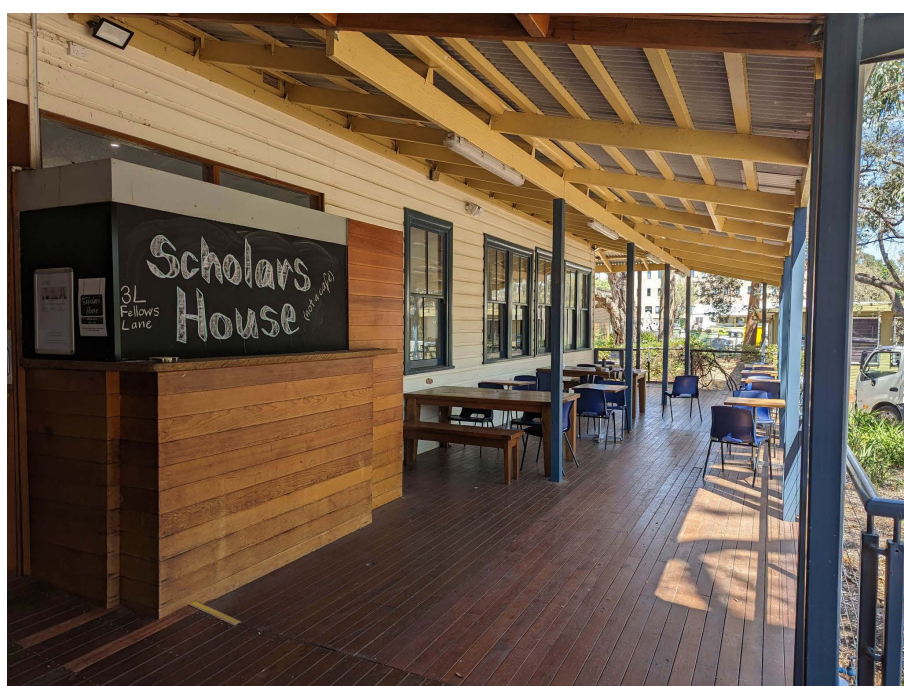


TUCKWELL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

# 2027 Application Guide



Australian  
National  
University



This guide provides an overview of the application process to commence study at the Australian National University (ANU) on a Tuckwell Scholarship in 2027. It is designed to support both Candidates and Referees.

Please note that this guide may be updated from time to time, so please download the latest version before submitting an application or lodging an enquiry.

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# The Tuckwell Scholarship Program

The Tuckwell Scholarship Program is like no other undergraduate scholarship program in Australia.

Founded in 2013 by philanthropists Dr Graham Tuckwell AO and Dr Louise Tuckwell AO, the Tuckwell Scholarship is funded by the largest ever contribution from an Australian to an Australian university. With their gift, Louise and Graham have become pioneers in the support of education in Australia.

The Scholarship is so much more than a stipend; it is a life-changing opportunity that enables exceptional young people to realise their potential and make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Scholars are selected on the basis not only of academic excellence, but also of character, leadership and commitment to Australia. The Scholarship builds on these qualities through our community of Scholars who engage in events, workshops, and discussions at Scholars House.

ANU awards 25 Scholarships each year and offers talented and motivated students the opportunity to realise their potential by providing financial support, personal enrichment and development opportunities. Most importantly, Tuckwell Scholars can connect with and learn from one another within our home on campus, Scholars House.

# What we offer

## Financial support

Financial support offered to a Tuckwell Scholar is intended to help throughout the university journey, providing the freedom to focus on what is important.

Scholars receive:

- \$27,600 per annum (2026 rate) (increasing with inflation) each year for the length of the undergraduate degree program (studying full-time), to cover on-campus residential costs, books and general living expenses.
- An allowance to assist with moving to Canberra and to support two annual return journeys (e.g. airfares) between home and the University for each year of the degree.
- An allowance to help cover the transport costs for a Scholar's parents to attend Commencement Weekend at the start of the program, and
- An ANU Sport membership.

## Mentoring and support

Scholars are supported by a team of experienced staff who help them to find opportunities, build networks and achieve their personal and professional goals through mentoring, events and workshops.

