the selection criteria. Written applications will be assessed by a panel comprising two representatives of the Oodgeroo Unit and Wilson Security. The panel may elect to interview short-listed applicants to assist with their decision-making process.

**Scholarship offers**

Once the selection process is complete the applicant will be notified in writing of the outcome of their scholarship application. The successful applicant may be notified of the outcome of their application by telephone or email prior to receiving the formal written notification.

The successful applicant will receive a written letter of offer and a copy of the Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship agreement and schedule, which must be completed and returned within 10 working days from the date of the written letter of offer. Acceptance of offers cannot be deferred.

**Scholarship conditions**

The scholarship recipient will need to enter into a binding agreement with the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT which specifies the conditions of the scholarship. These conditions will require recipient to:

- maintain a 4 grade point average
- submit results and confirmation of continued enrolment promptly at the end of each semester
- (if applicable) defer for no more than 12 months during the study period
- maintain active communication with the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT at all times
- attend the official scholarship presentation ceremony
- give consent to photographs being taken for the purposes of promotional activities including media, webpage/s by the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT and Wilson Security.

When the agreement has been signed by both parties, a copy will be returned for the scholarship recipient’s records.

Where a scholarship recipient fails to fulfil the conditions of the agreement, the scholarship may be retracted by the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT and any scholarship funds received may be required to be repaid by the recipient.

Detailed information about the scholarship conditions will be provided to successful applicants. The recipient of a scholarship will need to consent to QUT providing Wilson Security with certain personal information about the recipient in relation to the scholarship, for example, the recipient’s name and image, email address, phone number, course details, grade point average to Wilson Security.

**Withdrawal and termination of scholarship**

**Withdrawal from scholarship by recipient**

The scholarship recipient who withdraws from the scholarship program after receiving payment of scholarship benefits will be required to repay some or all of the scholarship funds received.

**Termination of scholarship by the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT**

The Oodgeroo Unit, QUT may terminate a scholarship if a recipient does not satisfactorily meet the scholarship conditions, including if the recipient:

- fails to provide evidence of maintaining a grade point average of 4
- fails to provide confirmation of continued enrolment, seek prior approval for deferral, or exceeds the maximum 12-month deferral time allowed
- fails to remain enrolled in the approved degree program for which the scholarship has been awarded
- withdraws from the study program either before or after the cooling off period has expired
- acts in a manner that contravenes the scholarship agreement, in QUT’s absolute discretion.

Please note: the scholarship recipient who has their scholarship terminated, may be required to repay some or all of the scholarship funds received to the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT.
Scholarship recipient
In addition to fulfilling their study program, the scholarship recipient should note that their responsibilities include:

- providing the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT with confirmation of enrolment and results for each semester of study to facilitate scholarship payments
- notifying the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT immediately of any change in enrolment status, unsuccessful completion of a semester, deferral or withdrawal from a course or study program
- providing feedback to the Oodgeroo Unit, QUT if requested.

Oodgeroo Unit, QUT
The Oodgeroo Unit, QUT is responsible for the leadership and management of the Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship, monitoring progress and reporting outcomes. The Oodgeroo Unit, QUT’s responsibilities include:

- managing the scholarship, including administering the application and selection process and scholarship agreements
- providing a point of contact and service for scholarship recipient during the scholarship period, and liaising with the scholarship recipient in a responsive and professional manner
- respecting the privacy of scholarship recipient information and using personal information provided by scholarship recipient appropriately
- arranging scholarship payments
- collecting data in order to evaluate and report on the program.

Key dates
24 August 2020 Scholarship applications open
5 March 2021 Scholarship applications close
8-12 March 2021 Verification, assessment and selection process
15-19 March 2021 Interview of shortlisted scholarship candidates
22 March 2021 Scholarship offers made to successful applicant
1 April 2021 Final date for acceptance of offer

Privacy
The Oodgeroo Unit, QUT collects personal information from the applicant to assess the scholarship application and for other University purposes upon enrolment. Information explaining how QUT manages students' personal information can be found at www.governance.qut.edu.au/compliance/privacy

Contact details
Should you require further assistance or information regarding the Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship, please contact:

Lexie McGourty
Team Leader (Learning Support)
Queensland University of Technology
Phone (07) 3138 3036
Email: a.mcgourty@qut.edu.au

Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship: Application checklist

- academic transcripts (from high school, TAFE and/or current/previous study)
- academic transcript if a continuing QUT student (Please attach a copy of your academic record from QUT Virtual)
- certified copy of documentation supporting Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander heritage
- a resume/curriculum vitae

To submit your application
- Complete the online Wilson Security Indigenous Scholarship application form.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 5 MARCH 2021