



## Mayoral Scholarships 2021

The Mayoral Scholarship Program is an initiative of Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent to assist local residents in achieving their educational goals. The objective of the Scholarship Program is to become a catalyst for developing the skills and knowledge of our residents and encourage them to reach their full potential – particularly in the industry sectors that offer gainful employment in the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA), such as hospitality, tourism, education, engineering, medical, mining, communications and manufacturing.

While it will be local environmental influences which may dictate final career selection, it is our goal to have as many residents as possible standing in front of the doors of opportunity that lead to successful outcomes.

The Scholarships have been running since 2002 and have awarded 218 scholarships to the value of \$545,000 to achieve their dream of either attending TAFE or University. During this period the project has promoted the image of sponsors in supporting youth, residents and jobs in our region.

### CONDITIONS

#### 1.0 ESTABLISHMENT

- 1.1 Cessnock City Council established this scholarship with the purpose of encouraging and assisting a student 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 at an educational institution (TAFE/University) during 2021. Enrolled full-time and 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 residing in the Cessnock Local Government area will only 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.



#### **4.0 SELECTION**

- 4.1** Applicants must complete and submit the application form as provided by Cessnock City Council.
- 4.2** Shortlisted applicants will then be invited to attend an interview.
- 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 at an interview of the finalists by the Selection Committee.
- 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 the Presentation Ceremony on Tuesday 18 May 2021.
- 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.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Brad Sangster on 4993 4325 or email [Brad.Sangster@cessnock.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Sangster@cessnock.nsw.gov.au).

Applications Close: Monday, 5th April 2021.