

MAYORAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Cessnock City Council's Mayoral Scholarship Program is an initiative of Mayor, Councillor Jay Suvaal, that assists local residents financially to achieve their educational goals at TAFE or university.

The objective of the program is to help residents of the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA) advance their education and reach their full potential, particularly in the industries offering gainful employment in the Cessnock LGA, such as hospitality, tourism, education, engineering, medical, aged care, mining, communications and manufacturing.

While many factors influence career selection, it is our goal to have as many residents as possible achieve their higher education and career aspirations.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1.0 ESTABLISHMENT

- 1.1 Cessnock City Council established this scholarship with the purpose of encouraging and assisting students from the Cessnock Local Government area to pursue academic excellence in their chosen field.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 In these conditions,
"Scholarship" means financial support for a student to attend an approved tertiary institution, such as University or TAFE;
"Scholar" means a recipient of a scholarship;
"Program" means the program of study in which the scholar is enrolled.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 The scholarship is available to any student who resides in the Cessnock Local Government Area who meets the following criteria:
- 3.1.1 Will be studying at an educational institution (TAFE/University) within the next 12 months, enrolled full-time. In special circumstances the Selection Committee will consider applicants who are enrolled as part-time students.
 - 3.1.2 Will be undertaking a recognized course or qualification at TAFE/University. Evidence of the content of the course should be provided.
 - 3.1.3 Students must reside in the Cessnock Local Government area to be eligible.
 - 3.1.4 Only one scholarship shall be awarded to any applicant in each year. You cannot, in subsequent years, apply for a scholarship category you have won previously.

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4.0 SELECTION

- 4.1 Applicants must complete and submit the application form as provided by Cessnock City Council.
- 4.2 Shortlisted applicants may then be invited to attend an interview if deemed necessary.
- 4.3 The Selection Committee will endorse the awarding of the scholarship.
- 4.4 The Selection Committee shall comprise of those persons nominated by the Mayor of the City of Cessnock.
- 4.5 Selection of the scholar will be on the basis of academic merit, community involvement and achievement as demonstrated by the applicant in their application, and if an interview is necessary.
- 4.6 Community involvement can include volunteering, charity work, not for profit organisations, coaching and sporting contributions etc.

5.0 CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- 5.1 The scholarship shall be for one year and shall be taken up in the year it is awarded.
- 5.2 The scholar shall continue to fulfil the relevant eligibility criteria specified in clause 3 of these conditions and any other requirements as specified in these conditions for the duration of the scholarship unless varied by the Selection Committee.
- 5.3 Shortlisted applicants are expected to attend and participate in a presentation Ceremony.
- 5.4 The recipient of the scholarship to forward their half yearly results to Council.

6.0 BENEFIT

- 6.1 The scholarship provides the following benefit: a total of \$2,500 and shall be paid in two (2) instalments i.e. 50% to be paid after March 31 in the year the scholarship is awarded 50% midway through the academic year subject to satisfactory progress.

7.0 SUSPENSION OF SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT

- 7.1 A scholar may apply in writing to the Selection Committee for a suspension of the scholarship benefit because of illness, injury or other extenuating circumstances. An application must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence.

8.0 TERMINATION

- 8.1 A scholarship shall terminate before its due date of conclusion if the scholar:
 - 8.1.1 fails to fulfil any of the conditions of the scholarship;
 - 8.1.2 relinquishes the scholarship;
 - 8.1.3 ceases to be a student of the nominated TAFE/University.