



Department of  
**Jobs, Tourism, Science  
and Innovation**

# Western Australian Premier's University Scholarships Program for 2024

- Guidelines
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## 1. Introduction and Background

In the 2022-23 Budget, the Western Australian (WA) Government announced \$41.2 million in funding for international education initiatives. This announcement included \$2 million over four years for the Western Australian Premier's University Scholarships Program (the Program).

The Program will run each year for four years (2022-23 until 2025-26), providing funding for up to **10 one-year scholarships annually valued at \$50,000 each, to attract two high-achieving international students** to each of Western Australia's five universities: Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, The University of Notre Dame (Fremantle Campus), and The University of Western Australia. Each year, the Program will focus on attracting new students from priority target markets, studying in a range of fields that are linked to priority sectors and industries for Western Australia.

The second round of the Program will be open for Semester 1, 2024 enrolments, and the third round of the Program will be open for Semester 2, 2024 enrolments. While development of the scholarship criteria will be managed by the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI), the application, evaluation and decision process will be administered by each University, with students applying directly to the University of their choice.

## 2. Key Dates and Times

The following table outlines the indicative timeframes and may be subject to change.

Round/Semester	Application period	Successful scholarship recipients determined	Award letter to successful recipients issued
Round 2: Semester 1, 2024	9:00 am 1 August 2023 – 3:00 pm 30 November 2023	December 2023	January 2024
Round 3: Semester 2, 2024	9:00 am 1 March 2024 – 3:00 pm 31 May 2024	June 2024	July 2024

## 3. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to be considered for the Program in 2024, applicants must:

1. Have received a letter of offer for a new enrolment\* as an onshore international student, undertaking full-time studies (minimum two years) at one of Western Australia's five Universities, commencing in Semester 1 2024 or Semester 2 2024, or a start date after 1 January 2024 applicable to the student's course of study (for PhD students).



2. Have [met the criteria to obtain an international student visa](#) for study in Australia, arriving in the State of Western Australia (the State) and commencing studies onshore in 2024 in the semester for which they have applied.
3. Be commencing studies directly in an undergraduate or postgraduate program and not via a packaged, foundation or English language pathway.
4. Be prepared to decline any other scholarships they may have been previously granted by the University, State or Commonwealth if successful in being awarded a WA Premier's University Scholarship.
5. Be applying to the University as an international fee-paying student.
6. Be a citizen of one of the following countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brazil, China, Colombia, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Nepal, Oman, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, The Philippines, Vietnam, Zimbabwe

\*Each participating university will determine which levels of study are eligible to apply.

#### 4. Selection Criteria

Applicants will be assessed by their selected University on a range of factors, including but not limited to:

1. Demonstration of a high-level of academic achievement as determined by the admitting University.
2. Individual Universities may require additional qualitative assessment by requesting short-listed applicants to provide responses to qualitative questions either through written or interview form.

#### 5. Application Process

The application and decision process for the WA Premier's University Scholarship will be administered by each participating Western Australian University. Applicants will apply directly to the University in which they plan to enrol. Each University will determine the documentation required to be provided from applicants in order to assess and evaluate applications. This will be a competitive process.

The specific Scholarship application information for each of the universities will be provided prior to applications being opened, and will be accessible on [wa.gov.au](http://wa.gov.au).



## 6. Assessment and Notification Process

Universities will assess applications according to the pre-determined and published criteria, assessing and evaluating eligible applicants once the application period closes. Once successful applicants have been determined, each University will inform JTSI of the students recommended to be awarded scholarships. Successful applicants will be notified via correspondence from the Western Australian Premier, while those applications deemed unsuccessful will be advised by the University through which they applied.

## 7. Payments

To be eligible for the scholarship payment, students must:

- Continue to meet the eligibility application criteria.
- Have commenced their studies onshore at the University awarding their scholarship in the semester for which they applied in 2024.
- Have attendance confirmed past the census date for the semester for which they applied in 2024 at the University in which they are enrolled.
- Be an international student on an Australian student visa (subclass 500).
- Not be a recipient of any other scholarships.

Each semester in 2024, one scholarship worth \$50,000 will be provided to each Western Australian University. Scholarship funds will be held by the universities and be applied against successful applicant's fee and tuition accounts. The scholarship fund is provided as a fee discount towards eligible course fees, and will be applied against the successful student's account with the University after the University census date for the semester for which they applied in 2024. Each University will decide the frequency and value of credit towards course fees over the duration of the program. Payments are exclusive of GST.

If students do not meet all of the eligibility criteria of the scholarship program at payment date, the University has the right to retract the scholarship and reassess applications to determine a substitute recipient.

