

Applying for a Gardiner Foundation Tertiary Scholarship

Application forms can be downloaded from Gardiner Foundation's www.gardinerfoundation.com.au/ts and emailed to scholarships@gardinerfoundation.com.au

Applications **close at 5pm Monday, 20 November 2023**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applicants are required to submit along with their application form:

- A copy of their most recent academic results transcript (for those who have studied in the last 3 years)
- An up-to-date resume
- A letter of support from an independent referee

Eligibility requirements

Successful scholars must be:

- Pursuing a career through their chosen course that will benefit the Victorian dairy industry and/or Victorian dairy communities.
- Commencing their first year of full-time tertiary study on campus in 2024 (University or TAFE).
- Required to move away from home to take up their chosen course.
- An Australian citizen.
- Currently residing in a Victorian dairy region.

Assessment Criteria

- Potential to make a positive contribution to the dairy industry or its rural communities.
- Personal development and community involvement.
- Academic commitment and achievement.

Selection Process

Applications will be shortlisted accordingly **by mid-December**.

Shortlisted applicants will need to supply their ATAR (VCE) score upon receipt (expected on 11 December 2023) and notification of university offer (first round available on 12 January 2024). Upon receipt of ATAR scores and university offers, shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an interview **mid-late January 2024**.

Interviews will be conducted by an independent panel. Candidates are required to provide evidence at their interview that they have been offered a place in a suitable tertiary course (If an applicant is awaiting a second round offer, they must advise the panel at interview).

The interview panel will determine its preferred seven scholarship candidates and will recommend them to the Foundation. Interviewees will be advised of the outcome by the **first week of February 2024**.

Successful scholars will be required to sign a Letter of Agreement accepting the Terms and Conditions of the scholarship as detailed on page 2 below. At this time, they will also need to provide evidence of their enrolment.

Once the Foundation has received a scholar's signed Letter of Agreement and evidence of enrolment, the first payment will be made into the nominated bank account within 30 days.

Successful scholars will be invited to **attend a presentation lunch with their families in early February 2024** where they will be presented with their scholarship certificate and meet other scholars.

Terms and Conditions of Scholarship

Scholar reports

In order to receive their payments, the scholar must provide reports to Gardiner Foundation before each semester begins. These reports are due twice every year of study, on **1 February** and **1 August**.

In year 1 of the scholarship, prior to **15 February**, the scholar will provide a copy of their enrolment statement for first semester and a signed Letter of Agreement.

Prior to **1 August** in year 1 of the scholarship, and every subsequent year prior to **1 February** and **1 August**, the scholar will provide a progress report detailing their experiences during the previous semester on the template provided by Gardiner Foundation, a copy of their academic results transcript for the previous semester, and a copy of their re-enrolment statement for coming semester.

Continuity of studies

Gardiner Foundation agrees to fund the scholar for the first 3 years of full-time face to face study of their approved course, as stated in the Letter of Agreement.

The scholar agrees to advise Gardiner Foundation in advance of any proposed change to their course of studies. This might include extension of the study period, withdrawal, deferral, transferal to a different course or to part-time study. Gardiner Foundation will review the circumstances and may elect to terminate the Scholarship Agreement if deemed appropriate.

Should a scholar withdraw from their course for any reason prior to graduation, Gardiner Foundation will terminate the Scholarship Agreement.

In the event that a scholar fails a unit, they will be required to meet with the Program Manager to discuss the circumstances, and will have the opportunity to demonstrate renewed commitment to completing the course. After the meeting, Gardiner Foundation may elect to terminate the Scholarship Agreement if deemed appropriate.

Publicity and communications

Gardiner Foundation will use some of the information provided in successful scholars' application forms to promote its Tertiary Scholarships program. This information will be published in print media and online. Gardiner Foundation may also wish to take photographs of the successful scholars and use these for media and communications purposes.

Scholars will be invited to participate in Gardiner Foundation functions or events from time to time and may be required to speak or present at such an event.

Gardiner Foundation will keep scholars informed of any upcoming opportunities for professional or leadership development that it may be able to offer.