

Destination Australia Scholarships 2021 (International)



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Purpose

The [Destination Australia program](#) is a scholarship funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment, and aligns with the National Strategy for International Education 2025.

The objective of the grant is to attract and support to study in regional Australia, to grow and develop regional Australian tertiary education providers and offer students a high quality learning experience.

The purpose of the scholarship is to offer students from Australia and overseas the opportunity to undertake high quality education, training and research in, and to experience life in regional and remote Australia.

Scholarship Details

The Department of Education has offered a number of scholarships for both domestic and international students commencing degrees at The University of Queensland's (UQ) Gatton campus in 2021.

This document sets out the terms and conditions that apply to these scholarships. This information is specifically for **international** students.

Scholarship Name	Destination Australia Scholarships (International)
Available to:	Future students enrolling in specific degrees (see Appendix) offered at the UQ Gatton campus
Level of study:	Undergraduate or postgraduate award programs of more than one-year duration
Citizenship:	International students
Award value:	AUD \$15,000 per year, for the duration of their eligible degree program (up to four (4) years for an undergraduate award program, or up to two (2) years for postgraduate award programs)
Applications close:	23:59 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 January 2021 for a Semester 1 (February) commencement; 20 June 2021 for a Semester 2 (July) commencement.

Terms and Conditions

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for the Destination Australia Scholarship at UQ, an applicant must:

- Satisfactorily complete the application process as outlined below (see '[How to Apply](#)'), and
- ^ Be able to be classified as an international student in Australia, and
- ^ Maintain a student visa for the duration of the scholarship in order to ensure protection under the [Education Services for Overseas Students \(ESOS\) Act 2000](#), and
- * Commence full-time enrolment as a new student in an eligible degree program (see [Appendix](#)) at the UQ Gatton campus in 2021 (i.e. be new to UQ and/or be new to the eligible program of study), and
- By the scholarship closing date, submit all requested documentation to meet conditions associated with an offer from UQ for an eligible program (see [Appendix](#)), and

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- # Maintain ongoing residency in a regional area for the duration of the degree/scholarship, as defined by the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure \(2016\)](#) from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (refer to the [Health Workforce Locator](#) map (ASGS Remoteness Areas 2016)), and
- # Before payment of the scholarship, provide evidence of their residential address in the regional area each Semester (before the academic census date) through a rental agreement, utility bill, statutory declaration or other evidence individually agreed upon to confirm their residence.

Please note:

1. * Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, students are able to apply for this scholarship and study one (1) semester online while the Government travel restrictions are in place. Students will be required to attend the UQ Gatton Campus following the lifting of the Government Travel Restrictions.
2. # Under the guidelines, residency away from the regional area is permitted for:
 - no more than one study period (not exceeding 6 months) per qualification where the qualification is longer than 2 years, or
 - 25% of the qualification length where the qualification is 2 years or shorter, and
 - UQ Destination Australia Scholarship holders can now study remotely or online for no more than one study period (not exceeding 6 months) during the 2021 academic year.
 - If students are required to complete more than one study period (one semester) via online or remote study, and cannot live in a regional area as defined by the Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure (2016) due to Australian Government Travel Restrictions, continued eligibility for the Destination Australia scholarship will need to be re-assessed by The University of Queensland and the Department of Education.
3. ^ Students may not be able to apply for a student visa at the time of application due to the Government restrictions which may lead to the need to defer or change the study load in the future. If students are not able to get a visa in the future the scholarship will be forfeited. These students will be assessed on a case by case basis in line with advice from the Destination Australia [Community Grants Hub](#) unit. UQ will remain flexible where possible and provide ongoing advice to the recipients.
4. The government funding received for the scholarship stipulates that for the duration of the scholarship students must maintain ongoing residency in a regional area of Australia as classified by the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure \(2016\)](#) – refer to the [Health Workforce Locator](#) map (ASGS Remoteness Areas 2016).

