



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# Hansen Scholarship Program application guide 2027



# Hansen Scholarship Program



Join a program that nurtures potential and provides a place where your ambition can grow.

The Hansen Scholarship Program provides access to a high-quality university education that might otherwise feel out of reach. Valued at up to \$108,000, this scholarship offers a fully-funded place to call home at Little Hall for three years. The close-knit residential community, tailored mentoring, extracurricular activities and focused financial support will set you up for success.

## Who is this guide for?

Applications open in Term 1 of each year for current Year 12 students looking to start their undergraduate degree in the following year.

This guide provides an overview of the application and selection process and is intended to be used by:

- Current Year 12 students
- Career practitioners and teachers
- Parents, friends and community leaders
- Anyone supporting a current Year 12 student making an application.

## Ready to apply?

Applications are open 2 February to 30 March 2026 for current Year 12 students, who will be starting their undergraduate degree in 2027.

Applications are made through SmartyGrants, which can be accessed through our scholarship website.

[scholarships.unimelb.edu.au/awards/hansen-scholarship](https://scholarships.unimelb.edu.au/awards/hansen-scholarship)

Visit our future students website for more information about this scholarship, including answers to frequently asked questions.

[study.unimelb.edu.au/study-with-us/hansen-scholarship-program](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/study-with-us/hansen-scholarship-program)

## Get in touch

The Hansen Scholarship Program team are here to support you. If you have questions about the scholarship, program benefits or the eligibility and selection criteria you can email us directly.



Scan the QR code to submit an enquiry, or visit:  
[go.unimelb.edu.au/88z8](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/88z8)

The University of Melbourne acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the unceded land on which we work, learn and live: the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples (Burnley, Fishermans Bend, Parkville, Southbank and Werribee campuses), the Yorta Yorta Nation (Dookie and Shepparton campuses), and the Dja Dja Wurrung people (Creswick campus).



*"Without the Hansen Scholarship, I would have never been able to study at Melbourne or have the opportunities and experiences that comes with it. The network of like-minded, passionate people is helping to shape me into someone who will be able to actively contribute to our society."*

**Maya Farmer**  
2024 Cohort

### Meet our Hansen Scholars



Scan QR code to meet our Hansen Scholars, or visit:  
[go.unimelb.edu.au/62z8](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/62z8)

# Benefits of being a Hansen Scholar



## Fully-funded accommodation

Find a place to call home at Little Hall for the duration of your three-year undergraduate course, with a standard room in a 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom apartment for 52 weeks each year.

Little Hall offers a high-quality residential experience with tailored academic, social and cultural programs. You'll enjoy study support, career advice and pastoral care. Our diverse and inclusive community fosters belonging, curiosity, mutual respect and free exchange of ideas—connecting you to the University of Melbourne for an enriching education.

Explore Little Hall:

[go.unimelb.edu.au/58ws](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/58ws)



## Generous financial support

You'll receive an annual allowance of \$4200 to aid with living expenses. A one-time grant of up to \$4000 is also available for approved development activities like studying abroad, internships or short courses.

Applicants that are asylum seekers - who would otherwise pay full course fees - will be granted full-fee remission while they maintain their asylum seeker status.

After completing your degree, Hansen alums can apply through a competitive process for Next Steps funding, which offers up to \$25,000 for career-related activities.



## Support for personal growth

You'll receive comprehensive support to navigate any challenges of transitioning into tertiary study and moving away from home.

A tailored personal and academic development program will:

- Help you identify your strengths and interests to make informed study and career choices
- Connect you with academic mentors
- Provide wellbeing support and development opportunities through Little Hall residence initiatives.



## Join a supportive community

Hansen Scholars come from many backgrounds across Australia. The diversity and unique talents of every student are celebrated and are what makes the community thrive.

You'll not only become a member of the global University of Melbourne alumni network, but form lifelong bonds with those in the Hansen Scholar community.



