

Family and Community Services

High School Scholarships 2017 – Information for applicants

FACS is offering High School Scholarships to help students enrolled in education or training to complete their studies. Successful applicants will receive \$1,000 to help with school expenses.

How much is the scholarship?

Each scholarship for the 2017 academic year is \$1,000 (GST exempt). You can apply again each year as you complete your studies.

Who can apply for a scholarship?

You are eligible to apply if you are:

- living in social housing (which includes public, community or Aboriginal housing), on the NSW Housing Register, receiving FACS private rental assistance, living in crisis/supported accommodation, or living in out-of-home care
- studying in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE, completing a school based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2017
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income).

If you have previously been awarded a Youth Scholarship, you can still apply for the 2017 academic year.

When can I apply for a scholarship?

Applications open at 9am on 16 January 2017 and close at 7pm on Friday 24 February 2017. We cannot accept late applications.

How can I apply for a scholarship?

It's easy to apply online. You just need a valid email address so we can keep you updated about your application.

To apply, you should:

1. Visit our [online form](#) to set up an account and create a password.
2. Complete the eligibility questions and all relevant sections of the form.
3. Add the email addresses of two people who know about your circumstances and can act as referees for you. This could be your teacher, careers advisor, year advisor, welfare teacher, doctor, counsellor,

social worker, or someone else from your community or religious group. It should not be a family member.

4. List the email address of a staff member from your school or TAFE who can tell us about what you're studying and release your scholarship money to you if you are successful.
5. Make sure you complete the declaration and electronically sign the form. You should ask a parent or guardian to do this for you if you are under 18 years old.

You can also choose someone to help you fill in your application. To do this you will need to provide this person's email address and choose the level of access you would like to give them.

How will I know if I'm successful?

We will send all applicants (and anyone that assists you to complete an application) an email once we receive an application. We will send another email to all applicants and their schools in May 2017 advising of the outcome of your application.

What can I use the scholarship for?

If your application is successful, you can use your scholarship for educational expenses like textbooks and course fees, or to help pay for practical supports like medical needs, child care and internet. You will be able to keep anything you buy with the scholarship.

What can't I use the scholarship for?

You can't use your scholarship to pay for items provided through other financial assistance programs offered by your school or TAFE.

How will I receive my scholarship funds?

FACS will pay the scholarship directly to your school or TAFE, which will help you to decide how to spend the scholarship money and give it to you. Each school or TAFE might have its own process for how it will pay you, which they will explain to you.

How will you assess my application?

A panel made up of staff from FACS and other organisations like Aboriginal housing providers, community housing providers and NSW Education will assess applications against criteria. Decisions made by the panel are final and cannot be appealed.

Where can I find out more?

Email: youthscholarships@facs.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 02 8753 8673

Web: www.facs.nsw.gov.au/education