

Sports Excellence Scholarship Policy

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Description	This policy describes the University's processes for managing the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme and its conditions.

Related documents

[Bachelor Degree \(AQF Level 7\) Policy](#)

[Bachelor Honours Degree \(AQF Level 8\) Policy](#)

[Student Complaints Policy](#)

[Student Review and Appeals Policy](#)

[Student Review and Appeals Procedures](#)

[Review of Decision Form](#)

[Student Misconduct Policy](#)

[Academic Standing, Progression and Exclusion Policy](#)

[Conflict of Interest Policy](#)

[Elite Athlete Support Policy](#)

[\[Aim\]](#) [\[Administration\]](#) [\[Eligibility and Selection Criteria\]](#) [\[Benefits and Payment Arrangements\]](#) [\[Offer Process and Scholarship Conditions\]](#) [\[Review and Appeals\]](#) [\[Promotion\]](#) [\[Sports Scholarship Committee\]](#) [\[Transition Arrangements\]](#)

1. AIM

The Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme is designed to:

- enable gifted sportsmen and sportswomen, who have the potential to succeed at university, to gain a higher education qualification without compromising their sporting opportunities;
- promote the University as an institution supporting both sporting and academic excellence; and
- contribute to the University's status as an "Elite Athlete Friendly University".

2. ADMINISTRATION

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor or nominee is responsible for the administration of the Sports Excellence Scholarships. The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor is assisted by the Sports Scholarship Committee.

Each year, the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor reviews the outcomes of the previous year's scholarship round and the funding available for scholarships in the following year to determine:

- the student cohorts for whom scholarships are available;
- the number of available scholarships; and

- the benefits associated with the available scholarships.

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor approves the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme Conditions each year.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

3.1 Funding

Funding for the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme is predominantly provided through the University's budget, as approved by the Council. Funding from other sources, including contributions from academic Groups or external donors, may be allocated to the Sports Scholarship Fund.

A small number of Development Scholarships of \$5,000 for one year may be offered at the discretion of the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, on recommendation from the Sports Scholarships Committee, to sports men and sports women with strong applications for the Sports Excellence Scholarships, but who may benefit from a year in which to demonstrate their potential in their chosen sport.

Development Scholarship recipients who fulfil the requirements in the development year will be invited to apply for a full Sports Excellence Scholarship in the subsequent year, but will be selected on a competitive basis along with other applicants.

3.2 Eligibility

Applications must be made on the designated application form and applicants must provide relevant documentation to determine eligibility and merit.

To be eligible for selection for a Sports Excellence Scholarship, the applicant must:

- be an Australian Citizen, Australian Permanent Resident, or hold a Humanitarian Visa; and
- be eligible for admission as an undergraduate/postgraduate domestic student in one of Griffith University's degrees; or
- be currently enrolled as a Griffith University domestic student; and
- have demonstrated high achievement in their chosen sport and be currently competing at national or international level.

3.3 Selection

Applications for Sports Excellence Scholarships are assessed against the selection and eligibility criteria and an order of merit list for each type of scholarship is prepared by the Sports Scholarship Committee.

The Sports Scholarship Committee makes recommendations for the award of scholarships on the basis of the:

- standing in the applicants' chosen sport;
- academic standing of the applicant and the likelihood of success in the chosen program; and
- ambassadorial qualities of the applicant, which includes representation of the University publicly.

The Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor approves the award of scholarships.

4. BENEFITS AND PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Sports Excellence Scholarship has two components: a cash payment and membership of the Griffith Sports College.

4.1 Cash Benefit

For scholarship recipients studying full-time a cash payment of \$3,500 is provided per trimester. Part time recipients will be paid 50% of the full value paid per trimester (up to the total value of \$28,000). Scholarship recipients studying through OUA will be eligible for their scholarship benefit payment if they are enrolled in a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in one of the following three programs:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Communication
- Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Scholarship recipients not enrolled in a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) will not be eligible for the scholarship benefit payment.

4.2 Membership of the Griffith Sports College

Recipients of Sports Excellence Scholarships are automatic members of the Griffith Sports College. Membership includes personal assistance and study assistance, as outlined in the *Elite Athlete Support Policy*.

