



## QUT Academic Excellence Scholarship

### Terms and Conditions

#### Overview

The QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic) are merit-based scholarships valued at \$30,000 or \$10,000 and are offered once a year to commencing students. Students receive funds directly into their nominated bank account the week after census of their currently enrolled teaching period.

These terms and conditions apply to students commencing in Semester 1, 2024. This scholarship is only offered in Semester 1 each year and does not require an application as recipients are assessed based on their ATAR which is obtained via QTAC in December each year.

#### Purpose

The QUT Excellence scholarships are awarded to high achieving school leavers and gap year students who are commencing a relevant undergraduate course at QUT. This merit-based scholarship is targeted at high achievers and will enable their continued success at QUT through membership into the College of Excellence.

#### 1 Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for the QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic), applicants must meet all the following requirements:

- 1.1 Must be graduating Year 12 in Australia (or International Baccalaureate) OR have had no more than one gap year since graduating high school (or International Baccalaureate).
- 1.2 Must achieve an unadjusted ATAR of 98 or above. ATAR adjustment schemes are not applied in the assessment of these scholarships.
- 1.3 Must be starting a university undergraduate degree for the first time.
- 1.4 Must fall into one of the categories below:
  - 1.4.1 an Australian or New Zealand citizen OR a permanent resident OR hold a permanent humanitarian visa.
  - 1.4.2 an international student who has completed high school in Australia OR completed Australian curriculum (or International Baccalaureate) offshore.
- 1.5 Must nominate a QUT undergraduate degree as their first preference in the QTAC application process.
- 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 Excellence Scholarship (Academic) requires no application form. Students will receive this scholarship based on academic merit, assessed on student's ATAR or equivalent (overseas qualification). Please review Eligibility requirements (1) above.

#### 3 Value and payment of scholarship

- 3.1 QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic) valued up to \$30,000 and are paid at \$10,000 per year for a full-time enrolment load for a maximum of 6 semesters. Payments are made on a semesterly basis (\$5,000 per semester) and are disbursed the week after the census date of the enrolled teaching period. Students who complete their study in accelerated mode (or before the terms of the scholarships lapse) the remaining balance of the scholarship funds will be forfeited and will not be paid to the student.
- 3.2 QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic) valued up to \$10,000 and are paid at \$5,000 per year for a full-time enrolment load for a maximum of 4 semesters. Payments are made on a semesterly basis (\$2,500 per semester) and are disbursed the week after the census date of the enrolled teaching period. Students who complete their study in accelerated mode (or before the terms of the scholarships lapse) the remaining balance of the scholarship funds will be forfeited and will not be paid to the student.
- 3.3 Students enrolled on a part-time (24 credit points or less) basis will receive 50% of the standard payment.

- 3.4 Payment will be subject to the Conditions below. If students do not meet these Conditions payment may be suspended.
- 3.5 Students will receive scholarship payment by electronic transfer to their nominated bank account the week after census date each semester.
- 3.6 Students enrolled in Exchange, Cross Institutional and BULA teaching periods will have different census dates. Payments will be made one week after the census date of these teaching periods.
- 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 QUT Scholarships [scholarships@qut.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@qut.edu.au) 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](http://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 The term of the scholarship is determined by the student's enrolment load, either full-time or part-time (e.g., three years for the \$30, 000 scholarship or two years for the \$10, 000 scholarship), based on full-time enrolment.
- 4.2 Students are permitted change to part-time enrolment if required. This may extend the terms of the scholarship.
- 4.3 Students must remain admitted and enrolled in a course to receive their scholarship payment as per Conditions (5).
  - 4.3.1 Students who complete their study in accelerated mode before the term of the scholarship ends the remaining balance of the scholarship funds will be forfeited and will **not** be paid to the student.

#### 5 Conditions of scholarship

- 5.1 Students must achieve a minimum semester Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.00/7.00 in any given semester 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 QUT Scholarships [scholarships@qut.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@qut.edu.au) or Counselling services.
- 5.3 **Progression**
  - 5.3.1 Students whose semester GPA drops below 5.00/7.00 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 semester GPA remains below 5.00/7.00 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 Excellence Scholarships (Academic) cannot concurrently receive another merit, cooperative, or industry scholarship, but are eligible to receive a bursary, prize, or equity scholarship, while being a merit scholarship recipient.

## 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 QUT Scholarships [scholarships@qut.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@qut.edu.au) or Counselling services before withdrawing from their course.
- 6.3 Failure to enrol into a course following the completion of the approved deferral period. Deferment of the scholarship *offer* is only available to commencing students.
- 6.4 Students who commence a degree at another university will not be eligible for the scholarship upon their return from deferment.
- 6.5 Failure to enrol into a course following the completion of the approved Leave of Absence period.
- 6.6 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 Scholarship recipients should initially contact the QUT Scholarships office to discuss their grievance to see if this can be resolved prior to lodging a formal appeal.
- 7.2 Scholarship recipient may lodge a formal appeal arising from any scholarship matter through the [Appeals Committee](#).
- 7.3 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

QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic) are administered by Student Administration. For any scholarships related inquiries please contact [scholarships@qut.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@qut.edu.au).