

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS 2008

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- ❖ Commonwealth Scholarships are available to assist students from low socio-economic backgrounds to undertake a full-time enabling/associate degree or undergraduate course of study leading to a higher education award.
- ❖ The scholarship category abbreviations of CECS and CAS will be used throughout the *Applicant Information* and *Application Form*. Please see definitions below:
 - CECS - Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship** is to assist students from low socio-economic backgrounds with general education costs.
 - CAS – Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship** is to assist students from low socio-economic backgrounds **AND** from rural and regional areas with accommodation costs.
- ❖ There are several types of scholarships available through the Commonwealth Scholarships Program.

| SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORY | SCHOLARSHIP TYPE (Name) | AWARD AMOUNT FOR 2008 (per annum) | MAXIMUM SCHOLARSHIP DURATION |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CECS | Ordinary CECS | \$2162 | 4 years or 8 payment periods |
| | CECS – Associate Degree | \$2162 | 2 years or 4 payment periods |
| | CECS – Indigenous Enabling | \$2162 | * 1 year or 2 payment periods |
| CAS | Ordinary CAS | \$4324 | 4 years or 8 payment periods |
| | CAS – Associate Degree | \$4324 | 2 years or 4 payment periods |
| | CAS Indigenous Enabling | \$4324 | * 1 year or 2 payment periods |

Additionally, the **Indigenous Access Scholarship** is available for commencing Indigenous student enrolling in an Enabling, Associate Degree or Undergraduate degree. Priority for these scholarships will be given to students who are permanently relocated from a regional or remote area in order to pursue higher education opportunities.

| SCHOLARSHIP TYPE (Name) | AWARD AMOUNT FOR 2008 (per annum) | MAXIMUM SCHOLARSHIP DURATION |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Indigenous Access Scholarship | \$4080 | One off cash payment, paid in 2 instalments |

Important Information

- ❖ There are two categories of scholarships, CECS and CAS, and different scholarships within these categories. To apply for a scholarship within the CAS category, you must meet regional and remote eligibility criteria.
- ❖ Depending on your personal circumstances, level of enrolment (Enabling Course, Associate Degree Course or Bachelor Degree Course) and in consideration of the eligibility criteria, you may be eligible to apply for one or more of the Commonwealth Scholarship types. This *Applicant Information* provides an overview of all scholarship types and will assist you with determining your eligibility and with completing your application.
- ❖ If a student receives either the *CECS Indigenous Enabling* and/or *CAS Indigenous Enabling* scholarship and the duration of the enabling course that the student enrolls into is only six months/one semester in duration, the student is only eligible to receive 50% of the total payment.
- ❖ Special consideration shall be given to Indigenous Australians to ensure a fair proportion of scholarships are awarded to Indigenous students.

Eligibility Criteria

Ordinary CECS and **Ordinary CAS** - Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria to be eligible:

- ❖ Be an Australian citizen or hold an Australian Permanent Humanitarian Visa.
- ❖ Be from a socio-economically disadvantaged background. Further information in "Selection Criteria" below.
- ❖ Be enrolled at Curtin as a full-time (minimum of 75 credits per semester) Commonwealth Supported Student in an undergraduate course of study leading to a higher education award.
AND
- ❖ Do not already hold an undergraduate qualification or higher level award.

Additional criteria for **Ordinary CAS** are:

- ❖ For a student to be awarded a CAS, the following eligibility criteria applies;
 - (a) within the four years immediately preceding the commencement of the current higher education course of study (including study within another program or at another provider, where the student has transferred):
 - (i) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least three years; or
 - (ii) the student completed the final two years of schooling in a high school or college in a regional or remote area; or
 - (iii) it was necessary for the student to live away from their regional or remote home to complete the whole or the majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or
 - (iv) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least two years, and the student has relocated from the regional or remote area of Australia to undertake vocational education and training (e.g. TAFE) for a maximum of two years duration immediately preceding the commencement of their undergraduate course; and
 - (b) it was necessary for the student to move from the regional or remote area in order to undertake higher education study; and
 - (c) as a result of (b), the student will incur additional accommodation costs; and
 - (d) the student is enrolled as an *internal student* in units of study that form part of the course of study the student is undertaking.

CECS – Associate Degree and **CAS – Associate Degree** - Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria to be eligible:

- ❖ Be an Australian citizen or hold an Australian Permanent Humanitarian Visa.
- ❖ Be from a socio-economically disadvantaged background. Further information in "Selection Criteria" below.
- ❖ Be enrolled at Curtin as a full-time (minimum of 75 credits per semester) student in an approved Associate Degree course of study.
AND
- ❖ Do not already hold any undergraduate qualification or higher level award.

