

# Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships

## Information for Applicants

Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships are to facilitate choice in higher education and to increase higher education participation by Indigenous students from low socio-economic backgrounds and from rural and regional areas.

## Types of Scholarships:

	<b>Commonwealth Education Cost Scholarship (CECS) – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary</b>	<b>Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship (CAS) – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary</b>	<b>Indigenous Access Scholarship (IAS)</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	To assist both metropolitan and rural or regional Indigenous students who can show low socio-economic status with general education costs.	To assist Indigenous students with accommodation costs incurred by moving from a rural or regional area to undertake study at Charles Darwin University.	To assist Indigenous students to undertake an eligible enabling course or undergraduate course at Charles Darwin University.
<b>Value</b>	\$2,254 (per annum)	\$4,508 (per annum)	\$4,253 (one off payment)
<b>Payment</b>	Two equal payments after census dates in Semester 1 & Semester 2	Two equal payments after census dates in Semester 1 & Semester 2	One off payment made shortly after Semester 1 census date

If you meet the eligibility requirements for more than one of the above Commonwealth Indigenous Scholarships it may be possible to be awarded more than one scholarship.

We will assess your application for eligibility – so you do not need to decide which scholarship you want to apply for.

## How to apply

- The application form is available on Charles Darwin University's [www.cdu.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.cdu.edu.au/scholarships) or from the Information Centres at Casuarina and Alice Springs campuses.
- Please keep in mind that there is supporting certified documentation that must be provided at the time of application.
- Please send your completed application form with your supporting documentation to:
 

Scholarships Officer  
Student Services  
Charles Darwin University  
Darwin NT 0909
- Applications for the Semester 1, 2010 Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships must be submitted by **3 pm, Friday 5 March 2010**. **We cannot accept late applications.**

## Basic Eligibility Requirements for Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships

You must meet all of the following requirements by the first census date of the scholarship period.

Conditions	Requirements
Citizenship and residency	You must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an Australian citizen, and</li> <li>• be an <i>Indigenous</i> person.</li> </ul>
Enrolment	You must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enrolled, or about to commence study, in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Tertiary Enabling Program,</li> <li>▪ an undergraduate course of study</li> </ul> </li> <li>• enrolled as a Commonwealth-supported student for that course of study.</li> <li>• enrolled internally on Casuarina or Alice Springs campuses (CAS – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary)</li> <li>• enrolled full time or part time (CECS – Indigenous Enabling only)</li> </ul>
Low socio-economic status requirements	You must demonstrate financial hardship either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• through receiving a Centrelink (or other Commonwealth) means-tested income support payment (such as Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance etc), or</li> <li>• by providing comprehensive information demonstrating exceptional financial hardship through the completion of a Financial Hardship Statement available on the CDU Scholarships website.</li> </ul>
Study load	You must be enrolled or about to commence study as a full time student. ( <i>Full time study at Charles Darwin University is equivalent to a minimum of 30 Credit points per semester.</i> ) You can study part time if you are in receipt of a Commonwealth Education Cost Scholarship – Indigenous Enabling. Part time study will be considered if you can provide details and evidence of <b>exceptional circumstances</b> that prevent you from studying full time, such as disability, illness, or significant carer responsibilities.
Previous qualifications	You must not have completed the requirements of a course of study equivalent to or higher than an Australian bachelor's degree, unless the award is a prerequisite to your <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ current undergraduate course of study, or</li> <li>▪ a graduate diploma (or equivalent postgraduate course of study) in an area of National Priority required for initial registration.</li> </ul> <p>Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships are intended primarily for students undertaking an initial qualification.</p>

**Additional Eligibility Requirements for CAS – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary**

In addition to the basic eligibility requirements, applicants for a CAS – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary must satisfy **each** of the following:

1. Within the four years immediately preceding the commencement of higher education study, you:
  - Have lived in rural or regional Australia for at least three years; or
  - Completed the final two years of schooling in a high school or college in a rural or regional area; or
  - Moved away from a rural or regional area to complete the final two years of schooling at a high school or college in a major city;
2. It was, or will be necessary for you to move from the rural or regional area to undertake your higher education study;
3. You have incurred, or will incur, additional accommodation costs as a result of having to move.
4. You will be enrolled as an internal student at Charles Darwin University, unless you can demonstrate exceptional circumstances that prevent you from doing so.

To apply for a CAS – Indigenous Enabling and Ordinary you need to provide details of your residential address(es) and/or high school or college attended for the four years immediately preceding your commencement of higher education study.

Example 1: Brodie commenced higher education study in 2008 after graduating from High School in 2007. He would need to list his residential details from 2007 to 2004.

Years preceding higher education study	Residential Address: (Suburb State Postcode)	High School or College attended: (Suburb State Postcode)
2007 - 2006	Kormilda College Student Residences BERRIMAH NT 0828	Kormilda College BERRIMAH NT 0828
2005 - 2004	5 Smith Street KATHERINE NT 0851	Katherine High School KATHERINE NT 0851

Example 2: Benjamin commenced higher education study in 2008 as a mature age student. He would need to list his residential details from 2007 to 2004.

Years preceding higher education study	Residential Address: (Suburb State Postcode)	High School or College attended: (Suburb State Postcode)
2007 - 2005	4/78 Happy Road Katherine NT 0810	Completed High School in 2004
2004	5 Smith Street Newcastle NSW 2300	Newcastle State High School Newcastle NSW 2300

You will also need to provide documentary evidence of the residential details provided in your application for your application for a CAS to be considered.

## Eligibility Requirements for IAS

The Indigenous Access Scholarship is to assist commencing Indigenous students. To be eligible for an IAS in 2010 you must meet the following requirements:

- you are an Australian citizen;
- you are an Indigenous person;
- you can demonstrate financial hardship either:
  - (i) through receiving a Centrelink (or other Commonwealth) means-tested income support payment (such as Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance etc), **or**
  - (ii) by providing comprehensive information demonstrating exceptional financial hardship through the completion of a [Financial Hardship Statement](#) available on the CDU Scholarships website.
- You are enrolled or about to commence study as a full time student. Full time study at Charles Darwin University is equivalent to a minimum of 30 Credit points per semester. Part time study will be considered if you can provide details and evidence of **exceptional circumstances** that prevent you from studying full time, such as disability, illness, or significant carer responsibilities.
- be a commencing student, and:
  - (i) you have accepted the offer of a place in or are enrolled in an undergraduate course of study as a Commonwealth supported student at Charles Darwin University; **or**
  - (ii) you are enrolled in the Tertiary Enabling Program at Charles Darwin University.

Students identifying as an Indigenous person in their application must provide documentary evidence of their Aboriginality or Torres Strait Islander status. If you are in receipt of ABSTUDY you should provide a copy of a recent statement from Centrelink. If you can not provide this you will need to complete a [Declaration](#) stating that you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.