

# Scholarship search

Applying for a scholarship could give you the opportunity to kick-start your tertiary studies, writes **Sharon Green.**

THERE are many different scholarships available but how do you find out if you're eligible or where to apply? And are they really worth applying for?

## Tuition scholarships

The most common type of scholarship is the tuition scholarship. These scholarships usually cover the cost of tuition fees and sometimes living and accommodation costs too. Endeavour College of Natural Health offers two scholarships in each state, which covers 12 months full-time tuition fees and textbook support. Director of Education Dr Nicholas Vardaxis says students entering tertiary study can qualify for a scholarship through academic merit or if they have experienced financial hardship. "We encourage people from minority groups, low income or disadvantaged



backgrounds, or anyone with a special hardship to apply."

**Details:** [www.endeavour.edu.au](http://www.endeavour.edu.au)

## Sponsorship

Sponsorships are less common but worthwhile because they usually offer a complete package that covers most, or all, of your financial expenses, as well as additional incentives. For example, the Australian Defence Force offers engineering and health degrees through sponsorship. The Defence University Sponsorship provides the benefit of having a salary while studying, 18 per cent superannuation contribution, HELP and

student fees are paid for, a textbook allowance, subsidised accommodation and free healthcare as part of the deal. The program also guarantees a graduate officer position upon completion. To qualify, undergraduate students must have completed one year of a three or four year degree or two years of a five or six year degree. **[www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/universitysponsorship](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/universitysponsorship)**

## Bursaries

Bursaries are smaller financial awards that can assist with an aspect of a student's education, such as covering travel costs, a textbook allowance, accommodation assistance or a

portion of tuition fees. They usually range from \$500 to \$2000 and eligibility is often targeted at specific study areas.

**Search for a bursary at:**  
**[www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)**

## Grants

Funding to support educational costs comes in the form of grants and are usually offered by universities and other organisations. "Grantsearch" is a comprehensive funding database and lists 1885 student scholarships. The database is the only service that actively finds funding sources for scholarships, fellowships, bursaries and awards that acknowledge students with particular talents, disabilities, or from disadvantaged or ethnic backgrounds.

**[www.grantsearch.com.au/schol](http://www.grantsearch.com.au/schol)**

## Other avenues

While most Australian universities offer undergraduate scholarships, eligibility and the number of scholarships available differ so it's best to check with the institution to find out further details. "Going to Uni" offers a range of scholarship-related information including a full list of scholarships available at Australian universities and Commonwealth-supported scholarships.

**[www.goingtouni.gov.au](http://www.goingtouni.gov.au)**