

2021 Rural Bank Scholarship Program

Frequently Asked Questions



How will I know if my home location falls under a rural and regional area?

Most students will know whether they are in a regional or rural location, however if you would like to check, please contact our Scholarship administrator (Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's Community Enterprise Foundation™) by emailing foundation.mailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au or by phoning 1300 304 541.

What expenses does the scholarship cover?

The scholarship supports accommodation costs and/or other expenses directly related to the study of successful applicants e.g. - course costs, study related materials/ equipment, text books, tutoring and educational travel within Australia.

If I receive a scholarship, do I have to show how I spent the scholarship funds?

Yes. At the end of each funded year, scholarship recipients will be required to provide the Community Enterprise Foundation™ with copies of receipts to show how they spent the scholarship funds.

What courses are covered?

Certificate, diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree in **Agriculture** or **Agribusiness**, in an Australian accredited and registered university, college or TAFE.

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

You are still eligible to apply for this Scholarship as long as your course is primarily undertaken at an Australian University. Please detail this information in your application.

Is the program only open to Australian citizens and permanent residents?

Yes.

I am a mature age student. Am I eligible to apply?

The Rural Bank Agribusiness Scholarship is designed for recent school leavers who have completed year 12 in 2019 and took a gap year, or 2020.



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Is this scholarship only available to students studying full time?

Yes. Your course must be classified as full time by your university, college or TAFE.

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 study?

Unfortunately no, we cannot “hold over” funds. If you are awarded a scholarship and subsequently defer, you must notify us straight away.

Is the Scholarship counted as income for taxation purposes?

Rural Bank does not offer taxation advice regarding the scholarship so we suggest that you obtain your own professional advice.

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 attempt to work with you and your university ahead of this course of action.

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

Please let us know. We do require notification of any changes in your circumstances, such as the cessation of your study. We reserve the right to withdraw funding so appreciate honesty and prompt advice, that way we can discuss all options with you.

What if I plan to work part-time?

We realise that the financial reality means that most students do have to work whilst studying, but you must be studying a course classified as full-time in order to be eligible to apply for the scholarship.



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Is the scholarship only for one year?

Initially, yes. However, depending on your academic performance, the Scholarship may be renewed to cover a second year. Proof of academic performance is required in order to be considered for on-going funding.

If I have further questions regarding the Rural Bank Scholarship Program or need assistance in completing the application, who should I contact?

Please contact Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's Community Enterprise Foundation™ by emailing foundation.mailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au or by phoning 1300 304 541.

