

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Education and Support Guidelines



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SECTION 1

Purpose

1. This scholarship aims to provide an outstanding support to Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander higher education student.

Scope

2. The scope of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander scholarship encompasses financial support to promote education to enrich the lives of our students, staff and the community.

Definitions

3. The following definitions have their meaning as spelt out below:
 - f) **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural competence and capabilities** - The student and staff knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' cultures, histories, contemporary realities and protocols, and proficiency to engage and work effectively in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' contexts and expectations
 - g) **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples** - Any person who is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent; identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; and is accepted by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in which they live as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
 - h) **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' Education** - The training and educational opportunities and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples; and the opportunity for all IHM students to gain knowledge about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, contemporary realities and protocols
 - i) **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives** - The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' worldviews, histories, cultures, law and lore, values, beliefs, languages, lifestyles, and roles
 - j) **Student** - Any student admitted and undertaking an IHM course.

Suite documents

4. Policy is linked to the following policies, procedures and associated information:
 - a) IHM Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Support Guidelines
 - b) Reconciliation Action Plan
 - c) See Associated Information listed in the 'Related Internal Documents' in Section 3 below.

SECTION 2

Principles

5. Built on the principles of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander, the strategy includes actions to:
 - a) build more culturally inclusive physical spaces within IHM.
 - b) connect with community organisations around social cohesion and cultural awareness
 - c) strengthen research focused on intercultural engagement.

Procedure

Who can apply for the scholarship?

6. The scholarship is open to all individuals from Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander who are currently completing undergraduate studies or are due to commence undergraduate tertiary studies in the following calendar year.

Why is IHM offering this scholarship?

7. IHM believes that organisations and communities grow stronger by becoming more diverse.
8. The Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander is an initiative— through which we demonstrate our commitment to attracting, retaining, and advancing diverse individuals and promoting inclusion at all levels of our organisation.

Framework

9. IHM awards scholarships in accordance with:
 - a) Its strategic and budgetary priorities, which means that the number awarded may vary from time to time.
 - b) Its commitment to the promotion and achievement of equity of access to IHM courses for Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander students.
 - c) IHM has commitment to the promotion, achievement, and rewarding of academic excellence through the provision of incentives for its Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander student.

Conditions for IHM Scholarship

10. IHM's scholarship cannot be deferred unless otherwise stated in the scholarship conditions
 - a) cannot be converted to cash
 - b) will specify the duration and categories of support
 - c) will have the eligibility, application, and selection criteria clearly stated
 - d) will have criteria that are free from unlawful discrimination, and
 - e) will use identifiable, equitable, and transparent processes for awarding the scholarship.
 - f) Students are permitted to hold only one IHM Scholarship at any one time during their studies.
 - g) Students receiving an IHM scholarship must maintain full-time enrolment, however: Students in exceptional circumstances that prevent full-time enrolment can seek approval to enrol part-time by writing to the registrar.
 - h) If approved, students will receive pro-rata payment, up to the maximum amount, in relation to their original offer.

Required documentation for Scholarship

11. As part of the application, student will need to prepare:
 - a) A personal statement (approximately 1 A4 page) outlining the following details
 - a. academic achievements,
 - b. why have chosen this course,
 - c. Student aspirations for the relevant course and

- d. how will this scholarship help and assist the student?
- b) Establishing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status within IHM: at least one (1) of the following:
 - a. 'Confirmation of Aboriginality' from an incorporated Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander land council bearing the common seal – The person need to have received this only available to person over 18 years or older
 - b. Copies of a parents' 'Confirmation' document ('Confirmation' documents are only available to persons of 18 years of age or older), along with a birth certificate showing the parent and applicants' relationship
 - c. Genealogical evidence of descent i.e. copies of birth records, marriage records, official notices identifying ancestors as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander etc.
 - d. Evidence of membership to an organisation registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) as per the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 - The person need to have received this only available to person over 18 years or older
 - e. Copies of any awards which are specified for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders: o NAIDOC awards – national, state or regional o Sporting awards i.e. Eddie Gilbert medal for sport, Indigenous academic awards i.e. 'Aboriginal Science Hero' award, Community service awards i.e. Rotary Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander awards
 - f. Letter of support from a member of the applicants' local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) or an Indigenous education support worker (for non-NSW based applicants)

Selection of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Student for Scholarship

- 12. Selection is a competitive process and will be based on assessment of the scholarship application, academic merit, and any required supporting documents.
- 13. Selection will be made by a the IHM Academic Board in consideration with the recommendations from the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander committee.

Termination of the Scholarship

- 14. IHM may terminate a scholarship if the recipient:
 - a) fails to meet any or all criteria, including satisfactory progress or any other requirements, of the specific scholarship including a breach of terms and conditions, and/or
 - b) has been found to have breached the IHM Student Code of Conduct or the IHM Academic Integrity Policy
 - c) has been found to have breached Commonwealth or State laws, and/or
 - d) has intentionally provided incorrect, incomplete or misleading information in the scholarship application process.

SECTION 3

Associated information

Related Internal Documents	Bullying and Harassment Policy Bullying and Harassment Procedure IHM Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Support Policy Reconciliation Action Plan Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Procedure Student Complaint and Appeals Policy Student Complaint and Appeals Procedure Student Support Services Policy Student Support Services Procedure
Related Legislation, Standards, and Codes	Anti-discrimination Act 1997. NSW Legislation Age Discrimination Act 2004. Federal Register of Legislation Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (including Disability Standards for Education). Federal Register of Legislation Disability Discrimination Act 2005. Australian Human Rights Commission Racial Discrimination Act 1975. Federal Register of Legislation Sex Discrimination Act 1984. Federal Register of Legislation Aboriginal Education. A NSW Government Education TEQSA Guidance Note: Diversity and Equity (2017)
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	02/08/2021	New Guidelines