Additional criteria for **CAS – Associate Degree** are:

- ❖ For a student to be awarded a CAS, the following eligibility criteria applies;
 - (a) within the four years immediately preceding the commencement of the current higher education course of study (including study within another program or at another provider, where the student has transferred):
 - (i) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least three years; or

- (ii) the student completed the final two years of schooling in a high school or college in a regional or remote area; or
 - (iii) it was necessary for the student to live away from their regional or remote home to complete the whole or the majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or
 - (iv) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least two years, and the student has relocated from the regional or remote area of Australia to undertake vocational education and training (e.g. TAFE) for a maximum of two years duration immediately preceding the commencement of their undergraduate course; and
- (b) it was necessary for the student to move from the regional or remote area in order to undertake higher education study; and
 - (c) as a result of (b), the student will incur additional accommodation costs; and
 - (d) the student is enrolled as an *internal student* in units of study that form part of the course of study the student is undertaking.

CECS – Indigenous Enabling and CAS – Indigenous Enabling - Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria to be eligible:

- ❖ Be an Indigenous person of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and Australian citizen
 - ❖ Be from a socio-economically disadvantaged background. Further information in “Selection Criteria” below.
 - ❖ Be enrolled at Curtin as a full-time (minimum of 75 credits per semester) Commonwealth Supported Student in an eligible enabling course of study.
- AND
- ❖ Do not already hold any undergraduate qualification or higher level award.

Additional criteria for **CAS – Indigenous Enabling** are:

- ❖ For a student to be awarded a CAS, the following eligibility criteria applies;
 - (a) within the four years immediately preceding the commencement of the current higher education course of study (including study within another program or at another provider, where the student has transferred):
 - (i) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least three years; or
 - (ii) the student completed the final two years of schooling in a high school or college in a regional or remote area; or
 - (iii) it was necessary for the student to live away from their regional or remote home to complete the whole or the majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or
 - (iv) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least two years, and the student has relocated from the regional or remote area of Australia to undertake vocational education and training (e.g. TAFE) for a maximum of two years duration immediately preceding the commencement of their undergraduate course; and
 - (b) it was necessary for the student to move from the regional or remote area in order to undertake higher education study; and
 - (c) as a result of (b), the student will incur additional accommodation costs; and
 - (d) the student is enrolled as an *internal student* in units of study that form part of the course of study the student is undertaking.

Indigenous Access Scholarship - Applicants must meet ALL of the following criteria to be eligible:

- ❖ Be an Indigenous person of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and Australian citizen
 - ❖ Be from a socio-economically disadvantaged background. Further information in “Selection Criteria” below.
 - ❖ Have accepted offer of a place and be a commencing student at Curtin as a full-time (minimum of 75 credits per semester) Commonwealth Supported Student in an eligible enabling or undergraduate course of study.
- AND
- ❖ Do not already hold any undergraduate qualification or higher level award.

Additional information for **Indigenous Access Scholarship** applicants:

- ❖ Priority will be given to applicants who are required to relocate from a regional and remote area in order to undertake studies.
 - (a) within the four years immediately preceding the commencement of the current higher education course of study (including study within another program or at another provider, where the student has transferred):
 - (i) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least three years; or
 - (ii) the student completed the final two years of schooling in a high school or college in a regional or remote area; or

- (iii) it was necessary for the student to live away from their regional or remote home to complete the whole or the majority of their secondary schooling at a high school or college in a major city; or
 - (iv) the student has lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for a total of at least two years, and the student has relocated from the regional or remote area of Australia to undertake vocational education and training (e.g. TAFE) for a maximum of two years duration immediately preceding the commencement of their undergraduate course; and
 - (b) it was necessary for the student to move from the regional or remote area in order to undertake higher education study; and
 - (c) as a result of (b), the student will incur additional accommodation costs; and
 - (d) the student is enrolled as an *internal student* in units of study that form part of the course of study the student is undertaking.
- ❖ Students applying for the Indigenous Access Scholarship should also apply for the CECS and/or CAS scholarship relevant to their level of enrolment. For example, a student who does NOT need to relocate from a regional and remote area and are enrolling in an eligible Enabling course should also apply for the **CECS – Indigenous Enabling** scholarship.
 - ❖ Priority will be given to applicants who are required to relocate from a regional and remote area in order to undertake studies.

Selection Criteria

Eligible courses for **CECS – Indigenous Enabling** and **CAS – Indigenous Enabling**

- ❖ 304025 – Aboriginal Bridging Course
- ❖ 304029 – Indigenous Tertiary Enabling Course

Eligible courses for **CECS – Associate Degree** and **CAS – Associate Degree**

- ❖ 303873 – Associate Degree in Indigenous Community Health
- ❖ 113542 – Associate Degree in Indigenous Community Management and Development
- ❖ 152321 – Associate Degree in Viticulture
- ❖ 303336 – Associate Degree in Agribusiness
- ❖ 304390 – Associate Degree in Mine Technology

Selection Criteria

The Scholarship(s) will be awarded by a Selection Panel using the following criteria:

- ❖ Financial hardship *
- ❖ Educational disadvantage**
- ❖ Academic merit

* *The criteria used to determine financial hardship are: low socio-economic background, receiving benefits or proof of low income, demonstrated financial need, parental or carer responsibilities impacting on family circumstances and study.*