## Make powerful industry connections

A comprehensive and bespoke mentoring program connects you to leaders in your chosen field, while the program patron, Jane Hansen AO, offers sponsorship and support.

Take the next steps with confidence, with funding of up to \$25,000 for a career-related activity once you complete your undergraduate degree.



## Guaranteed pathway to graduate study

You'll secure a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in your chosen graduate course if you:

- Secure a **Graduate Degree Package**, meet subject prerequisites and maintain the required weighted average mark (WAM) throughout your undergraduate studies, **or**
- Achieve the requirements of the **Melbourne Chancellor's Scholarship**, meet subject prerequisites and maintain the scholarship WAM for your chosen graduate course throughout your undergraduate studies.

# Am I eligible?

## Eligibility criteria

To apply for the Hansen Scholarship, applicants must meet each of the eligibility criteria:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, and be enrolled in an Australian Year 12 or the International Baccalaureate in Australia; **or**
- Have applied for or be the holder of an Australian temporary or permanent protection visa, and be enrolled in an Australian Year 12 or the International Baccalaureate in Australia; **or**
- Be an Australian citizen and be enrolled in an Australian Year 12 or the International Baccalaureate outside Australia
- Be aged between 16 and 20 years of age in the year of application
- Be on track to achieve a minimum Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of at least 90.00 (or IB equivalent)
- Experience financial circumstances that present a challenge to attending the University of Melbourne (you or your family receive Centrelink benefits).

## Selection criteria

Applications are assessed against the following criteria. We encourage you to keep these criteria in mind when preparing your application:

- Track record of academic excellence and a commitment to academic success in high school studies
- Demonstrated ability to achieve success in the face of adversity and overcome obstacles
- Demonstrated ability to apply skills and strengths towards activities which benefit others
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team and lead those around you
- Likelihood of thriving as a Hansen Scholar and actively contributing to the Hansen Scholarship Program.

## Selection conditions

We acknowledge that you'll not yet know your ATAR or have received an offer to study at the University of Melbourne at the time of application.

The following conditions must be met by shortlisted applicants before unconditional offers are made:

- Applicants must have received an offer from the University of Melbourne and commence your undergraduate course in the year following completion of Australian Year 12 or the International Baccalaureate
- Applicants must have achieved a minimum ATAR of 90.00
- Applicants must not have previously undertaken any tertiary studies (excluding extension studies completed as part of Year 12) before commencing at the University of Melbourne.

You can not hold a Melbourne Chancellor's Scholarship or Narmm Scholarship at the same time as the Hansen Scholarship.



# Application process

You can apply for the Hansen Scholarship in Term 1 of your final year of high school.

The application process assesses your suitability for the program.

Your application will contain:

- Personal information
- Contact information of an academic reference
- Supporting documentation verifying eligibility criteria
- Brief written responses.

You must supply all requested documentation and answer all questions to complete your application and have it considered.

Nominated academic referees will be invited to complete an *academic reference*. We collect this information to gather a more holistic understanding of who you are and your academic potential.

All students with a complete application and supplied academic reference will be invited to submit a *video assessment*.

The video assessment is a recorded question response format, similar to an interview. The questions help us to get to know you better and provide an opportunity to hear from you directly. Applicants will be shortlisted based on their responses in the initial application and video assessment.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a 15-minute *live interview* with the selection panel. Application outcomes will be announced shortly after these interviews. If successful, you'll receive a *conditional offer* for the Hansen Scholarship Program.

*Unconditional offers* for the Hansen Scholarship Program are released once applicants satisfy the selection conditions (page 5). This typically occurs in December to coincide with the release of *ATARs and University of Melbourne course offers through VTAC*.

You'll need to accept both your unconditional offer for the Hansen Scholarship Program and your course offer to study at the University of Melbourne.

The scholarship may be deferred to the following year if there are compassionate or compelling circumstances that prevent you from commencing your course in the year for which the scholarship was offered.