Scholars will:

- Participate in orientation events that will help with the transition to university and Scholar life.
- Receive 1:1 mentoring from an experienced Tuckwell Fellow. Receive support and advice from the Head of Scholars House and Program Staff.
- Learn from senior Scholars who can help transition successfully to ANU.
- Connect with members of our global Alumni network and Alumni events.

## Leadership development and enrichment

Scholars have the opportunity to fulfil their potential and develop leadership skills that will help them to make a positive contribution to ANU, their local community and to Australia.

Scholars will be able to:

- Attend seminars and workshops to develop essential skills, knowledge and behaviours.
- Learn from and be mentored by senior Scholars.
- Attend an orientation and camp.
- Attend Academic Dinners and connect with ANU academics.
- Attend networking events and connect with Scholars in specific subject areas.
- Contribute to the annual Interview Weekend and other program events.

## Health and wellbeing

Scholars are funded and encouraged to pursue activities that promote and sustain health and wellness.

Scholars have the option of:

- A free ANU Fitness Centre membership (worth \$610 per annum) for the duration of the Scholarship, or
- Funding up to \$450 per annum for external health and wellbeing activities.

## Scholars House

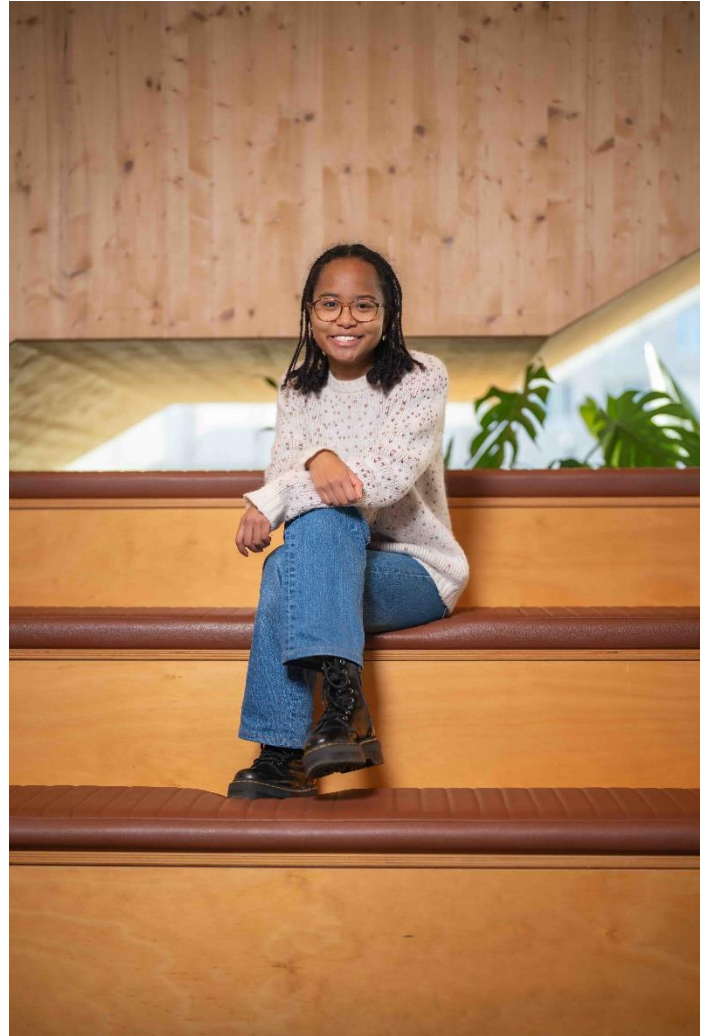
All Scholars are given exclusive access to Scholars House, a common room located centrally on campus. Referred to as Scholars' by current scholars, the building plays host to a range of Tuckwell gatherings and events.

# Scholarship Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a Tuckwell Scholarship for study at the Australia National University commencing in 2027, the applicants must:

- Be eligible to apply to study at ANU in 2027 via the ANU Direct Application system.
- Commence and complete year 12 full-time in 2026, at a school located in Australia.
- Be 17, 18 or 19 years old on the start date of Semester 1 2027 (born on or between 23 February 2007 and 22 February 2010).
- Be an Australian citizen, Australian Permanent Resident or the holder of an Australian humanitarian visa, and be in possession of the relevant Birth Certificate, Citizenship Certificate or Visa by 22 May 2026, being the closing date for Stage 2 applications this year.
- Be predicted by their school to achieve an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) of 95 or higher.
- Have undertaken:
  - A minimum of one high school English course/unit in at least one semester during Year 11 or Year 12; and
  - A minimum of one high school Maths course/unit in at least one semester during Year 11 or Year 12.

