



# 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 the University of Technology Sydney ('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 studies for students holding asylum seeker bridging or temporary protection visas as a result of their arrival to Australia as asylum seekers or humanitarian entrants.

The UTS Humanitarian Scholarship program underscores a university-wide commitment to provide Scholarships across all UTS faculties that offer undergraduate degrees to asylum seekers unable to access Commonwealth Supported places or government loan schemes.

#### 3. VALUE AND BENEFIT

##### 3.1 Number of Recipients:

- A maximum of twenty-six (26)<sup>1</sup> recipients will be awarded the Scholarship subject to the available funding pool each year. Of these:
  - Twenty (20) are reserved for students commencing a UTS undergraduate degree and have temporary asylum seeker or refugee residence status and hold a Bridging Visa A - E (and has made an application for a Protection Visa), or Temporary Protection Visa (subclass 785), or Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (subclass 790).<sup>2</sup>
  - Four (4) are reserved for students commencing a UTS undergraduate degree and have a temporary humanitarian concern visa (subclass 786).
  - Two (2) are reserved for students commencing a UTS postgraduate degree and have a temporary humanitarian concern visa (subclass 786) or Bridging Visa A - E (and has made an application for a Protection Visa), or Temporary Protection Visa (subclass 785), or Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (subclass 790).
- This number includes students that have a guaranteed Scholarship place after successful completion of UTS College studies and students identified as eligible through the UTS U@Uni Academy pathway.

##### 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 per annum for the standard duration of the course.

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<sup>1</sup> If reserved places are not awarded, the Selection Committee reserves the right to redistribute scholarship places to eligible candidates. This decision aims to ensure that all available scholarships are awarded to qualifying individuals. The decision to redistribute scholarship places will be made at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

<sup>2</sup> In response to the ongoing Palestine-Israel humanitarian crisis four (4) additional scholarship places have been established for asylum seekers from the region pursuing education in Australia.

### 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 their 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.

### 4. DURATION

- The duration of the Scholarship is the standard duration<sup>3</sup> of the undergraduate<sup>4</sup> or postgraduate UTS course the Recipient is enrolled in, on the basis of a full-time study load, and an Honours degree, if applicable.
- 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 twelve (12) sessions under any program.

### 5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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

- Have temporary asylum seeker or refugee residence status and hold a Temporary Protection Visa (subclass 785), or Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (subclass 790), Bridging Visa A - E and has made an application for a Protection Visa<sup>5</sup> or Temporary Humanitarian Concern Visa (subclass 786),
- Be able to demonstrate that they do not have the financial means to support payment of their tuition fees without receiving the Scholarship; and
- Have applied and been deemed eligible for admission to a UTS undergraduate degree or UTS postgraduate degree; and
- Apply and commence at UTS in the next available intake for the course after completion of their study used as their basis of admission; and
- Be intending to enrol full-time; and
- All candidates must apply and complete the UTS online Scholarships Application; and
- All candidates must be available to attend an interview, if required.

### 6. RECIPIENT SELECTION CRITERIA

- Academic Merit based on ATAR, UTS College Diploma GPA, U@Uni Academy Completion, or equivalent result; and
  - As demonstrated in the Scholarship application (and interview if required): Motivation to succeed in the chosen degree program
  - Circumstances impacting the applicant's ability to support themselves financially and how receipt of the Scholarship will assist their academic success; and
- Preference will be given to undergraduate applicants who have not commenced or completed an undergraduate degree in Australia.

### 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 Pro Vice-Chancellor, Social Justice and Inclusion (or their nominee) and will include:

- One Faculty nominee of the Provost

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<sup>3</sup> The standard course duration is listed in the UTS Handbook within the detailed entry for each course.

<sup>4</sup> Students enrolled in combined undergraduate courses where a postgraduate qualification is a component will be eligible for the standard duration of the course. Stand-alone postgraduate study will not be considered for applicants other than for students commencing a UTS postgraduate degree and have a temporary humanitarian concern visa (subclass 786).

<sup>5</sup> Applicants holding an Australian Bridging Visa A - E will be required to provide a statement and/or letter from a community organisation verifying the applicant's experience of an asylum-seeker.

- Director, Student Administration, Current Learner Services (or their nominee)
- Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global Partnerships), Deputy Vice-Chancellor (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>6</sup> prevail. Where a minimum Pass average is not achieved, the Recipient will be required to seek appropriate support this may include UTS counselling and/or receive academic support (i.e., HELPS, peer-tutoring etc) to assist the Recipient to return to the required performance level.

### **8.2 UTS Enrolment:**

The Recipient:

- must continue to be enrolled full-time<sup>7</sup> (equivalent to 24 credit points/session) in an undergraduate or postgraduate degree; or
- may apply to UTS Scholarships for approval of a study load below 24 credit points. The Recipient with an approved part-time study load may receive reduced pro-rata payments for the period of part-time study.
- In most cases course transfers will not be permitted; however, in exceptional circumstances<sup>4</sup> the Recipient may apply to UTS Scholarships for approval of a course transfer. This will be referred to the Chair of 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 their first session, the Scholarship will be terminated.
- After the first session in which the Scholarship is awarded, the Recipient may apply to the Chair of the Selection through UTS Scholarships 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 may be terminated if the Recipient does not apply to UTS Scholarships 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 Academic Integrity:**

- UTS takes Academic Integrity very seriously and breaches (e.g., plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are considered Academic Misconduct. For more information on Academic Integrity at UTS can be found on the UTS Current Students pages of the UTS website.
- Any Academic Misconduct allegations proven by the University (and upheld if appealed) will result in the termination of this Scholarship and the University might require the Recipient to repay the total benefit received at time of termination.

### **8.5 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 UTS Scholarships of any changes in circumstances that would make them 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 or changes in visa status.

<sup>6</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 UTS Scholarships on a case-by-case basis

<sup>7</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.

- If the Recipient obtains Permanent Humanitarian Residency (including a Resolution of Status visa) or Australia citizenship, the Scholarship will be terminated as outlined below:
  - For Recipients obtaining Permanent Humanitarian Residency or Australian citizenship before census date in any session, the Scholarship will be terminated, and any Scholarship payment already made for that session will be reversed.
  - For Recipients obtaining their Permanent Humanitarian Residency or Australian citizenship after census date in any session, the Scholarship will be terminated the following session.
- Any change in the Recipient's circumstances not addressed by these Conditions of Award will be considered by UTS Scholarships and/or the Scholarship Selection Committee case-by-case.

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

The Scholarship might be terminated:

- If the Recipient ceases to meet the eligibility criteria; or
- If the Recipient breaches any conditions of the Scholarship; or
- 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.