

Warburton & Yarra Junction Community Bank® Branches Scholarships 2016



Frequently Asked Questions

What type of scholarship is the Warburton & Yarra Junction Community Bank® Branches Scholarship?

The Scholarship supports accommodation costs and/or other expenses directly related to the study of successful applicants.

Is this Scholarship only available to students from rural or regional Australia?

Yes. Only students living in the postcodes of 3799 and 3797 are eligible.

Is it only open to Australian citizens and permanent residents?

Yes.

Does the Scholarship only cover certain levels of study?

Yes. You can only apply if you are intending to go to University for the first time, or attending TAFE for the first time at Diploma or Advanced Diploma levels.

What do you term as a degree course or a TAFE Diploma or Advanced Diploma?

An undergraduate course provided by an accredited university or college, usually of three or four year duration. A Diploma or Advanced Diploma provided by an accredited TAFE organisation.

So what type of course is not suitable?

The Scholarship is strictly for study at degree level at a University or at Diploma or Advanced level at a TAFE.

What tertiary providers are covered?

The university or college must be an accredited and registered tertiary provider. The TAFE must be accredited and registered as a TAFE provider.

What if I have started a course previously and have now changed to another, or studied briefly at another university or TAFE and have now changed provider?

This means that you do not fit one of the main requirements – that you are a first-time tertiary or TAFE student. Unfortunately the Scholarship is not suitable.

I am a mature age student. Is the Scholarship suitable?

Unfortunately not, as the Scholarship is intended for school leavers (including those that have taken a gap year).

I used to live in the Upper Yarra area but now live in another area. Can I still apply?

If you have been living away from the family home or have moved with your family to another area in a permanent capacity, then your circumstances do not match the Scholarship's criteria.

If you have simply moved to another area very recently in order to obtain summer work prior to commencing your studies in 2016, then you may be eligible. We would suggest you email us with your circumstances so we can advise you.

Part of my studies will include study at an overseas university. Am I still eligible?

One requirement of the Scholarship is that study is to take place within Australia. If you plan to study overseas as part of your course, then you do not meet this requirement and the Scholarship is not suitable.

I plan to commence my Masters at University in 2016. Am I eligible?

Unfortunately not, as the Scholarship is only for undergraduate students or First year TAFE students.

How many Scholarships are awarded?

The number and value of the Awards are at the discretion of the Selection Committee and may vary.

I have just completed Year 12 in 2015 but intend to defer for a year. Should I apply this year?

No. We would suggest you apply for the 2017 program, as the 2016 Scholarship does require study to commence in 2016.

If I am not successful in 2016, can I apply again in 2017?

No, as the Warburton & Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches Scholarship is only available to first year students.

If I am successful in my application but subsequently defer my course for a year, can I still receive the Scholarship when I commence university or TAFE study?

Unfortunately no, we cannot "hold over" funds. If you are awarded a Scholarship and subsequently defer, you must notify us immediately.

Is the Scholarship counted as income for taxation purposes?

Warburton & Yarra Junction Community Bank® branches do not offer taxation advice regarding the Scholarship so we suggest that you obtain your own professional advice.

How will I know if my home location falls under the Upper Yarra area?

Most students will know whether they are in the Upper Yarra, but if you would like us to check, please email us at suyinchan@warburtons.own.net.au if you require assistance and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as we can.

How do I apply?

Applications can only be submitted by downloading and completing our application form from www.upperyarra.net.au. Once you have completed the form, it must be emailed to suyinchan@warburtons.own.net.au by the deadline.

When can I apply?

From 15 December 2015 to 25 January 2016.

Is this a strict deadline?

Yes, it is.

What if I am having difficulty with the questions?

If you are experiencing difficulty, please email us at suyinchan@warburtons.own.net.au and we will try to assist you.

What happens if my application is not submitted by the closing date?

Only fully submitted applications can be considered. Incomplete applications are unable to be assessed.

How will I know if my application has been received?

All applicants will receive an email acknowledging receipt of their application.

Who will assess my application?

Applications are assessed personally by the Warburton & Yarra Junction Community Bank branches' Selection Committee.

When are applications assessed?

Applications will be assessed in January 2016. We know that everyone is keen to hear about how they went and the Committee is keen to evaluate these for everyone as soon as possible.

How are applications assessed?

Applications are assessed on both merit (academic performance) and need (financial disadvantage).

How will I know whether my application has been successful?

All students will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing.

Do I need to let you know of other Scholarships I have applied for, even if I am still waiting to hear if I have been successful or not?

Yes, we do ask for this information. Other Scholarships may not necessarily preclude you from the Scholarship, but if you are successful in receiving major assistance then we must take this into account when assessing your application.

What if I am nervous about providing information around my family's financial situation?

Please rest assured that all information is kept secure, is gathered by a small team and is reviewed only by those persons who sit on the special Committee.

Being a financial institution we are only too aware of the regulatory implications around Privacy, but as an organisation we are also aware of the sensitivity of the information you are providing us with and will treat it with the utmost care.

The more information you are able to give us will make your application stronger. As this is a large part of the criteria, we cannot stress enough how important it is to be honest and provide as much information as possible. Please remember that there are other students wishing to be considered for the Scholarship, so please describe your situation fully. Demonstration of financial need is required in order for you to be considered for the Scholarship.

What type of referee do you need?

Your referee could be a family member (parent or other relative), a good family

friend, a health professional or a teacher. We are looking for someone who knows your family's situation well.

How are the Scholarship funds paid?

Scholarship payments are paid directly to the student to be used for payment of accommodation costs and/or other expenses directly related to the study of successful applicants.

What happens if my first year of study does not go well?

Please let us know. We reserve the right to withdraw any Scholarship funding, but we will of course attempt to work with you and your university or TAFE ahead of this course of action.

What if I quit my studies before the end of the year?

Please let us know. As a recipient of the Scholarship we do require notification of any change in your circumstances, such as the cessation of your study. We reserve the right to withdraw funding but appreciate your honesty and prompt advice, so we will endeavour to discuss all options with you.