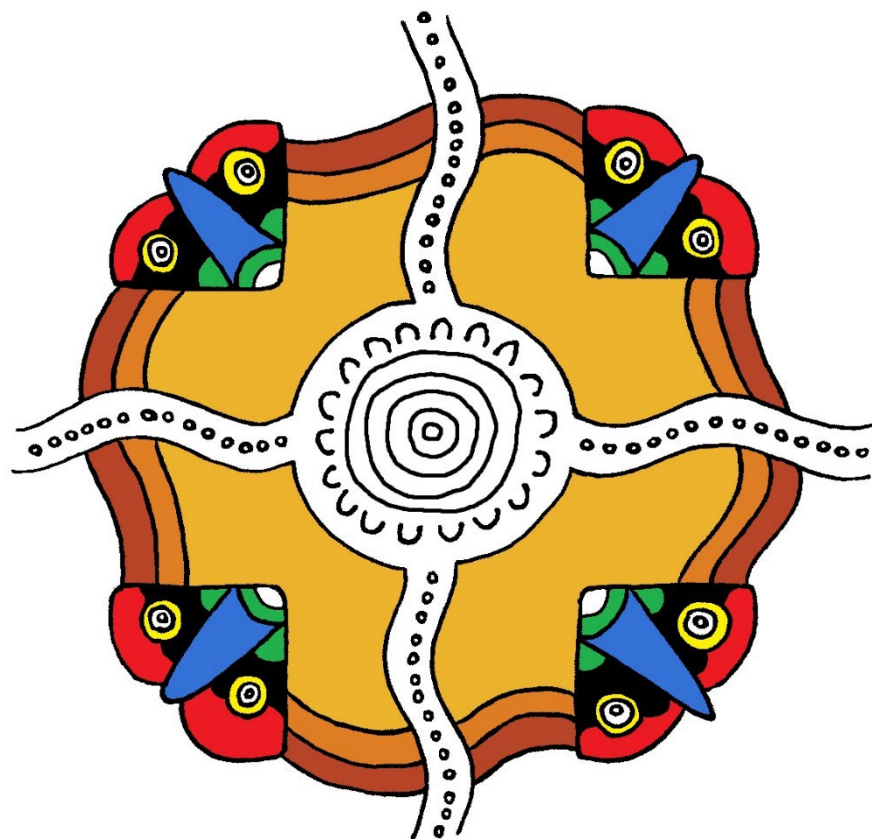




Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander

Tertiary Scholarship Program



2026

Application Pack for Tertiary Students

Introduction

The ACT Education Directorate administers the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tertiary Scholarship Program. This program provides scholarships worth up to \$10,000 per annum for up to 4 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in a full-time teaching course at the University of Canberra or Australian Catholic University, Signadou Campus Canberra.

Scholarships are for on-campus study and are not available to students wishing to pursue courses that are taught in a fully online mode.

Selection Process

Applications must be submitted by **midnight Monday 2 March 2026** and short-listed applicants must be available to attend an interview 13 March 2026 at:

The Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning
51 Fremantle Drive
STIRLING ACT 2611

Eligibility

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander student.
- Enrolled in a fulltime teaching degree at an ACT university.
- Commitment to work in an ACT public school for at least 12 months on completion of studies.

Offers

Letters of offer will be sent to successful applicants by mid-March 2026. To accept the offer of a scholarship, the applicant will be required to sign a Deed of Agreement that outlines the responsibilities of both the recipient and the Directorate and specifies the payment schedule. Successful applicants will be invited to attend the Awards Ceremony on the afternoon of 20 March 2026 at which the ACT Minister of Education will be in attendance.

Expectations and opportunities

In addition to maintaining a full-time enrolment status and maintaining satisfactory academic progress, scholarship recipients will be expected to:

- Submit a copy of their academic transcript at the end of each semester and within five business days of their results becoming available.
- Provide evidence of enrolment prior to the commencement of each semester.
- Uphold the expectation outlined in the Deed of Agreement to work full-time in an ACT public school for at least 12 months at the conclusion of their studies.
- Contribute to promotional activities relating to the scholarship if requested.

Scholarship holders can take up casual employment as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) in an ACT public school. A Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) card is required prior to starting work as an LSA.

Application Process

To apply for a scholarship, you will need to complete the application form and upload supporting documentation via <https://educationact.smartygrants.com.au/Teaching2026>.

Supporting documentation to be provided:

- Evidence of enrolment in an appropriate teaching program at the University of Canberra or Australian Catholic University.
- An academic reference from a tutor, lecturer, or former teacher.
- A short CV/resume outlining interests, achievement, any other qualifications and work history.
- First year tertiary students, provide your most recent academic record showing subjects and results.
- All other applicants, provide your academic record showing subjects and results from the previous semester of your study.
- Bring original copies or certified copies* of your academic record and licence, (or document with proof of address) to the interview.

Submit your application via the <https://educationact.smartygrants.com.au/Teaching2026>.

If you have further questions concerning the application form or application process, please call 0403 263 945 **Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 4.30pm** or email EDUStudentAspirations@act.gov.au.

Timeline**

2 March 2026	Applications close midnight. Late applications will not be accepted, unless an extension is sought with good reason ahead of time.
6 March 2026	Shortlisted applicants and unsuccessful applicants notified.
13 March 2026	Interviews held at: The Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning 51 Fremantle Drive STIRLING ACT 2611
17 March 2026	Interviewed applicants notified of outcome.
20 March 2026	Awards Ceremony held at: The Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning 51 Fremantle Drive STIRLING ACT 2611

*A certified copy is a photocopy which has been declared by a Justice of the Peace, solicitor, or Education Directorate officer to be an exact copy of the original.

**Dates subject to change.