\*Scholars must adhere to the Tuckwell Scholarship Conditions of Award, as amended from time to time, for the full duration of their Scholarship.



## Candidacy Requirements

Scholars must commence an undergraduate program at ANU in Semester 1, 2027.

# Key Dates

11 March 2026

- ANU Direct Applications open
- Tuckwell Stage 1 Applications open

10 April 2026

- Applicants submit their ANU Direct Application

13 April 2026

- Tuckwell Stage 1 Applications close

29 April 2026 - 6 May 2026

- Tuckwell Stage 2 Applications open

13–22 May 2026

- Tuckwell Stage 3 Applications open

10–12 July 2026

- Tuckwell Stage 3 Interview Weekend

13 July 2026

- All Tuckwell Stage 3 candidates notified of outcome
- Scholarship recipients notified

Early September 2026 (Date TBC)

- ASA packages offered including:
  - ANU Tuckwell Scholarship Program formal offer
  - ANU course offer, and
  - ANU accommodation offer.

# How to apply

The Tuckwell Scholarship Application Form will need to be completed in addition to completing an ANU Direct Application.

## ANU Direct Application

Applicants must complete their [ANU Direct Application Form](#) before they can begin their Tuckwell Application. After completing the Direct Application, applicants who have selected to apply for the Tuckwell Scholarship will be sent a link to the Stage 1 Tuckwell Scholarship Application Form.

The link will be sent to the nominated email address from your ANU Direct Application within 3-5 business days. This link should not be shared with others as this link is unique and can only be used once to apply.

Be aware of the application deadlines, and allow enough time to complete the Tuckwell Application and obtain necessary documentation.

## Tuckwell Scholarship Application Process Overview

The Tuckwell Scholarship Program application process consists of three stages and an interview:

STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	INTERVIEW	SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED
<p><b>Applications open</b> 11 March 2026</p> <p>Stage 1 asks you for personal details and information on your academic and extra-curricular activities.</p> <p><b>*Contacting Referees</b> Strongly recommended that applicants contact potential referees well in advance of the application deadline(s).</p>	<p><b>Applications Open</b> 29 April 2026</p> <p><b>Applications Close</b> 6 May 2026</p> <p>Stage 2 seeks to give the Selection Panel insight into who you are in addition to your achievements.</p> <p>If you progress to Stage 2, we will seek further information from your Head of Year (or equivalent).</p> <p>In addition, applicants will be asked to have a 15–20-minute AI “chat” discussion (text/typing format).</p>	<p><b>Applications Open</b> 13 May 2026</p> <p><b>Applications Close</b> 22 May 2026</p> <p>Stage 3 asks longer questions that give the Selection Panel deeper insight into who you are in addition to your achievements. It also includes a reference from your Principal (or another senior person nominated by the Principal and may be the Head of Year again). Your Principal (or nominated representative) will be contacted by the program and will need to supply their reference by the due date in May.</p>	<p><b>In-person interview</b> 10-12 July 2026</p> <p>50 applicants invited to attend an interview at ANU. Details will be sent to shortlisted candidates in mid-June.</p> <p>The Selection Panel will get to know you, including how you best demonstrate the Tuckwell attributes. The final selection is based on individual fit but also a selection of a balanced and diverse cohort of students.</p>	<p><b>*Applicants notified</b> <b>13 July 2026</b></p> <p>25 Tuckwell Scholarship Program recipients are selected.</p> <p>All applicants will be notified of the outcome by phone call.</p> <p>*Formal ASA packages offered early September (Date TBC)</p>

# Tuckwell Scholarship Application

Applicants must complete their [ANU Direct Application Form](#) before they can begin their Tuckwell Scholarship Application. After completing the Direct Application Form, applicants who have selected to apply for the Tuckwell Scholarship will be sent a link to the Stage 1 Tuckwell Scholarship Application Form. The link will be sent to the nominated non-school email address from your ANU Direct Application within 3-5 business days.