## 8. Terms & Conditions

Each University must acknowledge and agree to be legally bound by a Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) with JTSI.

Requirements set out in these Guidelines, including requirements set out in the General Terms and Conditions of these Guidelines are reflected in each FAA.





## 9. Contact

All enquiries from applicants regarding the criteria and assessment method of the Western Australian Premier's University Scholarship can be directed to [scholarships@jtsi.wa.gov.au](mailto:scholarships@jtsi.wa.gov.au).

## 10. Reporting

At the conclusion of each scholarship round, the universities will provide a report to JTSI outlining the number of applications received, the countries of origin of applicants, field of study, and other details as requested by JTSI to assess the impact and reach of the program, and inform future rounds of the Scholarship program.

## 11. General income tax information

Subject to an applicant's specific circumstances, the receipt of funding from this program may be treated as assessable income. We recommend that potential applicants seek independent advice about the possible income tax implications from a qualified tax agent/advisor, or the Australian Taxation Office, prior to submitting an application.



## 12. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### **My enrolled course is shorter than two years. Can I still apply?**

No, current eligibility criteria for this scholarship requires students to be studying in Western Australia for a minimum of two years or more.

### **I am an international student and am already studying at a WA University. Can I still apply?**

No, current eligibility criteria for this payment requires students to be arriving in Western Australia in a specific semester in 2024 in order to commence their course in that semester in 2024.

### **If found successful with the scholarship, am I able to postpone my course into a future semester?**

No, current eligibility criteria for this payment requires students to be commencing their course in the relevant semester in 2024.

### **If I am successful in obtaining a scholarship payment how will this be provided to me?**

Funding for the scholarship will be provided to the University you are enrolled with, to be held against your student account and be used to cover course costs and other fees.

### **Who do I contact with any queries?**

All enquiries regarding the WA Premier's University Scholarship can be directed to [scholarships@jtsi.wa.gov.au](mailto:scholarships@jtsi.wa.gov.au).



## 13. General Terms and Conditions

### 1. Cancellation and Variation

- 1.1 The Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI) reserves the right at its absolute discretion, at any time and from time to time, to (in whole or in part) cancel, vary, supplement, supersede or replace this Western Australian Premier's University Scholarships Program (Program).
- 1.2 If JTSI cancels, varies, supplements, supersedes or replaces this Program, then:
  - a) JTSI will advise each University that the Program has been cancelled, varied, supplemented, superseded or replaced; and
  - b) The University shall not have any recourse against JTSI whatsoever including claims for any costs or expenses incurred by the Applicant in applying for, or connected in applying for funding through this Program.

### 2. JTSI's Rights & University Obligations

#### 2.1 Information

JTSI may from time to time request information and/or documents in connection with the Program, including without limitation any information or documents (including supporting evidence) which JTSI reasonably required to consider whether JTSI is or should be satisfied of or with any matter in connection with the Program, and the University must promptly comply within the time period prescribed by JTSI's written request.

#### 2.2 Audits

For a period of five years after the date upon which a funding payment is made to the University, JTSI may, at its absolute discretion:

- a) Conduct random or specific audits in relation to this Program;
- b) Request additional information from the University if JTSI reasonably believes that any of the information provided by the University may be incomplete, false or misleading;
- c) They must fully cooperate with such requests, and promptly comply with such requests within the time period prescribed by JTSI.

#### 2.3 University warranties

Each University, in submitting information about the successful Scholarship Recipients, warrants and represents that all information and representations (in whatever form) given to JTSI under, as part of or in connection with the Program, is true and correct, complete, and up-to-date, and in no way misleading or deceptive.

#### 2.4 General

Despite anything expressed or implied to the contrary in these General Terms and Conditions, the Guidelines, or any other documentation associated with the Program, no University shall have or assert any legal (including equitable) rights under, in connection with, on account of, or associated with any of the aforesaid documents or the Program.

### 3. Application and Assessment Process

The University will assess their own applications according to the determined Eligibility Criteria and Selection Criteria and application process that was agreed on together with JTSI and outlined in these Guidelines. The University will then decide on the successful applicants once the application period closes and inform JTSI of the students to be awarded scholarships. A University may not award more than two Scholarships awarded at \$50,000 each in 2024. If students do not meet the eligibility criteria of Program at payment date, the University has the right to retract the scholarship





and reassess applications to determine a substitute recipient. The University will need to inform JTSl about the change and the new recipients.

- a) If JTSl requests the provision of further information including how the successful applicant satisfies the Eligibility and Selection Criteria, then the University must provide the copy of the documents or information requested within the period specified by JTSl.

