

# Categories of Educational Disadvantage

## Carer responsibilities

### Eligibility criteria

You care for another person who needs ongoing support because of a long-term medical condition, a mental illness, a disability, frailty or the need for palliative care.

As a carer, you:

- may or may not be a family member and may or may not live with the person you care for
- may be in receipt of a Centrelink Carer Allowance or Carer Payment.

Volunteers under the auspices of a voluntary organisation are not included.

### Supporting documentation required

One (only) of the following:

- your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN) if you are receiving a Carer Payment or Carer Allowance. You will be required to enter your CRN in your application.
- an independent statement to support your eligibility for carer responsibilities, completed and signed by a responsible person who knows your circumstances.

You will need to explain why you are not in receipt of a Carer Payment or Carer Allowance.

## Financial challenges

There are three categories of financial challenges. You are considered to be experiencing financial challenges if you satisfy one (only) of the following eligibility criteria.

### **Category 1: Receiving a Centrelink means-tested income support payment**

#### **Eligibility criteria**

You are currently receiving a Centrelink (or other Commonwealth) means-tested income support payment (such as a Disability Support Pension, Parenting Payment (Single) or Carer Payment).

#### **Supporting documentation required**

Your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN). The CRN must be in your name. You will be required to disclose your CRN in your application.

### **Category 2: Expecting to receive a Centrelink means-tested income support payment**

#### **Eligibility criteria**

You are expecting to receive a Centrelink (or other Commonwealth) means-tested income support payment in the current admissions period.

#### **Supporting documentation required**

In your application you will be asked to indicate when you expect to receive a Centrelink (or other Commonwealth) means-tested income support payment. No documentation is required to support eligibility for the expectation of receipt of a means-tested payment when you apply. However, prior to issue of a scholarship, you must provide evidence that you have received a support payment.

### **Category 3: Able to demonstrate exceptional financial hardship beyond your control or choosing**

#### **Eligibility criteria**

You are able to provide comprehensive information demonstrating exceptional financial hardship that is beyond your control or choosing. If you are eligible to claim a Centrelink means-tested allowance but choose not to, you are not eligible to claim exceptional financial hardship. If your family income is above the Centrelink eligibility threshold, you are generally not eligible to claim exceptional financial hardship.

#### **Supporting documentation required**

Evidence of eligibility for exceptional financial hardship demonstrating a level of real and enduring financial hardship.

# Long-term medical condition/disability or ongoing effects of abuse

### Eligibility criteria

Your ability to study is being affected, or is likely to be affected, by the long-term and ongoing effects of one of the following:

- a severe and long-term (or a severe and recurrent) medical/psychiatric condition or illness
- a learning, sensory, physical, psychological or other disability/disorder
- trauma or abuse.

### Supporting documentation required

All of the following:

- a medical impact statement completed by a registered health professional who is treating you for your condition
- an educational impact statement completed by a responsible person who can comment on the impact of your studies.

## Living in regional or remote area of Australia

### Eligibility criteria

Within the two years immediately prior to the start of your current or proposed period of study, you lived in a regional or remote area of Australia for at least 12 months.

### Supporting documentation required

Documents substantiating your residential (not postal) address in a regional or remote area of Australia for a period of at least 12 months in the two years immediately prior to the start of your current or proposed course of study. Documents must be in your name and may include: bank statements; Centrelink letters; electoral commission enrolment form; utilities bill; phone bill. Your permanent residence postcode/s will be used to assess whether you lived in a regional or remote area of Australia. The Australian Standard Geographic Classification Remoteness Areas (ASGC-RA) system map can be accessed at [doctorconnect.gov.au](http://doctorconnect.gov.au). (Navigate to the 'Health Workforce Locator' and enter your address.) You can use this tool as a guide for your postcode. All categories other than 'RA1 – Major Cities of Australia' are considered to be regional or remote.

## Sole parent responsibilities

### Eligibility criteria

You are single and have at least one dependent child under 18 who is wholly or primarily in your care and who is living in Australia.

### Supporting documentation required

One (only) of the following:

- your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN) if you are receiving a Parenting Payment (Single). You will be required to enter your CRN in your application. In line with the SCCC privacy policy, your CRN will not be shared with institutions. Therefore, institutions may also request that you provide it.
- an independent statement to support your eligibility for sole parent responsibilities, completed and signed by a responsible person who knows your circumstances. You will need to explain why you are not in receipt of a Parenting Payment (Single).

## **Applicant attribute: First Nations person**

### **Eligibility criteria**

You satisfy all of the following criteria:

- You are a First Nations person.
- You identify as a First Nations person.
- You are accepted as a First Nations person in the community in which you live or have lived. Institutions may use this criteria in conjunction with other demonstrated circumstances.

### **Supporting documentation required**

- A 'Declaration – Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander'. You will be able to print this declaration at the end of your equity scholarship application. You will need to complete and return the declaration to Sydney Centre for Creative Change.

## Applicant attribute: Refugee and humanitarian status

### Eligibility criteria

You are, or have previously been, the holder of one of the following Australian refugee and humanitarian visas:

- Global Special Humanitarian (subclass 202)
- Humanitarian Stay (subclass 449)
- Protection visa (subclass 866)
- Refugee visas (subclass 200, 201, 203 and 204)
- Resolution of Status visa (subclass 851)
- Safe Haven Enterprise visa (subclass 790)
- Temporary Humanitarian Concern visa (subclass 786)
- Temporary Protection visa (subclass 785)

### Supporting documentation required

One (only) of the following:

- a copy of your Australian entry visa showing refugee status
- a copy of your Red Cross or United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) registration if you arrived in Australia on a non-refugee visa
- a copy of your document for travelling to Australia
- a copy of your Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202).

Note: Providing an Immi Card or visa grant letter with no other documents is not enough for assessment.

Questions? Send an email to [info@sydneycentreforcreativechange.com.au](mailto:info@sydneycentreforcreativechange.com.au).