



## 2021 - Charles Watson Top Excellence Scholarship

Status: **Open**

Applications open: 25/05/2020

Applications close: 18/12/2020

### About this scholarship

#### Description/Applicant information

The Charles Watson Top Excellence Scholarship has been developed by Curtin University to reward and assist academically talented student(s) who have selected an eligible degree and receive the top ATAR within the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Application forms are not required, students apply by selecting an eligible health sciences undergraduate degree through TISC as their first preference.

The scholarship recognises the contribution made by Charles Watson to Australian and international health policy, education and research over a 40-year career, particularly during his tenure as Executive Dean, Health Sciences (1997-2006). Amongst his many achievements is co-authorship of the stereotaxic atlas of the rat brain, one of the 50 most cited publications of all time. The purpose of the scholarship is to support leadership potential in a health sciences discipline.

The scholarship will be offered based on raw ATAR scores. The [StepUp bonus](#) is **not** considered when awarding this scholarship.

#### Student type

- Future Students

#### Faculty

- Faculty of Health Sciences

#### Course type

- Undergraduate

#### Specifically for

- Year twelve students

#### Citizenship

- Australian Citizen
- Australian Permanent Resident
- New Zealand Citizen
- Permanent Humanitarian Visa

#### Scholarship base

- Merit Based

#### Value

The Charles Watson Top Excellence Scholarship will provide the following support for the expected duration of the offered undergraduate degree (based on a full-time study load of 100 credits per study period):

A total value of up to:

- \$18,000 for a 3 year degree
- \$21,000 for a 3.5 year degree
- \$24,000 for a 4 year degree

Paid as a cash stipend of \$3,000 per study period. The amount can be used at the recipient's discretion to contribute towards educational related expenses.

Semester payments will be paid approximately mid-March and mid-August each year.

### Scholarship Details

#### Eligible courses



All undergraduate degrees within the Faculty of Health Sciences, excluding the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

## Eligibility criteria

Candidates must meet ALL of the following criteria to be considered for a Charles Watson Top Excellence Scholarship:

- Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, Australian permanent humanitarian or New Zealand citizen
- Selected Curtin University as a first preference through TISC to undertake an eligible Health Sciences undergraduate degree in 2021 by the scholarship closing date
- Receive a course offer in main round offers into the first preference course that was listed on TISC at the scholarship closing date
- Undertaking year 12 WACE in 2020
- Received the top raw ATAR\* within the Faculty of Health Sciences at Curtin University
- Will enrol full-time (at least 75 credits per study period) at Curtin University

\* Offers will be made based on raw ATAR scores. The [StepUp](#) bonus is **not** considered when awarding this scholarship.

*This scholarship is deferrable for up to one year*

## Enrolment requirements

Recipients must meet ALL of the following:

- Remain enrolled in an eligible Health Sciences undergraduate degree
- Maintain a full-time study load of at least 75 credit points each study period at Curtin University
- Maintain a course weighted average (CWA) of at least 70 each study period
- Pass all enrolled units each study period

Scholarship continuity is subject to meeting satisfactory academic progress as outlined above. Progress will be assessed at the end of each study period. Unless there are **exceptional circumstances**, a recipient with unsatisfactory progress or who breaches the scholarship conditions shall be ineligible to retain the scholarship. **Exceptional circumstances** must be forwarded to and shall be at the discretion of the Scholarships Office.

## Changes to Enrolment

If a recipient intends to do any of the following they must also apply in writing to the Scholarships Office ([scholarships@curtin.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@curtin.edu.au)) for approval **BEFORE** the change. The Scholarships Office will advise how the change will affect their scholarship.

- **Change from full-time enrolment**
- **Change of course**
- **Leave of absence:** Students must complete at least one semester of study before applying for a leave of absence from their scholarship. If approved, the maximum period of leave is 12 months. Please note that leave of absence is separate from deferral.

**Withdrawal or terminated from units or course:** A recipient who withdraws from their units or course of study, or has been terminated from studies will become ineligible for continuation of the scholarship, will not receive any further payments and will be required to repay to Curtin University the stipend awarded for that study period if applicable.

## How to apply

### Application process

**Application form not required** - please follow the steps below.

#### Eligibility and Assessment

##### Step 1: Select preferences through TISC

- Select eligible degree [through TISC](#) as first preference for main round offers
- Preference must be selected by scholarship closing date (listed at top of page)
- Eligible degrees listed in 'Eligible Courses'

##### Step 2: Course Offer

- Receive an offer of a place into first preference course listed on TISC in main round offers
- Successful candidates must accept their course offer which was made to them in main round offers before the course offer lapse date

##### Step 3: Outcome

- Scholarship(s) will be awarded to all eligible students
- Successful candidate(s) sent notification via email listed through TISC after main round offers

##### Step 4: Acceptance

- Successful candidate(s) (including those who wish to defer their studies) must return acceptance documents by 31 January



2021

- Deferral of this scholarship is permitted (details included in scholarship terms and conditions)

**Please note:**

- Scholarship will commence from first semester of study
- Scholarship is not transferable to another faculty or university

## Need more information?

### Enquiries

#### Scholarships Office

Email: [scholarships@curtin.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@curtin.edu.au)

Telephone: (08) 9266 2992

#### Frequently Asked questions:

<https://askcurtin.custhelp.com/app/answers/list/kw/scholarship>

### Further information

If students are successful in receiving an offer for more than one scholarship valued the same, they will have the opportunity to select their preferred scholarship.

For further information about holding more than one scholarship [contact the Scholarships Office](#).

#### Centrelink

For advice on your Centrelink payments and how your scholarship could affect your payment please see the [Department of Human Services](#) or contact a Centrelink Office. If you require a letter about your scholarship for Centrelink, please [contact the Scholarships Office](#).

#### Taxation

Generally scholarship money paid to full-time students is not treated as taxable income, however if your study load is less than 75 credits (part-time) your scholarship money is *not* tax exempt. Other than the full-time study requirement, the general rule is that scholarships are exempt from taxation unless:

- It is a condition of the scholarship that a recipient is required to undertake activities that are of use, help or benefit to the scholarship provider - then the student is rendering a service by agreeing to undertake those activities;
- An award is received by a student where the scholarship is not provided principally for educational purposes.
- During or upon completion of the degree for which the scholarship is awarded a recipient is required to become, or shall continue to be, an employee of the funding body; or

The Australian Tax Office has a [tool](#) to help you determine if your scholarship is taxable. For expert advice please contact the [Australian Taxation Office](#) or your accountant when completing your annual Tax Return. If a letter regarding your scholarship is required for taxation purposes, please [contact the Scholarships Office](#).