Ineligibility

Applicants will be considered ineligible for the Destination Australia Scholarship at UQ if they:

- Have not completed the scholarship application process as outlined below (see '[How to Apply](#)').
- Have not lodged an official UQ application for entry into one of the eligible undergraduate or postgraduate programs fully delivered at the UQ Gatton campus by the scholarship closing date.
- Have already commenced and completed at least one semester of study at UQ (in either an eligible or ineligible degree program), unless they seek a program change to commence a new course of study in an eligible program in 2021.
 - Note:

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- UQ alumni commencing an eligible degree program in a different level of study in 2021 (i.e. Masters after a Bachelors) are eligible to apply.
- Existing UQ students (in an ineligible program) who seek a program change to commence a new course of study in an eligible program in 2021 are eligible to apply.
- Are enrolled in a program not listed on the list of eligible programs fully delivered at the UQ Gatton campus (see [Appendix](#)).
- Simultaneously hold another scholarship from another School, Faculty or unit for study at UQ. If an applicant holds or has been offered another scholarship, the applicant should choose which to retain.
- # Live outside of a regional area, as defined by the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure \(2016\)](#) from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, at any stage during their degree program or scholarship.
- Defer, interrupt, withdraw or cancel their studies or enrolment in an eligible undergraduate or postgraduate program fully delivered at the UQ Gatton campus. The scholarship **cannot** be deferred under any circumstances.
- Are a domestic student:
 - Destination Australia scholarships are available for domestic students, on a separate application form – please see the [UQ Destination Australia Scholarship \(Domestic Students\) webpage](#).

How to Apply

1. Lodge an official UQ application for entry into one of the eligible undergraduate or postgraduate programs fully delivered at the UQ Gatton campus (see [Appendix](#)), directly to The University of Queensland or through an [approved UQ education agent](#).

Apply online: <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/admissions> or via:
UQ International Admissions Section
Level 2, JD Story Building
The University of Queensland
Brisbane, Queensland, 4072 Australia
Email: applicationstatus@uq.edu.au

Note: Lodging an application requires you to pay UQ's application fee for international students.

2. Receive a **UQ Student ID Number** and an offer. If your offer is a conditional or package offer you must meet all conditions by the scholarship closing date. The offer does **not** need to be accepted by the scholarship closing date.
3. Complete and submit the [UQ Destination Australia online application form \(International Students\)](#). As part of the online application, applicants must submit a personal statement (300 words maximum), outlining:
 - Why are you interested studying in a regional area in Australia?
 - How have you contributed to your local community, and how do you plan to enrich the UQ Gatton community?
 - What influenced and motivated you to choose your intended study program?

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- How do you intend to plan your study with the current travel restrictions to best align with the eligibility for this scholarship? (i.e. only 1 semester of online study allowed)
4. Application Deadline: UQ must receive your program and scholarship applications by the scholarship closing date at 23:59 Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST):
- 20 January 2021 for a Semester 1 (February) commencement;
 - 20 June 2021 for a Semester 2 (July) commencement.

Note: No late scholarship applications will be considered.

Selection Process

Following each closing date, applications will be considered through the following process:

- A selection panel chaired by the Faculty of Science Associate Dean (Academic) (or nominee) will select scholarship recipients.
- Selection will be based on Selection Criteria shown below.
- Wherever possible, UQ will notify applicants of the outcome of their application within two (2) weeks of the scholarship closing date. UQ reserves the right to extend the scholarship outcome notification period.
- Students will be notified by email if they have been awarded a scholarship and will have until the deadline specified in the email to accept. Students who do not accept by the due date will not be awarded the scholarship and will not be automatically considered for subsequent scholarship offer rounds.
- The decision of the Associate Dean (Academic) (or nominee) is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

Please note:

- The scholarship **cannot** be deferred under any circumstances.
- UQ reserves the right to alter, update or amend the Terms and Conditions of the scholarship based upon:
 - changes to the Destination Australia program grant agreement, or
 - academic or administrative changes to the eligible UQ program/s of study, or
 - advice from the Department of Education, and/or the Destination Australia [Community Grants Hub](#) unit, or
 - other unforeseen or exceptional circumstances.
- UQ reserves the right not to award the scholarship in a given year, following appropriate negotiations with and approvals from the Department of Education, and/or the Destination Australia [Community Grants Hub](#) unit.

