INTRODUCTION

Each year, millions of dollars in scholarships are given to students by various organizations such as tertiary institutions, Government, societies and businesses.

There are many different types of scholarships, which have different eligibility criteria, selection criteria, and methods of applying.

There isn’t a central resource you can use to find every single scholarship you may be eligible for. You will need to become an investigator and take the time to search through:

- Government sites
- Tertiary Institute Websites
- Tertiary Institute Scholarship Brochures
- Myfuture Scholarships Database, and
- Internet Search Engines

This may take you a considerable amount of time, but it will be worth it if you can secure a scholarship, especially if you have to move away from home to study.

BE IN IT TO WIN IT

Because it is so time consuming, many students don’t apply for scholarships. You may feel the same way, but you have to be ‘in it to win it’.

Your parents/guardians can help you by searching as well and supporting you through the process.

STEP 1- CENTRELINK

If you are eligible for a Centrelink benefit such as Youth Allowance, you will automatically receive the Student Start-up Scholarship. If you have to move more than 90kms away to study your course, you will receive the Relocation Allowance.

The rules around eligibility are confusing and could possibly change. Ring the Centrelink Youth and Student Services line on 132 490 and ask them for an appointment with your parents/guardians to find out if you are eligible.

COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

Student Start-up Scholarship
Relocation Scholarship

ELIGIBLE – YES

Currently receiving or will be eligible for a Centrelink benefit by March 2013

Start-up Scholarship = $2050 py (2012 rate)
Relocation Scholarship =
- $4000 1st yr
- $2000 2nd & 3rd yr
- $1000 4th yr

ELIGIBLE – NO

Make the decision if you want to defer for 12 months and try and get independent Youth Allowance through working.

ELIGIBLE – YES

Can’t apply- will come to you automatically through Centrelink.
STEP 2a- UAC SCHOLARSHIPS

The majority of University courses in NSW are applied for via the University Admissions Centre (UAC), which is an online database. TAFE courses are applied for directly to the institution.

Participating Universities enable you to apply for their equity scholarships through completing an online form which collects personal information that assists the Universities to assess your eligibility.

This needs to be completed online by mid October. Go to www.uac.edu.au/equity for more information

STEP 2b- VTAC SCHOLARSHIPS

The majority of University and TAFE courses in Victoria are applied for via the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC), which is an online database.

All Universities except for the University of Melbourne (apply direct) and Australian Catholic University (apply through UAC) enable you to apply for selected scholarships through completing a form on the VTAC website.

The actual scholarships aren’t listed on the site and you don’t need to know if you are eligible for them.

You just select which Universities you are applying to and fill out an online form

This needs to be completed by Friday 21 October. Go to www.vtac.edu.au for more information

TERTIARY ADMISSION CENTRE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships from participating Universities through UAC & VTAC

ELIGIBILITY

Yes if you have applied for a course from one of the participating institutions

You don't need to know if you are eligible for any scholarships, you just put in your details and the Universities will work it out for you.

ELIGIBLE – VTAC

Apply through www.vtac.edu.au between 6 August and 19 October

Log in to MyInfo, enter your VTAC ID number and pin.

Click on scholarships.

Fill out each section and click submit

Post any required paper work to VTAC by Friday 19 October

ELIGIBLE – UAC

Apply through www.uac.edu.au/equity between 8 August and Friday 28 September (TBC)

Follow the links and you will receive a scholarships ID and Pin.

Fill out each section and click submit. Download any required paper for evidence (i.e., rural)

Post the paper work by the closing date.
**STEP 3- INSTITUTION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Each University, TAFE or Private College you apply for will have scholarships listed on their website.

You simply put the name of the Institution and the word into an Internet search engine and the link should come straight up. I.e., “RMIT Scholarships”

You will need to search through the scholarships that are relevant to you. These could include:

- Undergraduate
- Faculty (i.e., health)
- Campus
- Memorial/ Bequeathed
- Accommodation

You will need to read over each one, checking the eligibility criteria and how to apply. There will be different closing dates and methods on how to apply.

**STEP 4- OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS**

Once you have exhausted your options through Centrelink and the Institutions you have applied for, and you have worked out whether you will be eligible for a Centrelink benefit, you will need to find all the other scholarships floating around in cyber space.

There are all kinds- everything from the Defence Force to the Timber Merchants Society to Rural Female to Industry Cadetships.