## STAGE 1

Please allocate two hours to complete the Stage 1 Application Form.

The Application Form can be saved and re-visited (using the same link) before being submitted. For this stage applicants will need to:

- Have completed the ANU Direct Application Form, selected 'apply for Tuckwell Scholarship' and have received their personal application link,
- Contact a referee from their School (Head of Year, Head Teacher) and provide their details,
- Provide Academic transcripts with results from Year 10, Year 11 and 12 subjects completed.

### PERSONAL DETAILS

The Application Form will ask for some basic personal information, including information about personal home circumstances. These questions include parents/guardians, siblings, languages spoken at home and how long it takes to travel to and from school each day.

During this stage, applicants may also provide information whether they intend to apply or have applied for any Equity Access Scheme adjustments.

### EDUCATION HISTORY

Applicants will need to provide details to outline their academic results.

### SUBJECTS

Applicants will need to list the Year 11 and 12 subjects they have already completed into a chart, entering their overall score for the subject, not individual results. Results may be entered as grade scores (A+, B), percentages or grading scales (for IB students). If a subject was dropped part way through the year, for example, it must also be included in the table and entered as 'X'.

Academic results must be entered in one of the following formats. Please enter the overall score for each subject, not individual assessment results.

5	A	A+, A-	80 - 100%	EA	VHA	VH to O
4	B	B+, B-	70 - 79%	HA	HA	H
3	C	C+, C-	60 - 69%	CA	SA	M
2	D	D+, D-	50 - 59%	SA	LA	L
1	E	E+, E-	0 - 49%	PA	VLA	VL

*NB: A grading scale of 1 -7 is accepted for IB students only.*

Applicants must upload a PDF of their school reports during this stage.

If these have been provided as semester-based reports, they will need to be combined into one PDF to upload.

#### POSITION WITHIN YEAR LEVEL

Applicants must provide their rank within their year level in each subject. If this information is not already provided by their school, they will need to request it from their Head of Year or Teacher. If an applicant's school does not provide this information, applicants will need to estimate their rank themselves.

#### MATHS AND ENGLISH

For Years 11 and 12, applicants must list at what level Maths and English (standard, advanced, extension 1 or 2) they have studied.

#### ACCELERATED SUBJECTS

Some schools allow students to take subjects early as accelerated subjects. For instance, student may take a Year 12 subject in Year 11. Applicants must enter the number of accelerated subjects for each of Years 10, 11 and 12 and the subject names. If no subjects were accelerated, the answer to the number of accelerated subjects will be 0.

For students of the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE), please include pre-tertiary (level 3C courses taken in Year 11 as Year 11 courses rather than as "accelerated" Year 12 courses).

## STAGE 2

Stage 2 seeks to give the Selection Panel insight into who you are in addition to your achievements.

If you progress to Stage 2, we will seek further information from your Head of Year (or equivalent). Your Head of Year (or equivalent) will only need to supply this information if contacted by the program.

In addition, applicants will be asked to have a 15-20 minute AI "chat" discussion (text/typing format). There are no right or wrong answers for this element. Responses from both: Head of Year and "chat" will be used to determine the shortlisted candidates to progress to Stage 3.

## STAGE 3

Stage 3 asks longer questions that give the Selection Panel deeper insight into who you are in addition to your achievements. It also includes a reference from your Principal (or another senior person nominated by the Principal and may be the Head of Year again). Your Principal (or nominated representative) will be contacted by the program and will need to supply their reference by the due date in May. This information will be taken into account to determine the 50 candidates who will progress to an in-person interview.