## 4. Financial Assistance Agreement

- 4.1 The University will be required to enter into a legally binding Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) with the State of Western Australia, acting by and through its Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation.
- 4.2 The terms and conditions of the FAA will not be negotiable.

## 5. Repayment

If in its reasonable opinion, JTSl forms the view that the University provided incomplete, false or misleading information or that the relevant Scholarship Recipient no longer satisfies, or never satisfied, the Eligibility Criteria or Selection Criteria of the funding payment, JTSl may request the University repay part or all of the funding payment as a debt due and payable to JTSl and the University must comply with such a request in a time and manner as prescribed by JTSl. If Scholarship Recipients do not continue to meet Eligibility Requirements, for example by leaving the University before the end of the first two years of their Program, any unspent funds should be repaid from the University to JTSl.

## 6. Media

- 6.1 All media enquiries or public announcements relating to the Program are coordinated and managed by JTSl's Media team. Where possible, all media and communications will be undertaken jointly with successful applicants.

Scholarship Recipients must:

- a) Seek and obtain JTSl's approval before making public statements, or contacting or responding to the media, regarding successful or unsuccessful Scholarship Recipients through the Program.
- b) Provide JTSl with at least 25 business days' notice of any proposed media event.
- c) Provide any proposed media or public statement to JTSl for approval prior to its release as well as make any changes or amendments to the form, content or manner reasonably requested by JTSl.

## 7. Disclosure of Offer Information

### 7.1 Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA)

- a) The University acknowledges and agrees that information relating to the Program may be subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA)* (FOI Act). As such, JTSl may be required to publicly disclose such information as required by the FOI Act. JTSl may also be required to disclose information to the State of Western Australia under court order or upon request by Parliament, any Committee of Parliament or as otherwise required by law.
- b) To the fullest extent of the Law the University releases the State of Western Australia, JTSl including their respective officers, employees, contractors and agents or otherwise from all liability (in negligence or howsoever arising) for any loss, injury, damage, liability,



costs or expenses suffered or incurred by the University resulting from the disclosure of information from the application in part or whole.

#### 7.2 Auditor General's Act 2006 (WA) and Financial Management Act 2006 (WA)

- a) Nothing in the Guidelines or the General Terms and Conditions shall be interpreted to affect or diminish the powers and responsibilities of the Auditor General for the State of Western Australia under the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Auditor General's Act 2006 in any way.
- b) Subject to this clause 7, the provisions of the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Auditor General's Act 2006, JTSI will not make public any part of the information that the University expressly and reasonably nominates as confidential. However, JTSI may require the University to withdraw any claim to confidentiality in respect of any part of the information related to the Program as a condition of acceptance of the Program.

#### 7.3 Privacy

- a) By agreeing to participate in the Program, the University consents to the information provided by the University or collected by JTSI relating to the University being used by JTSI in the administration of the Program.
- b) JTSI will store personal information collected in this process, supporting documentation and any Program administration, monitoring and evaluation activities in compliance with its obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)* and the Australian Privacy Principles.

## 8. Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent of the law, the State of Western Australia and JTSI, including their respective officer, employees, contractors and representative, shall have no liability whatsoever (arising in negligence or howsoever) for any loss, injury, damage, liability, costs or expenses (including legal costs) suffered or incurred by the University in connection with the Program and the Department's lawful disclosure of the University's information as required for the purposes of administering the Program and any Financial Assistance Agreements relevant to this Program.

## 9. Laws

The Program is governed by the law of the State of Western Australia.

The University must comply with all relevant laws and rules of the State of Western Australia regarding the Program.

## 10. Disclaimer

- 11.1 Nothing in the application process or the selection process shall give rise to any legal relationship or any other obligations between the University and JTSI.
- 11.2 Any obligations and responsibilities of the parties will be the subject of an FAA between JTSI and the University.

## 11. Definitions

In these General Terms and Conditions:

**Financial Assistance Agreement** means the legally binding agreement between each University and JTSI relevant to this Program.



**Guidelines** means the document titled “Western Australian Premier’s University Scholarships for 2024”.

**JTSI** means the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation.

**Program** means the Western Australian Premier’s University Scholarships Program for 2024, and associated processes, and requirements and benefits described in both the Guidelines and these General Terms and Conditions.

**Scholarship Recipients** means those applicants that each University has chosen to receive the Western Australian Premier’s University Scholarships for 2024. There are no more than 2 scholarship recipients annually for each university.

**Selection Criteria** means the criteria on which a student will be selected for a Scholarship as set out in the Guidelines.

**University** means any of the five universities in Western Australia: Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University, The University of Notre Dame Australia (Fremantle Campus), and The University of Western Australia.