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Selection Criteria

UQ will select scholarship recipients based on:

- Eligibility as outlined above and in the Department of Education's [Destination Australia Guidelines](#).
- Academic performance (based on academic credentials submitted as part of UQ program application).
- Response to personal statement in the online application form.
- UQ values diversity and inclusion and encourages applications from those who bring diversity to the university. The selection panel may take these values into account.

Obligations of Scholarship Recipients

Each scholarship winner must, for the duration of their degree and/or their scholarship:

- Commence study in an eligible program (see [Appendix](#)) in the semester indicated in their UQ offer letter.
- Maintain continuous full-time enrolment in the approved study program for which this scholarship has been offered.
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the UQ [PPL 3.50.14 Academic Progression](#) throughout their approved UQ study program.
- Diligently and to the best of their ability apply themselves in making the best possible attempt to successfully complete the program of study.
- If the recipient wishes to change their program of study or alter their full-time study load, or if they wish to defer, interrupt or withdraw from their approved UQ study program at any stage during their degree program or the scholarship period, they must first notify the UQ Faculty of Science International Engagement unit in writing (science.international@uq.edu.au).
 - UQ will reassess the student's eligibility to continue receiving the scholarship in future semesters according to the Scholarship Terms and Conditions and the Department of Education's [Destination Australia Guidelines](#).
- # Maintain residency in a regional area, as defined by the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard Remoteness Structure \(2016\)](#) from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (refer to the [Health Workforce Locator](#) map (ASGS Remoteness Areas 2016), for the duration of the program and/or scholarship.
- # Before payment of the scholarship, provide evidence of their residential address in the regional area each Semester (before the academic census date) through a rental agreement, utility bill, statutory declaration or other evidence individually agreed upon to confirm their residence.
- ^ Maintain a student visa for the duration of the scholarship.
- ^ If changing Australian visa/immigration status after commencing the degree, eligibility to continue receiving the scholarship will be reassessed.
- Permit UQ to share their name and information with the Department of Education, for the purpose of reporting to the Department of Education on the outcomes of the Destination Australia program.
- Provide a testimonial and/or be interviewed for a feature profile and press release for the purposes of print, radio and electronic publicity, accompanied by an appropriate photograph of myself, and/or participate in a video project promoting Destination Australia and/or study at the UQ Gatton campus if requested by The University of Queensland and/or the Australian Government's Department of Education.

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- Upon graduation from their UQ degree program for which the scholarship has been awarded, complete a graduate destination survey as issued by The University of Queensland for the purpose of reporting to the Department of Education on the outcomes of the Destination Australia program, and/or other promotional purposes as determined by The University of Queensland and/or the Australian Government's Department of Education.

Payment of Scholarship

- Payment of scholarships is conditional on scholarship recipients meeting the obligations outlined above as at each scheduled payment date (see Destination Australia Scholarship Payment Schedule below).
- UQ will pay into each recipient's nominated Australian bank account within 20 business days of the scheduled payment date in the first semester of study.

Destination Australia Scholarship Payment Schedule

For scholarships awarded in 2020 grant rounds:

- In the first year, UQ will pay the scholarship in AUD \$15,000 disbursements, after the academic census date in the first semester of study, after confirming the student is eligible and fulfils all obligations (as per the [Academic Calendar](#)):
 - 31 March for Semester 1
 - 31 August for Semester 2
- Where a scholarship is offered over multiple years, UQ will pay subsequent scholarship disbursements annually (AUD \$15,000) as long as the student remains eligible in the corresponding first Semester/Research Quarter of study (e.g. annual payments in Semester 1 for Semester 1, 2020 commencements; annual payments in Semester 2 for Semester 2, 2020 commencements).
- UQ will pay the scholarship after the academic census date of the corresponding semester, after confirming the student remains eligible, fulfils all obligations and is making satisfactory academic progress.

