



MID WEST DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION SCHOLARSHIP 2012

SCHOLARSHIP SPONSOR

This Scholarship has been generously sponsored by the Mid West Development Commission (MWDC).

The MWDC is a Western Australian statutory authority whose main aim is to encourage and promote the sustainable economic and social development of Western Australia's Mid West region. The MWDC is one of nine Regional Development Commissions.

MWDC staff are highly trained professionals with skills and experience in exporting, business development, community development, strategic planning, facilitation and project management.

**The Mid West Development Commission offers this award
to assist regional students
who would not otherwise be able to access university education**

SCHOLARSHIP VALUE:

- 1 The Mid West Development Commission is offering one Scholarship of \$3,000. The scholarship is available as payment towards Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) fees.
- 2 The scholarship will be awarded to a 2010 or 2011 school leaver who is studying at the GUC on a full time basis in 2012.
- 3 The Scholarship will be awarded to one student unless the Selection Panel feels there is merit in dividing it between two students.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for this award, applicants must:

- 1 Be an Australian citizen or a Permanent Resident of Australia.
- 2 Have selected a course being offered at the GUC.
- 3 Be undertaking full time study in the first year of the undergraduate degree in 2012.
- 4 Be residing in the Mid West region of Western Australia.
- 5 Have undertaken at least the final two years of secondary education in the Mid West region.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Applicants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- 1 High level of academic achievement in gaining entry to the course.
- 2 Written statement (500 words max) outlining the personal benefits of being able to attend university in Geraldton rather than relocating to Perth. This should include:
 - Personal benefits of being able to attend university in Geraldton rather than relocating to Perth.
 - Commitment to completing a full degree.
 - Personal benefit of receiving a scholarship and how such funds will be used.
 - Desire to live, work and study in the Mid West.
 - Willingness to provide a written report to the GUC and the MWDC at the conclusion of the scholarship year.
- 3 A written reference from a Principal, Teacher, employer or other appropriate person.

SELECTION PROCESS:

- 1 Applications will be assessed on the information provided by the applicant and his/her referees. Those meeting the selection criteria may be short listed for interview.
- 2 A Selection Panel consisting of representatives of Geraldton Universities Centre and the Mid West Development will assess the applications.
- 3 Notwithstanding the guidelines outlined above, the Selection Panel reserves the right to award scholarships in whole or in part to whomever it considers the most deserving applicants. Scholarships shall only be awarded where applications of sufficiently high merit are received.
- 4 All applications will be treated in strictest confidence.
- 5 The decision of the Selection Panel will be final and binding.



APPLICATION PROCESS:

- 1 Complete the application form, along with your statement addressing the eligibility and selection criteria.
- 2 Applications should be marked Confidential, and addressed to:
The Scholarship Program
Geraldton Universities Centre
Mail: PO Box 2779, GERALDTON WA 6531
Deliver: Geraldton Universities Centre, 33 Onslow Street, Geraldton.
- 3 Short listing and where necessary, interview of applicants will occur at a date to be advised.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:

Close of Business
Friday 2nd March 2012

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:

- 1 Documentation to accompany the application:
 - a. Proof of Citizenship (Birth Certificate, Passport or Citizenship Certificate)
 - b. Reference and contact details of teacher, principal, employer or other appropriate referee
 - c. Applicant's supporting statement
 - d. High school results from year 12 and WACE/ATAR statement (or University Preparation Course results)
 - e. Proof of enrolment in GUC course for 2012

NOTE: Documentation must be certified copies. Original documents can be certified at the Geraldton Universities Centre

Contact Natalie Nelmes at GUC on 9920 4403 or natalien@guc.edu.au with any queries when compiling your application.

**CONDITIONS OF AWARD:**

- 1 The Scholarship will be administered by the Director of the Geraldton Universities Centre in consultation with the CEO of the MWDC (herein referred to as Scholarship Administrator).
- 2 The award will be paid in two instalments. The first at the end of semester one of the scholarship year, the second at the end of semester two of the scholarship year. The successful applicant will be required to produce a HECS invoice in order to claim the funds. HECS invoices are distributed by Universities at the beginning of each semester.
- 3 Payment of the Award is subject to meeting satisfactory academic progress. Academic progress will be assessed at the end of semester one of the scholarship year.
- 4 A recipient with unsatisfactory progress or who breaches the scholarship conditions shall be ineligible to retain the scholarship.
- 5 If a recipient needs to take leave of absence during the Scholarship year, the recipient must apply for and seek approval from the Scholarship Administrators to suspend the scholarship for the period of leave.
- 6 A recipient who withdraws from their course of study through the GUC during the year of the Scholarship will forfeit the scholarship and be required to repay the scholarship funds in full.
- 7 A recipient who transfers from their course of study at the GUC to another university during the scholarship period will forfeit the scholarship and be required to repay the scholarship funds in full.
- 8 Unless there are exceptional circumstances students must:
 - a. Maintain a full-time study load
 - b. Pass all units attempted
 - d. Remain on Good Standing for the duration of the studies.
- 9 Determination of exceptional circumstances shall be at the discretion of the Scholarship Administrators.

NOTIFICATION:

- 1 All applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application once the decision has been finalised by the Scholarship Administrators.