



2026 The Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship

Terms and Conditions

Overview

The QUT Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship is an Industry scholarship, offered to a commencing student. This is provided to the student directly in the form funds transfer to their nominated bank account.

This scholarship requires an application and is offered in Semester 1, 2026.

Purpose

The purpose of the QUT Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship is to recognise and support two mature age student seeking to change careers, develop their skills and embark on studies in Early Childhood.

1 Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for The Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship, applicants must meet all the following requirements:

- 1.1 Must fall into one of the categories below:
 - 1.1.1 an Australian or New Zealand citizen OR a permanent resident OR hold a permanent humanitarian visa.
 - 1.1.2 qualify as a domestic student.
- 1.2 Commencing a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood), Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Birth to Five) or Master of Teaching (Early Childhood) in Semester 1, 2026
- 1.3 Commencing either of the above courses for the first time.
- 1.4 Aged over 25 at the time of application.
- 1.5 Not sponsored by an external organisation to undertake the course.
- 1.6 All QUT scholarships and bursaries are governed by concurrency conditions, detailed within the governing terms and conditions related to the applicable scholarship or bursary.

2 Application and selection criteria

- 2.1 The QUT Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship requires an application form. Due to the specific nature of the scholarship, you must provide:
 - 2.1.1 a copy of CV/ Resume providing evidence of previous academic performance and experience in early childhood education
 - 2.1.2 a personal statement outlining your:
 - career and family background to date
 - reasons for wanting to become an early childhood educator and ambition in seeking a career in that industry.
 - any disadvantage or barriers (current or potential) in transitioning to study.

- how this scholarship will support your studies at QUT and enable you to make progress to achieving your goals.
- any military or community service you have undertaken.

2.2 You may be invited to attend an interview at QUT.

3 Value and payment of scholarship

There are two scholarships available – one for the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) or Bachelor of Early Childhood (Birth to Five) and one for the Master of Teaching (Early Childhood)

- 3.1 For Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) and Bachelor of Early Childhood (Birth to Five) the total scholarship amount will be \$20,000.00 based on full-time enrolment load.
- 3.2 For Master of Teaching (Early Childhood) the total scholarship amount will be \$10,000.00 based on full-time enrolment load.
- 3.3 Payments are made in two instalments on a semesterly basis and are disbursed the week after the census date of the enrolled teaching period.
- 3.4 Should the recipient undertake part-time study, funds will be distributed on a pro-rata basis.
- 3.5 Payment will be subject to the Conditions (5) below. If students do not meet these Conditions (5) payment may be suspended.
- 3.6 Students will receive scholarship payment by electronic transfer to their nominated bank account the week after census date each semester.
- 3.7 While every care is taken to ensure direct payment of scholarship funds are correct, scholarship recipients are required to monitor payments and notify the Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice of any over or under payments.
 - 3.7.1 Where discrepancies in payment occur, students may be required to return the funds to the University.
- 3.8 **Tax implications**
 QUT does not withhold PAYG tax from coursework scholarship payments. It is the recipient's responsibility to check the tax implications for your scholarship and personal circumstances. For advice on whether your scholarship is taxable, use the Australian Taxation Office's [scholarship decision tool](#). Additional tax information can be obtained via www.ato.gov.au/individuals.
- 3.9 **Centrelink**
 Please also note that Centrelink may include this scholarship entitlement in any means testing as a result of applications made for Commonwealth assistance. Please check the Centrelink site for information regarding exempt scholarships.

4 Term of scholarship

- 4.1 Students are permitted change to part-time enrolment if required. This may extend the terms of the scholarship.

- 4.2 Students must remain admitted and enrolled in a course to receive their scholarship payment as per Conditions (5).

5 Conditions of scholarship

- 5.1 Students must achieve a minimum course (cumulative) Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.50 to maintain the scholarship for the next study period.
- 5.2 Special circumstances will be taken into consideration to support individual variation to the Conditions of scholarship. Supporting documentary evidence may be requested. Students are encouraged to discuss their special circumstance with Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice or Counselling services.
- 5.3 **Progression**
 - 5.3.1 Students whose course (cumulative) GPA drops below 4.50 are issued a notification that they are in breach of their scholarship condition but will continue to receive their payment for the currently enrolled teaching period.
 - 5.3.2 If their course (cumulative) GPA remains below 4.50 for the following semester, payment may be suspended until further notice.
 - 5.3.3 A third breach of the GPA condition may result in termination of the scholarship.
- 5.4 Students must remain admitted and enrolled in a course to receive their scholarship payment.
- 5.5 Students are permitted to change their course and continue to receive this scholarship unless otherwise specified in the scholarship offer letter.
- 5.6 Scholarship payments are suspended whilst a student is on an approved Leave of Absence. After completing their first semester, students can apply for up to two years Leave of Absence from their course without impacting their scholarship.
- 5.7 Scholarship recipients who withdraw from their studies prior to completion of the teaching period (i.e., no grades are recorded) may be required to return monies paid for the withdrawn units.
- 5.8 Students on the QUT Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship cannot concurrently receive another merit, cooperative, or industry scholarship, but are eligible to receive a bursary, prize, or equity scholarship, while being an industry scholarship recipient.
- 5.9 The recipient of The Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship will be required to provide a report on the impact of the scholarship and their study progress at the conclusion of their first year of study.

6 Termination of scholarship

The University reserves the right to cease a scholarship in the following circumstances:

- 6.1 Failure to comply with the Conditions (5) of the scholarship.
- 6.2 Withdrawal from your course. Students are advised to contact Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice or Counselling services before withdrawing from their course.
- 6.3 Student behaviour that breaches the QUT Student Code of Conduct, where if proven would be regarded as student misconduct. The required standards of behaviour relate to policies regarding

[Academic integrity \(MOPP C/5.3\)](#), [QUT Code for responsible conduct of research \(MOPP D/2.6\)](#),
[Acceptable use of information technology resources \(MOPP F/1.11\)](#).

7 Grievances

- 7.1 Student may lodge a formal appeal arising from any scholarship matter through the [Appeals Committee](#).
- 7.2 Any grievances related to the administration of scholarships is governed by [E/9.2 Grievance resolution procedures for student related grievances, with QUT's Manual of Policy and Procedures](#).

8 Scholarship contact

The QUT Jack and Merleen Sheedy Scholarship is administered by the Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice. For any scholarships related inquiries please contact ci.scholarships@qut.edu.au.