For scholarships awarded in 2021 grant rounds:

- UQ will pay the scholarship in AUD \$7,500 disbursements each semester, after confirming the student is eligible and fulfils all obligations. The first instalment will be paid to the student within four (4) weeks of the student commencing their eligible course of study. The second instalment will be paid to the student no later than six (6) months from the payment of the first instalment, after confirming the student remains eligible, fulfils all obligations and is making satisfactory academic progress.
- Where a scholarship is offered over multiple years, UQ will pay subsequent scholarship disbursements in AUD \$7,500 disbursements in six-monthly instalments (each semester), after confirming the student remains eligible, fulfils all obligations and is making satisfactory academic progress.
- If the student defers, interrupts or withdraws from their approved UQ study program after the scholarship payment has been made (either before or after the academic census date), then they will be required to repay the paid amount.

Termination of Scholarship

The University will terminate the scholarship:

- if the recipient does not enrol in an eligible program in the proposed semester of commencement; or
- if the recipient fails to maintain a full-time enrolment (#6-8 unit study load per semester) in their approved study program; or
- if the recipient defers, interrupts or withdraws from their approved UQ study program at any stage during the scholarship period; or
- if the student commits serious misconduct; or
- if the student fails a course in their first semester; or
- if the student fails to fulfil their obligations as a scholarship recipient as defined in this document; or
- if the student fails to achieve satisfactory academic progress throughout their approved UQ study program as per the UQ [PPL 3.50.14 Academic Progression](#).

Appeals against termination of scholarship

Appeals regarding the termination of the scholarship will be considered by the Associate Dean (Academic), Faculty of Science (or nominee) and/or the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement and Entrepreneurship), who may consider this and seek approval from the Department of Education.

Definitions

For the purpose of this scholarship, in these rules:

1. **Scholarship** means the Destination Australia scholarship offered by The University of Queensland as part of the Destination Australia program, funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment.
2. **Eligible program** means any undergraduate or postgraduate coursework program at The University of Queensland as listed in the List of Eligible Programs fully delivered at UQ Gatton campus (see [Appendix](#)).
3. **Department of Education** means the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment.
4. **UQ** means The University of Queensland (CRICOS Provider Number 00025B) and the University of Queensland's Gatton campus.
5. **Community Grants Hub** means the Destination Australia [Community Grants Hub](#) unit within the Australian Government Department of Social Services
6. **Full-time study** means a standard full-time study load is #8 units (generally 4 courses) per semester. 'Full-time' is defined as 75% or more of a standard full-time study load, i.e. #6 units (generally 3 courses) or more per semester – refer to the [UQ PPL 3.40.11 Enrolment - Policy](#).
7. **New student** means a student commencing full-time enrolment in a new course of study for the first time at The University of Queensland in 2021; or a UQ alumnus commencing an eligible degree program in a different level of study in 2021 (i.e. Masters after a Bachelors); or an existing UQ student (in an ineligible program) who seeks a program change to commence a new course of study in an eligible program in 2021.

Appendix

List of Eligible Programs fully delivered at UQ Gatton

The following programs are eligible for the Destination Australia scholarships as they are fully delivered at the UQ Gatton campus.

Bachelor's Programs

Bachelor of:

- [Agricultural Science](#)
- [Equine Science](#)
- [Wildlife Science](#)
- [Veterinary Technology](#)
- [Veterinary Science \(Honours\)](#)

Note: Dual degrees with the Bachelor of Agribusiness are not eligible to apply, as this component of the program is taught at the St Lucia campus and therefore does not meet the Department of Education's requirement that the program be fully delivered at a regional campus.

Master's Programs

Master of:

- [Agribusiness #24](#)
- [Agribusiness #32](#)
- *[Agricultural Science #24](#) ([Agronomy](#) or [Horticulture](#) fields of study)
- *[Agricultural Science #32](#) ([Agronomy](#) or [Horticulture](#) fields of study)
- [Animal Science #24](#)
- [Animal Science #32](#)
- [Veterinary Science](#)

Note: The [Plant Protection](#) field of study within the Master of Agricultural Science (#24 or #32) is not eligible to apply, as this major is taught at the St Lucia campus and therefore does not meet the Department of Education's requirement that the program be fully delivered at a regional campus.

Contact details

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CRICOS Provider Number 00025B