The central scholarships database for Australia is on the myfuture website- [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)

Go to the Facts then click on scholarships and awards. You can use the search engine to look for scholarships.

**INSTITUTION SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarships offered by the Institutions you have applied to.

Go the scholarships homepage of the Institutions you have applied to and explore your options. If you find a scholarship, you need to find out how to apply for it.

Direct Entry: You will need to apply for the scholarship directly to the University. You may have to apply via an application form or online portal.

**OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS**

This includes all other scholarships you may be eligible for, including cadetships.

Go to [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au) then click on the facts, then click on scholarships and awards.

You will be able to search for scholarships via the search engine.

Make sure to check your local and national newspapers for scholarships and also contact your local council.
COMMENWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS

The ‘Commonwealth Scholarships Program’ consists of two main scholarships, which aim to increase the participation of low socio-economic status students into higher education study.

**Student Start-up Scholarship:** $2194 per yr for up to 4 yrs (2011 amount, indexed annually). Must be receiving a Centrelink benefit and it is guaranteed to those students who are.

**Relocation Scholarships:** $4124 for the first year and $1031 per yr after that for up to 3 yrs. You must be receiving a Centrelink benefit and have to move away from home to attend tertiary education.

For eligibility criteria, go to [www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)

INSTITUTION SCHOLARSHIPS

Institutions usually have several categories of scholarships. Below are examples. Names for the categories vary between institutions and most scholarships are open between July and the end of September.

a) **Access/ Equity/ Diversity:** Provides opportunities for students from disadvantaged backgrounds to access courses. You generally apply through VTAC/ UAC for these scholarships

b) **Indigenous:** Provides opportunities for Indigenous students to access courses.

c) **Academic Merit/ Academic Excellence:** Financially rewards high achieving yr 12 students. You often don’t need to apply for these scholarships as you will be automatically considered for one based on your ATAR.

d) **Course Scholarship:** The course you would like to apply for may have it’s own scholarship

e) **Campus:** Some Universities like LaTrobe Uni offer Campus wide scholarships.

f) **Faculty Scholarships:** A Faculty is a department at an institution which is dedicated to a particular area of study i.e., Faculty of Health Sciences. Faculties often have their own scholarships to encourage and enable students to access to their courses.

g) **Rural/ Regional/ Relocation Scholarships:** Aims to encourage students from regional areas to apply for their courses. Some scholarships like Rural Medical Bonded Scholarships will require you to work in a rural area after you have finished your course and others will provide you financial relocation assistance.

h) **Sport Scholarships:** For talented and elite athletes

i) **Accommodation Scholarships:** Many student Colleges and Residences have scholarships

STATE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

In areas of National Priority Skills Shortages, sometimes State Government’s will offer Scholarships. For example, Queensland Health and NSW Health offer Allied Health Scholarships

You find this information on the individual Institution websites and the State Government Department websites

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Local Governments sometimes offer regional area scholarships. Usually, the scholarship recipient needs to reside in the area. Contact your local / regional government office
INDUSTRY SCHOLARSHIPS

Some industry bodies/companies/sectors can offer sponsorships at a selected or multiple institutions. There are usually more industry scholarships offered in study areas of National skills shortages such as Nursing, Engineering and IT.

You can contact Industry yourself and ask if they will sponsor you for some of your Uni fees. They may make a donation or provide some paid work experience.

COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Co-operative scholarships are formed when an institution, industry body and a student enter into a partnership where the student will study at the institution in a specified course, the industry body will offer some financial assistance to the student and the student will agree to undertake graduate employment or further training at the company for a specified amount of time.

You will find information about these scholarships on the institution websites

BONDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Some institutions offer Bonded scholarships, where you enter into a contract stating that you will meet certain obligations in return for the scholarship. For example, you may be bonded to work for a certain company or work in a rural area for a period of time once you complete your course.

You will find information about these scholarships on the institution websites

MEMORIAL/ SPONSORED

There are numerous memorial and personally sponsored scholarships all over the country. It is difficult to find all the ones relevant to you, but a good place to start is the institute website or through searching www.myfuture.edu.au

CADETSHIPS

These are like Apprenticeships where you undertake study and also on the job training. You will generally be employed and paid a wage by a company and undertake part time or block release study at an institution.

Areas like Finance, Journalism, Engineering and Accounting generally have Cadetships. Check the newspapers and Google for advertisements