For more information about applying to the University of Melbourne, visit our website:

[study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/undergraduate-study/domestic-applications](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/undergraduate-study/domestic-applications)

## 2026 key dates

### Applications open

2 February 2026  
9:00am AEDT

### Applications close

30 March 2026  
11:59pm AEDT

### Academic references due

28 April 2026  
11:59pm AEST

### Video assessment

Mid-April 2026

### Interview weekend

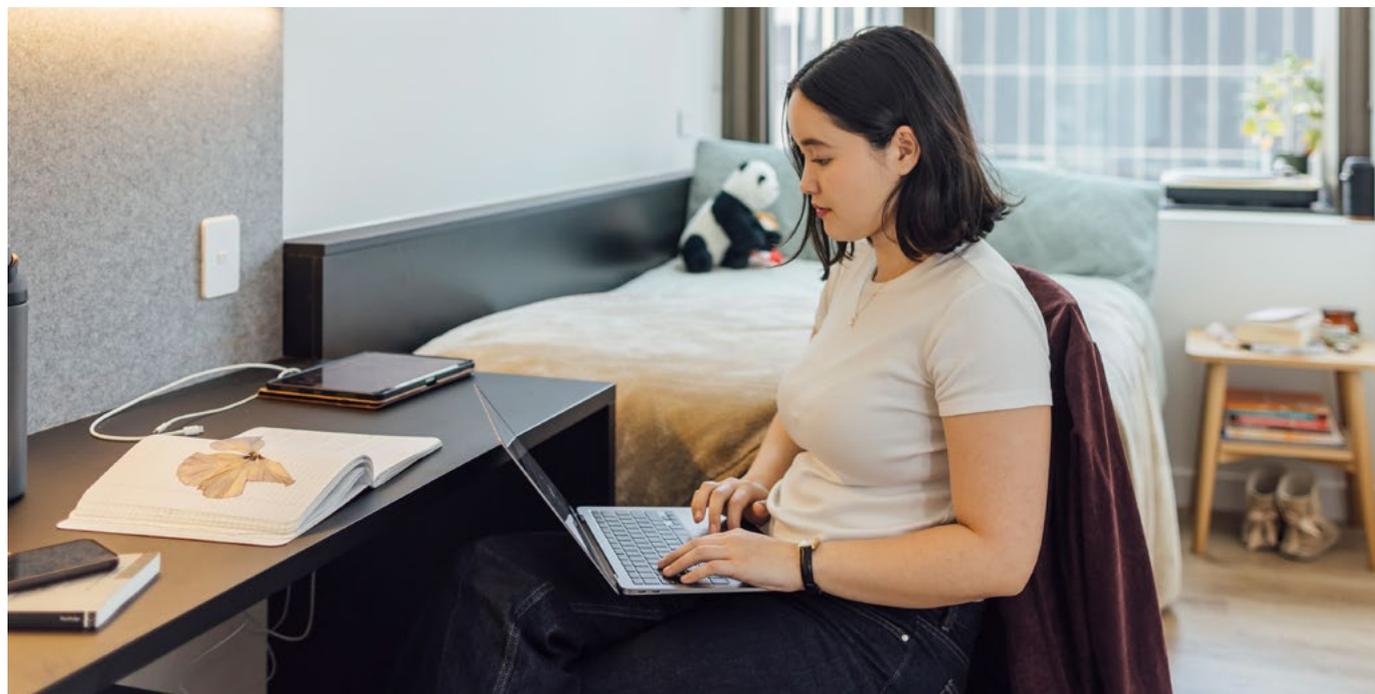
Mid-July 2026

### Conditional offers released

August 2026

### ATAR release and University course offers

December 2026



# Academic referees



Academic referees provide necessary insight into your academic and personal successes in high school study. We ask that referees provide an honest and thoughtful evaluation based on their knowledge of you. We will use referees reports to assess your application against the *selection criteria* (page 5).

## Who is best placed to be an academic referee?

Academic referees must be:

- A teacher
- Year 11 or 12 coordinator, or
- School principal.

