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## 2010 Undergraduate Rural Sustainability Scholarships Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

*Scholarships in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources* are designed to both encourage and assist talented school leavers from rural and regional areas to study Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Science, Environmental Systems or Resource Economics at the University of Sydney, and to focus attention on career opportunities which stem from these degrees. Students will need to have a passion for sustainability, for example the carbon-water-food debate or climate change. These scholarships affirm the Faculty's commitment to sustainability as the way ahead for Australia, while recognising the encumbrances in achieving it. Regardless of the field they focus on, students will leave the university with a better understanding of how to manage land for the challenges ahead.

### ***How much are they worth?***

Each Undergraduate Scholar will receive \$10,000 over three years (or two years for a residential bursary, see below), tax exempt for the Bachelor of Agricultural Economics (BAgrEc), Bachelor of Environmental Systems (BEnvSys), Bachelor of Resource Economics (BResEc) and Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BScAgr) degrees, subject to continued high academic achievement.

### ***Can I use the scholarship toward accommodation costs?***

The scholarship may be taken as cash or as a residential bursary at one of the following residential colleges which have reserved a small number of places attached to the Rural Sustainability Scholarship: International House, Mandelbaum House, Sancta Sophia College, St Andrews College, St John's College, St Paul's College, Wesley College and Women's College. You will need to fill in a college application form for your preferred choice of college.

Should you decide to take the scholarship as a residential bursary, the scholarship is paid at the rate of \$5,000 per annum for two years directly to the College to be directed to your account. Please note that costs vary from college to college and this residential bursary, while it can be directed toward your accommodation costs, is unlikely to cover the full annual cost. The balance of the fees will be the responsibility of the student. All accommodation enquiries should be directed to the College of your choice.

Further information about residential college applications, further sources of scholarships and financial assistance can be found [here](#).

### ***Who is eligible to receive a scholarship?***

You are eligible for a Rural Sustainability Scholarship if you:

- are a citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- come from a regional area i.e. non-Sydney metropolitan area
- are sitting for the NSW Higher School Certificate (or equivalent) at the end of 2009 or sat for the HSC in 2008 or 2007 and have not attended a tertiary institution since that time
- can demonstrate financial need. Preference will be given to those eligible for Youth Allowance
- commence your studies in March 2010 and
- enrol in a BAgrEc, BEnvSys, BResEc or BScAgr degree

Eligible applicants will be ranked against selection criteria, with available scholarships being awarded to those ranked highest.

### ***How do I apply?***

All applicants for a University of Sydney Scholarship are automatically considered for a Rural Sustainability Scholarship and do not need to submit a separate application form.

Applicants who are not eligible for a University of Sydney Scholarship (for example students who have been offered a place in a University of Sydney course but deferred their studies) should complete the application form at the end of this document.

*To apply you must:*

1. Complete the application form and attach your personal résumé and statement
2. Attach photocopies of Year 12 school reports, HSC results and other relevant information
3. Obtain a recommendation from *either* your Principal *or* Year Coordinator *or* Director of Studies
4. Supply the name and telephone number of a Head Teacher/Class teacher who is willing to act as a referee. This must not be the same person as in (3) above.
5. Return the form and attachments. The School should mail the form directly if information is confidential.
6. If you wish to take up a residential bursary, apply to your college of choice indicating you are applying for a Rural Sustainability Scholarship in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

### **First Round Applications close on 30 October 2009.**

Late applications will be accepted but may not be considered until the second round of applications in January 2010.

*What else must I do?*

Unless you have been offered and deferred a place at the University of Sydney you must also complete a UAC application form nominating either the BAgrEc (511000), BEnvSys (511006) BResEc (511004) or BScAgr (511001) as a preference and return it to UAC by **30 September 2009**.

We will assess your application for a scholarship. If you are selected for further consideration, you may be required to attend a personal interview to be held in late November or early December. Candidates who are to be interviewed will be notified by mid-November. Provisional offers will be made in mid-December based on the quality of your application and the interview.

*Unless you have been offered and deferred a place at the University of Sydney a provisional offer of a scholarship will be confirmed only if:*

- you have one of the BAgrEc (511000), BEnvSys (511006), BResEc (511004) or BScAgr (511001), degrees as YOUR FIRST PREFERENCE at UAC in mid-December (*before* your HSC results are released)
- you keep the BAgrEc, BEnvSys, BResEc or BScAgr degree as YOUR FIRST PREFERENCE at UAC after the HSC results are released (the Faculty checks your ATAR and preferences the day after the last day on which you can lodge changes of preference).

**Please note** that none of the above degrees has to be your first preference at the time of your scholarship application. Many applicants change their first preference to a degree offered within this Faculty after the interview, when they more fully appreciate the degrees. On the other hand, listing none of these five degrees as a high preference on your application could reduce your chance of receiving an interview.