** *The criteria used to determine Educational Disadvantage, include but is not limited to; membership of one of the basic eligibility equity groups (low socio-economic background; Indigenous Australian; rural and regional); attendance at a high school in a low socio-economic area; one or both parents have not attended University; member of an equity group which is not part of the basic selection criteria; sole parent; or primary carer responsibilities.*

Required Documentation – DOCUMENTS MUST BE CERTIFIED COPIES OF ORIGINALS

Documentation required for an application for a Commonwealth Scholarship is:

- ❖ Proof of Citizenship (Birth Certificate, passport or Citizenship Certificate)
- ❖ Curtin Enrolment Advice for 2008
- ❖ High School results of your highest level achieved (showing which high school you attended - Curriculum Council Results do not show this)
- ❖ Academic Transcript from other tertiary and/or higher education institutions (e.g. TAFE, other Universities)
- ❖ Curtin Academic Transcript (e-Record)
- ❖ Proof of rural or regional status for three of the four previous years prior to the commencement of the student's course (e.g. bank statement, Curriculum Council Results indicating permanent home address, Centrelink documents)
- ❖ Centrelink Income Statement (if receiving Centrelink Benefits), or Pension Statement of Income (Please include a copy of a current Centrelink Income Statement dated within the last 3 months or other appropriate documentation confirming the level of your current payment)

Payment Tenure

Once a Commonwealth Scholarship has been accepted, the scholarship will commence from Semester 1, 2008.

Students who have been granted an *Ordinary CECS or CECS – Associate Degree* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$1,081.00, within 6 weeks of each semester census date (approximately April and September).

Students who have been granted an *Ordinary CAS or CAS – Associate Degree* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$2,162.00, within 6 weeks of each semester census date (approximately April and September)

If students are enrolled in an eligible enabling course of six months / one semester duration:

- ❖ Students who have been granted a *CECS – Indigenous Enabling* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$1,081.00.
- ❖ Students who have been granted a *CAS – Indigenous Enabling* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$2,162.00.

If students are enrolled in an eligible enabling course of twelve months / two semester's duration:

- ❖ Students who have been granted a *CECS – Indigenous Enabling* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$1,081.00, within six weeks of the course start date and one instalment of \$1,081.00 within 6 months of the course start date.
- ❖ Students who have been granted a *CAS – Indigenous Enabling* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$2,162.00, within six weeks of the course start date and one instalment of \$1,081.00 within 6 months of the course start date.

Students who have been granted a *CAS – Indigenous Payment* scholarship will receive one instalment of \$2,040.00 as soon as possible after the scholarship offer has been accepted and one instalment of \$2,040.00 within 6 weeks of the first census date of study (April/May or September).

Please refer to the table above for the total duration of each scholarship award period. Extensions beyond this duration will not be considered. Continuity of payment of the Commonwealth Scholarships will be subject to eligibility and satisfactory academic progress. A recipient with unsatisfactory progress shall be ineligible to retain a scholarship unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Enrolment

An applicant must be currently enrolled or commencing student enrolling in an eligible course of study at Curtin in 2008 as a full-time student (minimum 75 credit points per semester), unless there are exceptional circumstances that prevent full-time study. Applicants should indicate in their application form if they envisage studying beneath a 75 credit point load per semester. Determination of exceptional circumstances will be at the discretion of the Selection Panel and shall be assessed on an individual basis.

If a recipient of a Commonwealth Scholarship withdraws or is terminated from their course of study they will become ineligible for continuation of the Scholarship.

Other Conditions

A Commonwealth Scholarship is NOT transferable to another university.

Other scholarships or bursaries may affect your eligibility for a Commonwealth Scholarship. Eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Please note Student Guild Bookshop Grants are permissible.

Deferral of a Commonwealth Scholarship is permitted for a maximum period of 12 months after the scholarship has been commenced. Students must complete one period of scholarship tenure prior to requesting or being approved a deferral. Students, who receive a scholarship offer and wish to defer their studies immediately, will forfeit the scholarship and be required to re-apply in the future.

Timing and Notification of Outcome

Applications for 2008 Commonwealth Scholarships must be lodged with Student Central on the Bentley Campus, by 4.45pm Friday 8th February, 2008. You will be advised of the result of your application usually 6-8 weeks after the closing date.

Applications should be sent to:

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| <p>Your completed application should be mailed to:</p> <p>Scholarships Office Curtin University of Technology GPO Box U1987 Perth WA 6845</p> | <p>Or hand delivered to:</p> <p>Scholarships Office Student Central, Building 101, Level 2 Kent Street Bentley WA 6102</p> |
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Further Enquiries

Telephone Enquiries: (08) 9266 2992

Email Enquiries: undergraduate_scholarships@curtin.edu.au

CLOSING DATE IS 4.45PM, FRIDAY 20th JUNE, 2008.

LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS OR APPLICATIONS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.