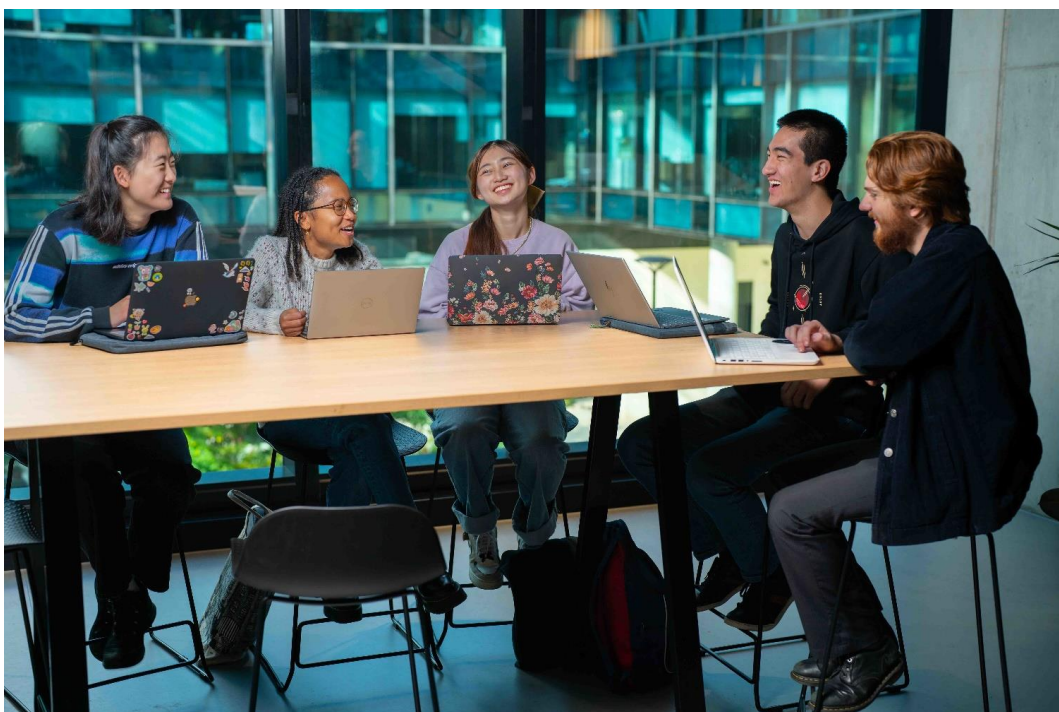
## In-person interview

50 applicants will be invited to attend an in-person interview at ANU. Precise details will be sent to shortlisted candidates in mid-June. In the interview, the Selection Panel will get to know you, including how you best demonstrate the Tuckwell attributes and your connection and commitment to Australia. The final selection of candidates is based on individual fit but also a selection of a balanced and diverse cohort of students. This information will be taken into account to determine the 25 Tuckwell Scholars for 2027.

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of Stage 3 on the afternoon/evening 13 July 2026.

In-person interviews are designed to:

- Allow the panel to meet candidates face to-face;
- Give applicants the opportunity to meet with other outstanding candidates;
- Give applicants an opportunity to see and experience the ANU, hear about the student experiences from current students (both Tuckwell Scholars and others) and get excited about life after Year 12.



# Attributes of a Tuckwell Scholar

As a Tuckwell Scholar, applicants will demonstrate a broad range of [attributes](#) that will stand them in good stead to fulfil the Tuckwell vision. We do not expect applicants to have each and every one of these attributes, however, they will be measured against them throughout the application process.

## SMART AND LATERAL THINKER

Innately smart, creative and able to look at situations from different perspectives.

## SELF-DISCIPLINED

They apply themselves to their work and can resist distractions. Having worked hard means they have probably chosen not to do things they'd like to do because of things they've had to do.

## WILLING TO CHALLENGE THEMSELVES

They're curious and like to stretch themselves by exploring beyond the limits of what they already know. They're not fazed by change or ambiguity, seeing these as opportunities to learn more.

## A GOOD SENSE OF HUMOUR

They appreciate humour and see the funny side of things. When they use humour, it is well-intentioned and they engage and motivate others. Most importantly, they can laugh at themselves.

## SELFLESS

Self-interest is not their principal motive. They are happy for others to achieve, will help them to do so and rejoice in their success – even if they are in competition.

## HUMBLE

They don't measure themselves by their achievements, but when they do succeed they recognise the contribution of others. They prefer not to seek attention or accolades.

## RESILIENT

They are able to handle knock-backs with equanimity and can maintain focus. They look for the positive even in challenging situations.

