

## Do you have questions? Perhaps this section will help!

We also love to chat so give us a call - 1300 103 896

### **Are these scholarships National?**

They are National. Our scholarship program began in 2016 and we support students from all states and territories. To date we have awarded over 600 scholarships in metropolitan, rural and regional areas of Australia.

### **What are the criteria to enter? Do I have to be in Year 8 to apply?**

You need to be in Year 8 at the time of application. Here are our guidelines:

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- Entering Year 9 in the following year
- Attends an Australian Public School
- Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Experiencing personal or socioeconomic hardship
- Evidence or testimony from the School Principal of high academic potential
- Demonstrated motivation to achieve academically and professionally, including an intention to carry on to tertiary education
- Demonstrated interest in extracurricular, community or leadership activities will be considered favourably.

### **I want to apply for a HMEF scholarship. How do I do this?**

It is easy to apply. During the application open period, follow this link to complete your online application, which can also be found on the top right-hand corner of the website under "Apply now for a 2022 Scholarship". You can start, save, and then come back to your application at any time but all applications must be in by 11.59pm AEST on the 15th of September 2021.

### **Can I apply more than once?**

You can only apply once - when you are in Year 8. The scholarships are only for girls going into year 9, so unfortunately you cannot apply across multiple years.

### **Do I have to get over a certain grade to qualify?**

Your grades need to be strong and show academic capability and potential. Your attitude and commitment to study and doing well at school also needs to be evident in your application.

### **I have won another scholarship already. Can I still apply for this?**

You can still apply if you meet our criteria. We are happy for you to have multiple scholarships.

### **I am not an Australia Citizen. Can I still apply?**

You must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident to apply and need to provide proof of your status on the application.

### **Why do I need to be an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident to apply?**

The Harding Miller Education Foundation (HMEF) is recognised as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR). The Australian Income Tax Act requires that funds donated to a DGR for scholarships can only be used for scholarships awarded to Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents. The Income Tax Act does not provide for any exceptions to this requirement.

### **How many applications do you receive every year?**

We receive hundreds of applications every year as more people are hearing about the opportunity and success stories of our Harding Miller Scholars.

### **How many scholarships do you award every year?**

Our aim is to increase the number of scholarships available each year. The number of scholarships is dependent on funding. We currently have 430 scholars from year 9 to 12.

### **How do you define disadvantage?**

A range of factors contribute to disadvantage. In our experience we generally see this manifesting in an inter-connected combination of the following factors:

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- – Students suffering misfortune or destitution
- – Very low income or experiencing financial hardship
- – Family violence or dysfunction
- – Students living in Out of Home Care (OOHC)
- – Students or their family member living with a disability
- – Parents with an immigrant, asylum, or refugee background
- – Identification as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- – Identification as a Pacific or South Sea Islander
- – Geographic isolation
- – Low parental or carer academic achievement.

### **Do all the scholarships offer the same thing in all states and territories?**

Every scholarship is the same, for all girls, across all regions of Australia.

### **Are the Quinn Scholarships different to the HMEF scholarships?**

The Quinn scholarships are the same as the HMEF scholarships. They are financed and supported by the Quinn Femelle Foundation which is why they are called the Quinn Scholarships for Queenslanders.

### **Can I still apply if I do not have a teacher to support me?**

As part of the criteria, you need your principal to provide a reference. Your reference can be written by an Assistant Principal or a Year Co-ordinator but needs to be signed by the principal and it needs to be on school letterhead.

### **Are these scholarships only for girls? Can boys apply?**

These scholarships are only for girls. We know that when you educate a girl, you break the vicious cycle of poverty. The education and success of girls will stimulate economic growth and lead to a more prosperous society.

### **Do I have to give the laptop back at the end of the scholarship?**

If you complete year 12 and graduate from the scholarship, as well as provide us with your ATAR result, the laptop is yours to keep.

### **How much is a scholarship worth and what does it include?**

New scholarships are valued at approximately \$20,000 over the course of 4 years. Scholarships are provided as a 'toolkit' that students can use to support their pursuit of academic excellence.

### **Successful applicants for 2021 will receive the following support:**

- o High quality lap-top and help desk support.
- o 4G mobile broadband including 22GB internet per month.
- o \$2,500 of 'face to face' or online tutoring per year
- o Subscription to an online study help provider.
- o \$650.00 pre-paid card for school expenses per year
- o Mentoring from a personal coach

Scholars also receive additional tools including access to Study Skills program from Enhanced Learning and opportunities to attend a number of career and educational enrichment programs.



### **What is the selection process?**

A set of selection panels will review all scholarship applications and assess them against the selection criteria. The selection panels will include representatives from The Public Education Foundation, the Harding Miller Education Foundation, The Department of Education and independent panel members.

After considering all applications, the selection panel will provide their recommendations to the Harding Miller Education Foundation Board for their approval.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome by email during December - before the end of term four. The principal and parent/guardians of all applicants will also be notified.

### **Is there someone I can call if I get stuck with my application?**

Please call the Harding Miller Education Foundation on 1300 103 896 or email [info@hardingmiller.org.au](mailto:info@hardingmiller.org.au).