

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **Snow Scholarships at University of Canberra open for applications**

Snow Scholarship applications are now open at the University of Canberra (UC), offering a life-changing opportunity for passionate and purpose-driven students from Canberra and regional or rural New South Wales, who are facing barriers to higher education.

The Scholarships are a result of a close partnership between Snow Foundation and University of Canberra. Applications for this first-ever intake will close on 12 October 2025 and successful applicants will commence their studies at UC in Semester One, 2026.

The Scholarships are a catalyst for change. Recipients of a Snow Scholarship will receive financial support of up to \$30,000 per year to support living costs, accommodation and travel along with dedicated wrap-around academic, personal and leadership support. Support intended to help students unlock their potential.

It's all about backing students who are curious, resilient, and driven to make a positive difference. Ideal candidates bring a passion for learning, a commitment to their community, and the ability to lead with integrity and respect. For students who are eager to learn and contribute, this is a perfect chance to step up and shine.

"This transformative program has been thoughtfully designed to open doors for future UC students who may not have considered attending university due to circumstances beyond their control. We want them to realise their dreams and realise the future they envision," said The Hon. Bill Shorten, Vice-Chancellor and President of UC.

Scholars will benefit from an inclusive cohort, reflecting a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, genders, identities, ages, and academics, allowing them to thrive in a stimulating environment and develop their dreams with empathy and the understanding of others.

"Students who are under-represented in universities across Australia are a priority at UC. The Snow Scholarship program is the spearhead of change, part of a really exciting range of scholarships, support and specialist programs that have been put in place to level the playing field," said Professor Maree Meredith, Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Leadership.

With deep roots in Canberra and the NSW South Coast, Snow Foundation has long supported people facing barriers. The Snow Scholarships build on this legacy – backing youth with potential and a passion to create positive change.

“Everyone deserves a fair shot at university. The Snow Scholarships are about backing young people with smart minds and big hearts who may be facing real barriers. We’re here to open doors, build confidence, and help shape meaningful, significant futures. Watch them grow into the leaders, thinkers and changemakers who will shape the future of their communities in meaningful ways,” said Georgina Byron AM, Chief Executive Officer of Snow Foundation.

The Scholarships have been specifically designed for applicants who:

- face financial hardship
- live with a disability or ongoing medical condition
- have caregiving responsibilities
- have experienced unforeseen challenges

Up to 16 Scholarships may be awarded each year, with at least four being awarded to First Nations students. All scholars are selected on their leadership potential, commitment to social purpose and academic achievements.

Learn more at one of the online support sessions, covering program information, how to apply, eligibility criteria and more.

- [Tuesday 3 June 2025, 5.30pm to 6.30pm](#)
- [Thursday 28 August 2025, 5.30pm to 6.30pm](#)
- [Wednesday 1 October 2025, 5.30pm to 6.30pm](#)

For more details about the Snow Scholarship program, visit the [University of Canberra website](#).

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### **About Snow Foundation**

Snow Foundation is a family philanthropic organisation deeply connected to Canberra and the NSW South Coast. Founded by brothers Terry and George Snow, the Foundation believes in giving to the communities in which they live and work.

From the beginning, Snow Foundation has supported people facing barriers – especially youth, women, LGBTIQ+ and First Nations people. The Snow Scholarship reflects this commitment,

empowering youth, backing their potential, and supporting individuals who want to make a difference in the world around them.

**About University of Canberra:**

UC is Canberra's university, dedicated to providing immersive student experiences and outcomes focused on meeting Australia's workforce needs. We offer world-class teaching in an inclusive, safe and welcoming campus environment. At UC, students can find their career inspiration, uncover their talents and make life-long connections.