



# UTS Scholarship Conditions of Award

## UTS Humanitarian Scholarship

This document sets out the conditions of award for the below scholarship ('Scholarship') as well as the obligations of recipients ('Recipient') and UTS in regards to this Scholarship. The administrative processes to support awarding this Scholarship will be managed, and may be amended, in accordance with UTS Rules, Policy and Procedures.

### 1. SCHOLARSHIP NAME: UTS Humanitarian Scholarship

#### 2. PURPOSE

The UTS Humanitarian Scholarship has been established to support undergraduate study for students holding Asylum Seeker Bridging Visas or Temporary Protection Visas (TPV) as a result of their arrival to Australia as asylum seekers. This is a whole of University commitment, providing scholarships in each of the eight UTS faculties to asylum seekers unable to access Commonwealth Supported Places or loan schemes.

#### 3. VALUE AND BENEFIT

##### 3.1 Number of Recipients:

A maximum of two (2) Recipients per faculty will be awarded the Scholarship each year pending available funding.

##### 3.2 Benefit/s to Recipient:

- UTS will cover each Recipient's UTS tuition fees and the Student Services & Amenities Fees for the course enrolled in for the duration of the Scholarship as defined in clause 4, or until the Recipient has been granted a substantive Australian visa.
- The tuition fee component of the Scholarship cannot be transferred, deferred or redeemed for cash.
- A financial contribution towards living and learning expenses of a minimum of \$1,000.00 per annum for the standard duration of the course.
- All scholarship recipients will have the opportunity to participate in the CareerSeekers Internship Program.

##### 3.3 Payment of benefit/s:

- The tuition fee payment will be made directly to the Recipient's UTS fees account each session for the duration of the Scholarship as defined in clause 4.
- The Recipient will receive the living allowance as two payments per year by electronic funds transfer to his/her nominated bank account.
  - Each payment will be a minimum of \$500.00 (or the pro-rata amount if part-time study has been approved by exception as defined in clause 8.2).
  - Payment will usually be made within four weeks after the Census dates in Autumn and Spring sessions.
- All payments are subject to the Recipient satisfying ongoing eligibility criteria as defined in clause 8 below.

#### 4. DURATION

The duration of the Scholarship is the standard number of sessions required for completion of the Recipient's enrolled undergraduate course on the basis of a full-time study load, as specified in the letter of offer for admission to the course.

Where the Recipient does not follow the usual standard full-time course structure, the total value of the Scholarship may be exhausted prior to course completion.

The maximum duration of the Scholarship is 12 sessions under any program.

## **5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

To be eligible for the Scholarship, an applicant must meet all of the following criteria:

- Attained a full NSW HSC or Australian senior secondary school qualification or successfully completed a UTS Insearch Diploma or UTS Foundation Studies (Humanitarian pathway) to UTS; and
- Have applied and been deemed eligible for admission and meet standard UTS entry requirements; and
- Holder of an Australian Bridging Visa<sup>1</sup> or Temporary Protection Visa, as demonstrated by providing a certified copy of current visa; and
- Be commencing their first year of an undergraduate degree; or the second year of an undergraduate degree where the applicant has successfully completed a UTS Insearch Diploma; and
- Be enrolled full-time; and
- Must apply and commence in the next available intake for the course after completion of their study used as their basis of admission; and
- All candidates must apply and complete the UTS online Scholarships Application; and
- All candidates must be available to attend an interview in person, if required.

## **6. RECIPIENT SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Academic Merit based on ATAR or equivalent result.
- Motivation to succeed in the chosen degree program, as demonstrated in the scholarship application and interview.
- Circumstances impacting the applicant's ability to support themselves financially and how receipt of the scholarship will assist their academic success, as demonstrated in the scholarship application and interview.

