INDIGENOUS COMMONWEALTH ACCOMMODATION SCHOLARSHIPS

CONDITIONS OF AWARD

1. INTRODUCTION

Each year the Australian National University ("The University") may offer a number of awards known as the Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship (the award”).

The objective of the award is to assist indigenous students relocating from rural or regional areas with accommodation and relocation costs related to studying at ANU.

Funding for this award has been provided by the Commonwealth Government.

2. BENEFITS

The value of the award is stated in your letter of offer. The duration of the award is a maximum of three years. The award is paid in 2 equal instalments after census date, directly to your residential college or accommodation unless otherwise stated in the letter of offer.

The recipient is responsible for making payment of all tuition fees by the prescribed date as set out by the University each session. Recipients of this award are responsible for the costs of books, study materials, the balance of accommodation costs and all other costs of study.

3. ELIGIBILITY

The award is available each year to a prospective or continuing ANU student who:

(a) is an Australian citizen; and
(b) is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; and
(c) identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person; and
(d) is accepted as such by the community in which they live, or formerly lived; and
(e) enrolled/enrolling in an undergraduate, postgraduate or research degree; and
(f) has relocated from a regional or rural area to study at ANU; or
(g) is required to live on campus and/or move out of the family home in order to study at ANU; and
(h) is able to demonstrate low socio-economic status either:

(i) through being in receipt of a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (such as Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance, etc); or
(ii) on the basis of an assessment conducted by or on behalf of the eligible scholarship provider.
4. **APPLICATION**

The application is submitted via UAC. Application closing dates will be advertised on the scholarships website.

5. **SELECTION**

Selection is made on the basis of a student meeting the selection criteria. As there are limited scholarships available, the scholarships are awarded based on those considered in the most need.

The University may also vary the number of awards and/or offer the award at other times in exceptional circumstances or based on the need of students and availability of funds.

6. **CONCURRENT HOLDING OF AWARDS**

A recipient of the Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship is permitted to concurrently hold other scholarships, awards, grants and bursaries subject to the terms of the corresponding section in the conditions of award of the other scholarship/bursary/grant/award that they are holding.

Failure to declare and obtain permission to hold another award or scholarship may result in the recipient being required to refund a payment or payments to the College, as determined by the Director, Tjabal Centre (or nominee).

A recipient will not be permitted to receive assistance concurrently from two or more Commonwealth sources for the same purpose.

7. **DEFERMENT**

The award cannot be deferred.

8. **ONGOING ELIGIBILITY**

A recipient of this award is required to enrol in a full-time load of at least 18 units per semester. A recipient requests permission, in writing, from the Director, Tjabal Centre to hold the award on a part-time basis. If approved, payments of the award will be made on a pro-rata basis.

Recipients are expected to maintain a minimum GPA of 4 each semester (with the average being across all courses taken in a particular semester).

If a recipient is unable to achieve the required average in any semester a formal warning is sent.

If the recipient does not meet the requirement in a subsequent semester they risk having their award suspended or terminated.

An award recipient is given the opportunity to explain their performance and how their performance can be remedied before a decision on the suspension or termination of an award is made.

Recipients will be required to provide evidence of their ongoing eligibility in relation to their low-socio economic status each semester prior to payment being issued. Students will be requested to send a copy of the most current income statement. In the situation a student is not receiving a Government or Centrelink benefit, they will be required to provide recent payslips from any employment they are undertaking.
9. CESSATION OF AWARD

The award ceases or should be surrendered:

(a) at the conclusion of the period outlined in section 2; or
(b) on the date on which the recipient withdraws or ceases to attend the University other than for approved absences;
(c) if a recipient fails to enrol as required in section 8;
(d) if a recipient changes to part-time enrolment without permission;
(e) if a recipient fails to meet the minimum academic performance requirements;
(g) if a recipient breaches academic or behavioural standards set by the University under the Academic Misconduct & Discipline Rules;

whichever is earliest.

10. REPAYMENT OF FUNDS

Subject to the information available at the time, the Director, Tjabal Centre may request that the payment for the semester in which the breach of conditions or withdrawal occurs be refunded in part or in full. Payments will be recovered in line with section 27 of the Indigenous Student Assistance Grants Guidelines 2017.

11. PROVIDING FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

The awarding of a scholarship/grant is based on the information provided to the University. An award may be withdrawn at any stage if incorrect, false or misleading information is provided or relevant information is withheld. This includes circumstances where the false information is unrelated to the assessment in awarding the scholarship/grant.

12. VARIATION TO CONDITIONS OF AWARD

In exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis section 6 and/or 7 of these conditions of award may be varied by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) on the recommendation of the Director, Tjabal Centre.

13. TAXATION & CENTRELINK

Recipients are responsible for seeking taxation and Centrelink advice regarding their own individual circumstances. Scholarships/grants may be regarded as taxable income if a recipient is enrolled on a part-time basis.

For information on how your award may affect your Centrelink benefits, see this website http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/income/

14. ACCOMMODATION

It is the recipient’s responsibility to obtain residential accommodation. Information on student accommodation and application forms are available from the University Accommodation Services. Information may be found on the Web at: http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation
15. PUBLICITY

The recipient may be requested to participate in publicity for the award from time to time. This may include publicity in the state or territory of residence or of schooling. Recipients may be contacted for an interview and photograph. The University may also publicise the award by publishing the names of the recipients. Arrangements for such publicity will be made through the Strategic Communications and Public Affairs Office of the University.

16. DISCLAIMER

The recipient of this award is subject to The Australian National University Act 1991 as amended, and to the Statutes, Rules, Regulations and Resolutions of the University.

The award of a scholarship/grant does not carry any commitment by the University for future employment.

These conditions of award should be read in conjunction with the University’s Coursework Scholarships Policy & Procedures available from the ANU website.

17. RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES & RULES