5. OFFER PROCESS AND SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS

A scholarship recipient must continue to meet the requirements of the scholarship each trimester as outlined below:

- A person awarded a scholarship must accept the scholarship by the date indicated on the letter of offer, or the scholarship offer will be withdrawn and directed to another applicant.
- To receive the scholarship benefit, the scholarship recipient must be enrolled as a Griffith University student for the trimester to which the benefit applies.
- A scholarship recipient may change their degree program without affecting their scholarship. However, the maximum period for which scholarship benefit may be paid is limited to the balance of the scholarship benefit.
- To retain a scholarship, the recipient must remain in good 'Academic Standing'. A student who is excluded from study under any University policy loses their scholarship.
- Where the duration of the scholarship benefit has not exceeded the maximum period, the scholarship recipient may use the balance of the scholarship for a Bachelor Honours Degree program.
- A scholarship recipient may take leave of absence in accordance with University policy. Scholarship benefits are suspended for the period of leave of absence or deferment.
- A scholarship recipient who is not enrolled and is not on an approved leave of absence loses their scholarship.
- Scholarship recipients who are on approved cross-institutional study continue to remain eligible for scholarship benefits and are required to provide documentation to satisfy the Sports Scholarships Committee of cross-institutional study and academic load, including transfer of credit points to the scholarship recipient's Official Academic Transcript.
- Scholarship recipients are expected to maintain an appropriate status in their sport and submit sporting performance reports on a trimester basis.

The Sports Scholarship Committee reviews performance of the scholarship recipient against the aims, eligibility and selection criteria on a regular basis, and may terminate the scholarship if, in the opinion of the Committee, the recipient's performance has not met the requirements of the scholarship.

Should the University know or have reason to believe that a student in receipt of a Sports Excellence Scholarship has provided false or misleading information in relation to the Scholarship, the application is reassessed and the recipient advised of the outcome. Recipients may also be dealt with under the *Student Misconduct Policy*.

6. REVIEW AND APPEALS

The decision by the University made in respect of an application for a scholarship is final and is not reviewable under the University's *Student Review and Appeals Policy*.

A scholarship recipient whose scholarship is terminated for not complying with one or more conditions set out in section 5 and whose scholarship benefits are not continued may request a review of the decision.

A request or a review of a decision to terminate the scholarship should specify the grounds in writing using the *Review of a Decision Form*, attaching copies of all documents relevant to the decision and lodging their request for a review of the decision with the Scholarships Office within 10 working days of notification of the decision for forwarding to the Registrar. The Registrar reviews the decision and provides the applicant with the reason for the decision. If an error has been made, it will be corrected at the first available opportunity. As specified in the *Student Review and Appeals Policy*, the Registrar's decision is final.

7. PROMOTION

Scholarship recipients are expected to represent the University at such functions deemed appropriate by the Sports Scholarship Committee to promote the University and its Sports Excellence Scholarship scheme during their scholarship tenure.

The University shall undertake activities to promote the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme and its recipients.

Scholarship recipients are expected, on all possible occasions, to publicly acknowledge the support and assistance of the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme.

8. SPORTS SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership of the Sports Scholarship Committee shall be:

- Chairperson - Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor or nominee;
 - One academic staff member, appointed by the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor;
 - One member who is external to the University and has an expertise in sports coaching and/or administration at either state, national or international level, appointed by the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor;
 - One general staff member who is involved in student recruitment, nominated by the Director, Office of Marketing and Communications;
 - Manager, Griffith Sports College;
 - A member of staff from the Scholarships Office, who will act as Committee Secretary nominated by the Director, Student Success;
 - A member of staff from the Admissions Team, nominated by the Director, Student Business Services; and
 - Former Griffith University Sports Alumnus, nominated by the Chair, Sports Excellence Committee.
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9. TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS

9.1 Sports Scholarships awarded prior to 2007

Scholarship recipients currently on scholarships awarded prior to 2007 under the Griffith University Excellence Awards are now subject to the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme and conditions with the exception of those listed in [9.2](#) below.

Scholarships awarded prior to 2007 are now known as the Griffith University Full Sport Merit Scholarships and the Griffith University Sport Development Merit Scholarships. For the purpose of these conditions they are collectively referred to as Sports Merit Scholarship/s.

Sports Merit Scholarship recipients are offered a once only option to:

- transfer to Student Contribution Charge benefit; or
- transfer to full cash benefit inclusive of the assistance fund benefit; or
- remain on the current benefits of part cash part assistance fund benefit.

Sport Merit Scholarship recipients are not to be disadvantaged by the transition to the Sports Excellence Scholarship Scheme Conditions.

9.2 Specific Conditions for Sports Merit Scholarships awarded prior to 2007

9.2.1 Scholarship Duration

Griffith University Full Sports Merit Scholarships are renewed annually and the total duration of the Scholarship is the normal full-time length of the program plus one year of enrolment in the initial degree when the scholarship was awarded. In exceptional circumstances, the Sports Scholarship Committee may approve an extension for one additional year.

9.2.2 Scholarship Benefit

The value of the benefit for the Sports Merit Scholarships will not be less than \$5,000 per annum for a full-time student load for a Full Sports Merit Scholarship and \$2,537 per annum for a Sports Development Merit Scholarship for a full-time student load.