## INNATELY DRIVEN AND DETERMINED

They've a bit of fire in their belly! They have an energy that enthuses and motivates others. They have ambition – but don't trample on others to fulfil it.

## EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT

Aware of others and can anticipate the effects of their words and actions. They can articulate their passions without overwhelming people.

## CONSTANT

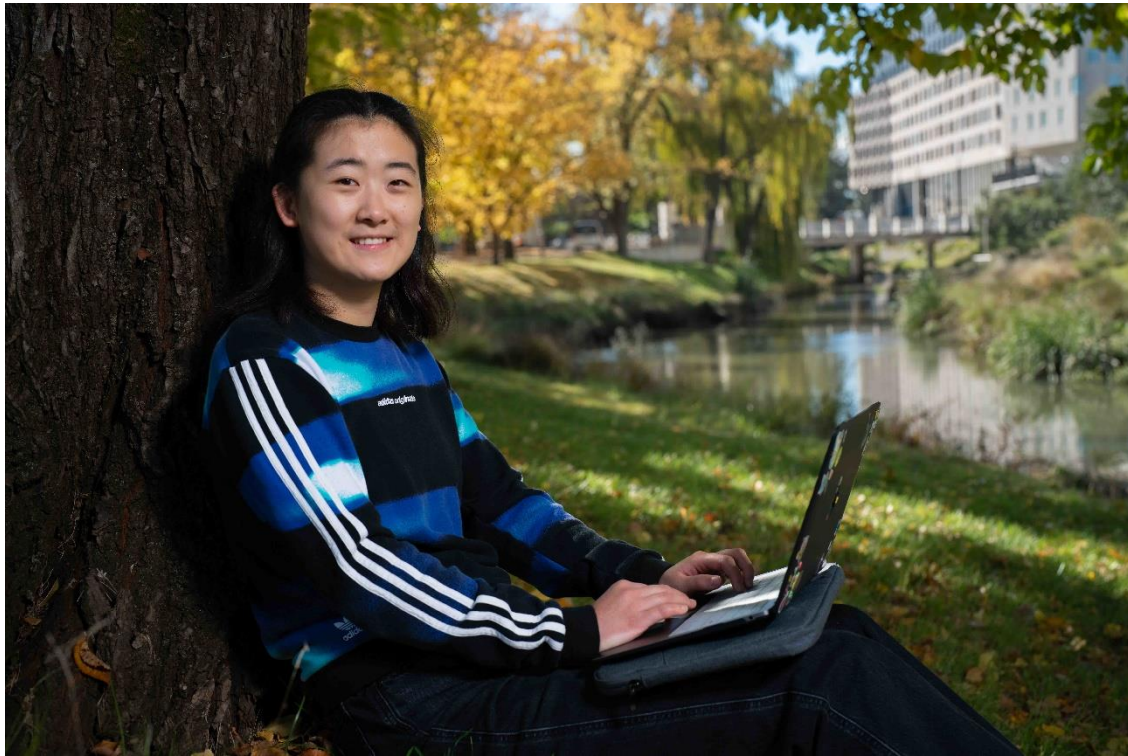
They're not fickle. Their reliability earns people's trust and they like their consistency because it reassures. Others know where they stand with them.

## REFRESHINGLY DIFFERENT

Whether they're the quiet and shy type, a bit of a geek, or the life and soul of the party, they will have talents that make them unique. A position of leadership doesn't make them a candidate for a Scholarship – but it won't bar them from it either.

## OPEN

There are no hidden agendas with them. They are straight and honest with people and trusted because of it. Their broad-mindedness enables them to value difference even when this does not sit well with their own views.



# Contact us

To find out more about our scholars, what they're studying and where they're from please visit our [Scholar directory](#) or listen to the Tuckwell Talks podcast.

For enquiries about life as a Tuckwell Scholar please contact: [tuckwell@anu.edu.au](mailto:tuckwell@anu.edu.au) or visit our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

For assistance with the Tuckwell application form, please contact: [tuckwell.applications@anu.edu.au](mailto:tuckwell.applications@anu.edu.au)

Please note that, due to privacy reasons, we will not discuss the content of an application with parents, teachers or principals without the written consent of the candidate.

We strongly encourage candidates to make all enquiries themselves.



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