Academic referees must be working at the school listed on your application and ideally have known you for at least 12 months.

Referees are welcome to consult with colleagues if needed to provide a comprehensive response. Please note that referees must use the prescribed online form sent to the nominated address. References supplied outside this online form will not be considered.

The Hansen Scholarship team contacts academic referees using the information provided by you. It is important that the contact information is correct.

As the Hansen Scholarship is highly competitive, providing an accurate reference and ATAR prediction is crucial. A lack of response or incomplete reference will affect you moving forward in the selection process.

We strongly recommend that if an academic referee is unable to complete a reference, they advise you to seek another teacher or administrator at their school who may be better placed to support your application.

All information provided by academic referees will be treated with the strictest confidence. You will not be able to access your academic referee's responses.

# Participation in the program

The Hansen Scholarship Program will provide you with exciting opportunities on and off campus. We expect you to actively engage with your fellow scholars, as your participation can positively influence those around you. Our goal is for you to fully enjoy and benefit from this experience, which requires you meeting certain expectations.

## Accommodation

We understand that there may be times you need to be at home, however, this accommodation scholarship is designed with the expectation that you are living at Little Hall full-time and actively engaging in hall life. Being present at Little Hall allows you to fully immerse yourself in the community, access academic and personal support, and make the most of the opportunity offered to you.

## Academic progress

You'll be expected to have a good academic standing, maintaining a weighted average mark (WAM) of 60.00 each semester.

## Participation in the development program

Your development program is designed to facilitate academic, career and personal success. You can actively engage with these activities and opportunities by:

- Staying up to date with newsletters, emails and messages from the Hansen Scholarship team and Little Hall staff
- Attending key events, such as orientation, milestone celebrations, and guest speaker sessions
- Participating in cultural experiences, attending performances, exhibitions, or sporting events
- Engaging in activities designed to foster academic and personal growth, including events organised by the University.

## Mentoring

Throughout your journey, you'll be both a mentee and a mentor. Academics from across the University will guide you in navigating your study path and career next steps. As Hansen Scholars, you'll take on a leadership role, helping to build relationships and creating a strong support system for all scholars at Little Hall.

## Scholarship promotion and engagement

From time to time, you may be invited to participate in content creation or activities that will help promote the scholarship and inspire future scholars to apply for the program. These include:

- Sharing your experiences at recruitment events or through profiles for University publications
- Getting involved in media activities, like photoshoots or interviews
- Contributing to content posted on social media platforms.

## Life after graduation

After you have completed your undergraduate degree and graduated, the University may reach out to check-in to find out how the Hansen Scholarship Program has influenced or impacted your career path.

## Important notes

We understand that life can present challenges, so flexibility is built into the program. If something unexpected, like illness or family matters, impacts your ability to engage, let the team know so we can support you.

The Hansen Scholarship Program is focused on supporting growth and success, so while there are expectations, we aim to create a positive and enriching experience for you.



# What it means to be a Hansen Scholar

Hansen Scholars uphold the values and responsibilities that reflect the University of Melbourne's commitment to academic excellence, personal growth, and community engagement. These values and responsibilities should guide your conduct, participation and contributions throughout your time at Melbourne. By embracing these principles, you'll not only create a welcoming, respectful, and inclusive environment, you'll benefit from one too.

## Vision

Some Hansen Scholars may have a clear vision for their academic path and career, others may be taking the time to decide what is right for them through the Melbourne curriculum. Whatever your path, you'll share a desire for a future that has a positive impact.

## Welcoming

You'll create an inviting and inclusive atmosphere, ensuring everyone feels valued and supported in any situation.

## Community

You'll actively contribute to a supportive and collaborative academic environment, enhancing collective growth and learning.

## Sensibility

You'll exercise sound judgment and respect, navigating complex situations with grace and empathy.

## Humour

You'll bring lightness and joy to your studies, fostering a positive environment for yourself and your peers.

## Humble achievement

You'll celebrate your successes modestly, recognising the contributions of others and staying grounded.

