

Clarendon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarships

Background

The Clarendon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarships offer Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students the opportunity to join a school community that supports each student to grow and achieve by discovering their full potential in a culturally responsive learning environment.

The scholarships are for day students.

At Clarendon, we believe every child can learn. These four words underpin every decision within our learning community; they reflect our values and they shape our culture.

Each student's wellbeing is supported by focusing on progress in everything they do, from the curriculum to living a healthy lifestyle, to serving our community. We believe that students can make optimum progress in an environment in which they are encouraged and supported by those around them.

Ballarat Clarendon College acknowledges the rich, diverse and continuing cultures and histories of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. As a community, we are committed to the meaningful journey of Reconciliation and provision of high quality, culturally responsive education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and students.

Our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, aims to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples feel culturally safe on our campuses and are treated with dignity and respect. The RAP also aims to respectfully incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and knowledge, with the recognition of the truth of Australia's history, in the development of curriculum, engagement activities, and teaching and learning practices.

Our core values – learning, effort, responsibility, community and wellbeing – define the behaviours and attitudes by which we hold ourselves and each other to account. Clarendon is authentic in understanding the complex interplay of values, attitudes and responsibilities needed to build a just, fair society. We are passionate about optimising learning, growth and progress and supporting and improving the social, emotional and physical health of each person within our community.

Everything we do at Clarendon is in the service of student learning and progress. Clarendon believes that with support and encouragement, each student can experience success and reach their goals.

The Clarendon Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarships recognise our commitment to support scholarship recipients to maximise their competence, skills and capacity, so that, when the time comes, they can choose their heart's desire.

Financial constraints should not prevent deserving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from attending Clarendon. The scholarships will therefore enable recipients to be welcomed as a valued Clarendon community member and will celebrate the immense and historically significant contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to the fabric of Australian society, both before and after colonisation.

Scholarship structure

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship will cover:

- full tuition fee remission, including Year 9 Yuulong Program
- full initial uniform, including sporting uniforms*
- one new laptop provided by Clarendon IT department**
- textbooks, stationery, etc. ***
- Year 12 jumper and hoodie
- Fees associated with vocational studies, if relevant.

Note: Individual music lessons and hiring of instruments will not be covered by this scholarship

* Loss or damage to uniform beyond fair wear and tear must be covered by parents or guardians. Replacement uniform (due to normal wear and tear or growth) will need to be approved by the Indigenous Program Manager and is capped at \$1000 per scholarship recipient.

**Loss or damage to the laptop is the financial responsibility of the parents or guardians.

*** Booklist will be purchased annually based on student's subject selection. Any additional stationary requirements outside of the official booklist will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Eligibility

Ballarat Clarendon College's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarships are for new students entering at any level from Year 5 to Year 10.

Scholarship criteria

- The student is a person of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander and is accepted as such by the community in which they live. Proof of Aboriginality is required.
- The student has a current school attendance of 85% or more. Attendance information will be required from the student's school Principal.
- The student demonstrates a willingness to fully participate in the life of the school and be a role model for other students.
- The student is enthusiastic about attending school and is likely to successfully complete Year 12.
- The student is in financial need.
- The student's family demonstrate support and encouragement for the enrolment and the scholarship.

Online application requires the following:

- The student is required to handwrite a ~250-word personal statement. This statement should include why the student would like the scholarship and how it will benefit them. Depending on the age of the applicant, it could include an explanation of their favourite subjects and pastimes, a description of their family and important people in their life and or their interests and involvement in sport, music, art, etc. outside of school; an explanation of their life goals and aspirations; a description of their personal characteristics and potential leadership qualities; an outline of personal achievements and highlights.
- NAPLAN documentation for Years 3, 5 (and 7) is required.
- A copy of most recent full semester school report.
- A reference from the student's current school Principal, including details of attendance.
- A meeting with relevant school staff, including the Head of School.

Support for your application

If you would like a hard copy application, have questions about the process or would like to meet with a member of the team prior to applying, please call Fiona Cummins, Indigenous Program Manager, on 5330 8200 or email: Cummins@clarendon.vic.edu.au

Note: A tour of the school is highly recommended prior to application, contact Fiona Cummins to arrange a suitable time for your family.