*What are the personal requirements?*

Personal attributes sought in undergraduate students go beyond academic performance and include a **demonstrable, strong commitment to and passion for, one or more of agriculture, applied economics, science, sustainability, environment and/or climate change** and related fields. Other attributes, such as creativity, leadership, self-motivation and communication skills, will be regarded favourably. These will be assessed from your application and interview.

*What are the academic requirements?*

Once in these degree programs, undergraduate students follow the usual courses of study. There are no special assignments or additional academic work. Students are required to maintain a minimum credit level average 65% in the first year and 70% in later years.

**For further information please contact Robyn Turner, Faculty Manager by phone (61 2 9351 2940) or email [robyn.turner@usyd.edu.au](mailto:robyn.turner@usyd.edu.au)**



The University of Sydney

Faculty of Agriculture,  
Food and Natural  
Resources

**Application for Rural Sustainability Undergraduate Scholarship in 2010**  
*Application Closing Date: 30 October 2009*

Applicant's name in full: ..... (*underline your Family name*)

Home address:

.....

Postcode: ..... Email: ..... Mobile Number: .....

Home Phone Number: ..... Date of birth: .....

I declare that I am a Citizen / Permanent Resident of Australia (*circle*): ..... (*Applicant's Signature*)

Year of HSC: .....

**Please list below the subjects you took at the HSC:**

Subjects and Units	HSC Trial Result	Position in Form at Trial HSC	HSC Final Result
.....	.....	...../.....	.....
.....	.....	...../.....	.....
.....	.....	...../.....	.....
.....	.....	...../.....	.....
.....	.....	...../.....	.....
.....	.....	...../.....	.....

Name and Address of the school where you are taking or took your HSC, IB or equivalent:

.....  
.....  
.....

School Phone Number: .....

**Comment about the applicant from *either* the Principal, Year Coordinator *or* Director of Studies.**

After the Trials, overall position in Year: ..... out of .....

Overall school performance: .....

Level of motivation (1 = highly motivated to 5 = unmotivated) 1 2 3 4 5 (circle to indicate)

Outstanding achievements or special qualities:

Name: .....Position: .....

Signature: .....Date: .....

*The School should mail this application direct if the information is considered confidential*

**UAC Application**

UAC Application Number:.....

Indicate in this grid the preferences nominated on your UAC application.

Preference	Code	University	Course Name
First			
Second			
Third			
Fourth			
Fifth			
Sixth			

**Financial Need/Youth Allowance**

Are you eligible for Youth Allowance? Yes/No (*please circle*) If yes, proof of eligibility will be required before payment of the scholarship in Semester 1. Preference will be given to those eligible for Youth Allowance, however applicants who can demonstrate financial need are also encouraged to apply.

**Residential Bursary**

These scholarships can be applied as a residential bursary applicable at a university college. If you would like to take this scholarship as a residential bursary at one of the following colleges, please indicate your choice in order of preference below (1,2,3..):

- ... International House      ... Mandelbaum House    ... Sancta Sophia College      ... St Andrews College
- ... St John’s College      .... St Paul’s College      ... Wesley College      ... Women’s College

A small number of college places have been reserved for this scholarship. You will need to submit an application form to your choice of college and indicate on the form that you have applied for a Rural Sustainability Scholarship. Please note it is unlikely that the full cost of accommodation will be covered by this bursary as costs vary from college to college. The balance of the fees will be the responsibility of the student. Many of the Colleges have other scholarships for which you may be eligible and you are encouraged to apply.

## ATTACHMENTS

The Faculty is looking for more than high academic achievement – we seek students with a passion for the latest agricultural issues and the potential for outstanding professional development. To help in our selection process, please provide a personal résumé, a personal statement and a referee. Do not send originals or photocopies of certificates, e.g. for swimming, Maths/Science competitions.

### Personal Résumé:

Your résumé should include information such as special achievements - for example, academic achievements, prizes, high placings in Class/Form (indicate approximate class size), positions of leadership or particular achievements in recreational, cultural, sporting or community activities either within your school or in the wider community, other activities such as work experience study tours and extra-curricular activities.

### Personal Statement:

Your personal statement should include information such as the nature of the career path you are interested in pursuing and why; why you are passionate about climate change and sustainability; other information you consider might be of interest to the Faculty, for example, why you think you would make a good scientist or economist.

### Reports:

Please provide photocopies of Year 12 school reports, HSC results and other relevant information.

### Referee:

(Name)..... has agreed to act as a referee in respect of my application. He / she realises that the Faculty may make contact by telephone on .....

I hereby give permission for the Faculty to contact the Principal or Teachers in respect of my marks and achievements.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

Please list any dates in November and December 2009 on which **you CANNOT attend** an interview.

.....

### Send your application to:

Robyn Turner  
Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources  
McMillan Building (A05)  
University of Sydney NSW 2006  
Fax (02) 9351 2945  
Email: [robyn.turner@usysd.edu.au](mailto:robyn.turner@usysd.edu.au)

**For enquiries, please contact Robyn Turner by telephone: 02 9351 2940 or email [robyn.turner@usyd.edu.au](mailto:robyn.turner@usyd.edu.au)**