## Perseverance

You're determined to address challenges in pursuit of your aspirations, and support others to do so.

## Adaptability

You're flexible and open to change, embracing new ideas and approaches to enhance your academic journey.

## Emotional intelligence

You adeptly navigate your own emotions and those of others, cultivating empathy and strong interpersonal relationships.



# About the donors

Jane Hansen AO and Paul Little AO established the Hansen Little Foundation in 2015. It is a large-scale philanthropic organisation, with the sole purpose 'to create a legacy of significant and positive change that inspires and enables Australians.'

In 2019, the Hansen Scholarship Program was launched, enrolling its first cohort in 2020. The scholarship was established with a gift that funds the scholarship for the next 35 years.

## Jane Hansen AO

Jane is the 23rd Chancellor of the University of Melbourne, appointed on 1 January 2023. She was first appointed to the Council in 2016, serving as Deputy Chancellor until 31 December 2022.

Jane is the Chair of the Hansen Little Foundation. She is also Chair of the New Campaign Advisory Board and a member of the Humanities Foundation Advisory Board for the University of Melbourne. She is a Company Director with more than 25 years investment banking, strategy and management experience internationally, working formerly as a mergers, acquisitions and corporate finance specialist at Macquarie Bank and First Boston/Credit Suisse.

She holds a Bachelor of Economics from Monash University, a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in History, from the University of Melbourne, and a Master's degree in Finance and Business Administration from Columbia University, New York.

Jane was awarded the Fellow of the University of Melbourne in 2018, in recognition of exceptional contributions and service to the University and the community engaged with the University. She was also awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the community, to education and cultural institutions, and through philanthropic support for charitable foundations in 2020.

## Paul Little AO

Paul is Chairman and Founder of the Little Group.

Formed in 2006, the Little Group focused initially on opportunities in the property sector through Little Projects and Little Real Estate. The Group has since expanded investments across a range of enterprises including aviation and passenger ferries.

From 1986 to 2011, Paul was the Managing Director of Toll Holdings and oversaw the Toll Group's rise to become Asia's pre-eminent provider of logistics services.

Paul has received a Doctor of Business honoris causa from RMIT University.

In 2010 he was awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia for service to the development of the transport and logistics industries, and for service to the community through philanthropic support of sporting and medical research organisations.

Paul is Chairman of Skalata Ventures and the Federal Government's Simplified Trade System Industry Advisory Council. He is a past Chairman of the Australian Grand Prix Corporation, Visit Victoria and the Essendon Football Club and a former Director of Property Exchange Australia (PEXA). He is a Fellow of the University of Melbourne, the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport.



# Discover your Melbourne future

## Create your own path with the Melbourne curriculum

Build a degree based on your interests, strengths and passions as you discover them. Combine specialist knowledge in your chosen study area with a unique skillset across a range of other subjects.

Develop skills in critical thinking, problem solving, communication and leadership. You'll build these skills in the classroom and through industry-based learning and projects, in Melbourne and across our global learning community of over 200 exchange partners.

Graduate with a globally recognised qualification to launch your career in a broad range of professions or pursue a higher qualification with us through one of over 400 specialist graduate degrees.

Learn more at:

[study.unimelb.edu.au/study-with-us/undergraduate-courses](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/study-with-us/undergraduate-courses)

## Find a new home at Little Hall

Ideally located between the heart of Melbourne and our Parkville campus, Little Hall is the first hall of residence of its kind in Australia. It offers a high-quality residential experience with tailored academic, social and cultural programs. Residents enjoy study support, career advice and pastoral care. The diverse and inclusive community fosters belonging, curiosity and mutual respect, creating an environment where ideas are openly explored and shared.

Learn more at:

[study.unimelb.edu.au/accommodation/little-hall](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/accommodation/little-hall)





THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# Open Day

Sunday 16 August 2026



Register your  
interest

The University of Melbourne (Australian University) PRV12150 / CRICOS 00116K

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