**Woodside Community Scholarships – St Catherine’s College**

**Name of Scholarship:**

Woodside Community Scholarship Program

**Purpose of the scholarship:**

To support Indigenous students to achieve success in their university studies by providing funding assistance for costs associated with living away from home and studying part or full time. This may include the following;

* College accommodation costs
* Textbooks
* Laptop
* General living expenses

**Required citizenship or residency status:**

Must be an Australian resident of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent

**Concurrent Scholarships:**

Successful applicants may hold other scholarships. This will largely depend on the restrictions imposed by the other scholarships held by the student.

**Level of study:**

Students enrolled in their first undergraduate degree or who are undertaking further tertiary studies, including post graduate studies.

**Area of undergraduate study:**

Degree course –disciplines aligned to community needs such as but not limited to:

* Education
* Primary or Occupational Health
* Community Development
* Local Governance
* Justice
* Indigenous Culture maintenance
* Heritage Protection

**Other requirements:**

The community scholarships are for Indigenous students only.

**Selection Criteria:**

* Tertiary Entrance Rank;
* High school academic results;
* Academic results of a credit average (satisfactory progress) and submission of the previous academic transcripts demonstrating this result;
* Demonstrated interest and commitment to the chosen course of study;
* Demonstrated community involvement and/or extra curricular activities;
* Exemplary work performance as demonstrated through vacation/ casual employment;
* Demonstrated ability to work with others,
* A commitment to pursue a career in their chosen discipline, and;
* Meeting all eligibility requirements.

In the first instance preference will be given to Indigenous students with connection to the Pilbara, Kimberley and/or local Perth region consistent with Woodside’s policy to support communities in which we operate.

Second preference will be given to other Indigenous candidates with Western Australian connections. Applicants from other areas of Australia will be assessed on a case by case basis.

**Community Scholarship Recipient Conditions**

Scholarship holders are required to study a full-time load of 100% loading according to the universities subject weighting policies where possible, however part-time study may be considered on a case by case basis.

Scholars must maintain a credit average each semester to continue to be eligible for the scholarship program.

Scholars will be required to provide verification documents in addition to their annual agreement to certify ongoing eligibility. These documents include:

* Academic results from the previous semester/year.
* Confirmation of enrolment for the current academic semester/year.
* Current and up to date personal details.

If a scholarship holder is enrolled or completes less than a full-time course load (100% loading) or fails a subject, then at the discretion of Woodside, Corporate Affairs they may be paid a pro-rata payment for that semester.

The following semester the student will then be required to successfully complete the failed subject in addition to their normal course load for that semester, or additional subjects will need to be taken above the fulltime load, to make up the lost loading from the previous semester.

The scholarship may be withdrawn at the discretion of Woodside, Corporate Affairs if;

* The scholar fails to maintain the required credit average in their academic results
* A scholar does not complete their part-time or full-time course load (100% loading)
* A scholar commences full-time employment with another company or for misconduct of an academic or commercial nature
* Scholarship holders are required to re-apply each year, subject to above conditions
* If a scholarship holder elects to change the course of study during the scholarship period, they must notify Woodside, Corporate Affairs immediately. The scholarship will only continue if the new course of study is a supported discipline and fits within the scholarship guidelines. The scholarship will only continue for the duration of the original agreed period.
* Scholars who defer their studies and who are granted a deferral by the University may defer their position in the program for one year only. Woodside must be informed of any deferrals and provided with evidence approval of deferral from the university.
* Scholars who fail to meet the academic requirements of the course and are permitted by the University to continue their study will have their scholarship suspended until such time that they provide evidence that they have met the academic requirements.
* Scholars who fail to meet the academic requirements of the course and are excluded from further study will have their acceptance into the program cancelled.

Scholars who withdraw from their course will forgo the agreement. There will be no requirement to return any funds paid prior to the date of withdrawal.

Applicants under the age of 18 years will be required to provide a parent/guardians signature until they reach 18 years of age. Once a scholar recipient has reached 18 years they will be required to sign new documentation.

**Application and Selection**

Selection of Woodside Indigenous Community scholarships occurs each year. Interested applicants should submit their application to St Catherine’s College.

Indigenous students can apply for a scholarship opportunity in their first year of university or at any time during their full time studies.

Throughout the recruitment process, Indigenous applicants will be assessed based on the following;

Eligibility

* Are not under bond or committed in any way to an employer or a holder of another scholarship of significant value
* Identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
* Are accepted as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander by the community in which they live or have lived
* Meet all selection criteria as stated above.

Assessment

Stage 1 - Application assessment

Applicants will be assessed against the preliminary eligibility criteria. Applicants that meet the eligibility criteria will move to Stage 2.

Stage 2 – Ranking

Applicants will be ranked according to the following criteria:

* Eligibility for scholarhip
* Demonstrated ability in application procedure (ie: academic achievement)

Stage 3 – Interview and Selection

Woodside will undertake the selection process in conjunction with St Catherine’s College. Interviewing of applicants will be at the discretion of Woodside and may include Corporate Affairs, HR Line and/or Corporate HR Diversity.

Woodside stakeholders involved with the assessment and interview process will also contribute to the selection of the scholarship recipient. A St Catherine’s College representative will advise the successful applicant.

Woodside will be advised of the successful applicants for the scholarship as soon as is practical in order to confirm placements.

Scholarship holders are to be reviewed on an annual basis.

Scholarship recipients will be provided with a copy of the terms and guidelines at the commencement of the program and will be required to sign appropriate offers and agreements.