## **7. SELECTION**

Applications of eligible candidates will be presented to a Scholarships Committee, which will undertake the selection of Recipients based on the above selection criteria.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will be made up of four members of the UTS community, chaired by the Director Equity & Diversity Unit (or their nominee) and will include:

- One Faculty nominee of the Provost
- Director of Student Administration Unit (or their nominee)
- Director of UTS International (or their nominee)

Offers will be authorised by the Chair of the Selection Committee.

## **8. ONGOING RECIPIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

### **8.1 Academic progress:**

The Recipient must maintain a minimum Pass average per session unless exceptional circumstances<sup>2</sup> prevail. Where a minimum Pass average is not achieved, the Recipient will be required to make an appointment with UTS counselling to receive appropriate support or counselling to assist the Recipient to return to the required performance level. If the Recipient does not attend the meeting and/or the required performance is still not maintained, the Scholarship will be terminated, unless the Recipient can demonstrate exceptional circumstances for the consideration and satisfaction of the Scholarships Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants holding an Australian Bridging Visa will be required to provide a statement and/or letter from a community organisation verifying the applicant's experience of an asylum-seeker.

<sup>2</sup> Exceptional circumstances include but are not limited to severe disruptions, disability, ongoing illness, carer's responsibilities and other education barriers which must have independent supporting documentation, and will be considered by the Scholarships Office on a case-by-case basis

## **8.2 UTS Enrolment:**

The Recipient:

- must continue to be enrolled full-time<sup>3</sup> (equivalent to 18 credit points/session) in an undergraduate degree; or
- may, in exceptional circumstances apply to the Scholarships Office for approval of a part-time study load. The Recipient with an approved part-time study load may receive reduced pro-rata payments for the period of part-time study.
- Generally course transfers will not be permitted; however in exceptional circumstances the Recipient may apply to the Scholarships Office for approval of a course transfer. This will be referred to the Scholarship Selection Committee for a decision.

## **8.3 Leave / Deferral/Course withdrawal:**

- If the Recipient defers the UTS offer or withdraws from the UTS course after the start of his/her first session, the Scholarship will be terminated.
- After the first session in which the Scholarship is awarded, the Recipient may apply to the Scholarships Office to place the Scholarship on hold for the duration of approved leave of absence from studies. If the application is approved, payment of the Scholarship will be suspended for the period of leave. The Scholarship will be terminated if the Recipient does not apply to the Scholarships Office to place the Scholarship on hold.
- Payments will be resumed to the Recipient after an approved leave of absence until the remaining value of the Scholarship has been paid or another leave of absence is approved.

## **8.4 Other obligations and conditions:**

- The offer of the Scholarship is made subject to information provided by the Recipient being true and accurate.
- By accepting the offer of the Scholarship, the Recipient agrees to the Conditions of Award.
- The offer of the Scholarship is only valid for the intake defined in the Scholarship letter of offer and cannot be deferred.
- The Recipient is responsible for advising the Scholarships Office of any changes in circumstances that would make him/her ineligible for continuation of the Scholarship, e.g. reducing study load to part-time, taking leave of absence or deferring study; or overpayments which may have been made, changes in Humanitarian visa category
- Any change in the Recipient's circumstances not addressed by these Conditions of Award will be considered by the Scholarships Office and/or the Scholarship Selection Committee case-by-case.

## **9. TERMINATION OF RECIPIENT'S SCHOLARSHIP**

The Scholarship will terminate:

- If the Recipient ceases to meet the eligibility criteria; or
- If the Recipient breaches any conditions of the Scholarship; or
- If UTS determines that the student is guilty of misconduct and after consultation with the Director, SAU, the delegate able to award the Scholarship deems that it is not appropriate for the Recipient to continue to hold the Scholarship.
- If the scholarship is terminated due to breaching any conditions or misconduct, the Recipient may be required to reimburse UTS for any scholarship payments already made.

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<sup>3</sup> Recipients enrolled in non-standard subjects including but not limited to practical professional experience subjects required for course completion, or Recipients undertaking a session of exchange approved by UTS who maintain their enrolment status at UTS through exchange subjects, will be considered case-by-case as part of the standard ongoing eligibility checking each session.