

Monash University Education Policy Realignment Project
Scholarships and Prizes Policy and Procedures

COURSEWORK SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES PROCEDURE

Section	Sub-section	MPA Comment
4. Application and selection	4.1 Students will either be automatically assessed or they must submit an application on the required application form.	Will these assessments also have published selection criteria? We understand they are automatically assessed, and a panel makes the final decision. In the interests of transparency, clear online criteria would be helpful, as is the case for the other scholarships. The question we are often asked is “I have all HD’s why didn’t I get an offer?”
4. Application and selection	4.4 In accepting a scholarship offer, recipients agree to the terms and conditions of the scholarship.	<p>Reading the T&Cs the following information is confusing:</p> <p>“If you applied for and were granted special consideration (or if other extenuating circumstances apply), and this was approved by your faculty and the Coursework Scholarships Manager, no action will be taken and you will receive your scholarship payment as per usual.”</p> <p>In our experience students do not notify the scholarship manager of their applications for special consideration because they don’t see why this would be relevant.</p> <p>Does CSU have access to special consideration applications and supporting documents? The concern is that students will not know what the CSU knows or what they are required to disclose.</p>

		The wording suggests special consideration applications are automatically sent through to the CSU. This needs to be clear from a privacy perspective, and a responsibilities of students' perspective.
6. Payments (Scholarships)	6.6 If a scholarship is terminated or paid incorrectly, Monash University reserves the right to recover the payment from the student.	The MPA is of the view that 1. Conditions requiring repayment need to be very clear and specific and 2. if a scholarship is terminated in good faith and due to circumstances beyond the student's control, the student ought not to be required to repay monies already received.
UNIVERSITY MEDALS AND COMMENDATIONS PROCEDURE		
1. Selection criteria and awarding	1.9 Each faculty is allocated one medal for every 1000 graduate EFTSL or part thereof per year.	Does this mean that smaller faculties with a small GPG cohort get less by way of offers? This is really a point of clarification but by way of example let's say a small faculty such as Pharmacy has in the vicinity of around 600 (coursework) postgraduate students, does that mean there will be no scholarship offers?
2. Medal eligibility and selection	2.2 Coursework students who have failed a unit in the awarding degree for the medal are not eligible.	Students who have had exceptional personal circumstances, as deemed in the compassionate award of Withdrawn Incomplete for a failed unit, and who exhibit outstanding results – will be ineligible due to circumstances outside their control some of which may be equity issues. Carer responsibilities, parents, financial, illness etc.

VACATION RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS PROCEDURE

4. Value

4.1 Schools/departments will fund the scholarships from their own budget. Scholarships should be valued between \$200 and \$600 per week.

Assuming this is assessed on a 36-hour week (full time) will this preclude low-income students from taking this up?

Considering section 3.3 states that projects WILL be on a full-time basis.

Also, supervisors have a discretion to advise that students may be required to undertake projects outside of the normal 9-5. This would be an impediment for students who need to support themselves making the scholarships more suitable for those students that do not need to work.

5. Payments

5.3 If a scholarship is terminated or paid incorrectly, Monash University reserves the right to seek repayment from the student.

Some certainty is needed around the circumstances in which monies need to be repaid. As per earlier point 6.6– termination of scholarships is the end result of a multitude of issues, ranging from the fault of the student to a breakdown in relationship to illness to the fault of the project staff / facility.

MPA recommends a right of appeal in the event monetary repayment is required.