The Housing NSW Youth Scholarship Program helps eligible young people living in social housing to complete their Higher School Certificate (HSC) or TAFE equivalent by providing a one-off payment of $2,000 to be spent on educational related items. The Housing NSW Youth Scholarship Program is delivered in partnership with the NSW Department of Education and Communities, local NSW high schools and TAFE colleges.

An application form and guidelines are available from the Housing NSW website. Applications close at 5.00 pm on 27 July 2012. Late applications will not be accepted.

Who can apply for a scholarship?

A student is eligible to apply if he/she:

- is living in social housing in NSW (public housing, Aboriginal housing or community housing) or on the NSW Housing Register
- will be studying in Year 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE college for the HSC or TAFE equivalent in 2013
- will be aged under 25 years on 1 December 2013
- is endorsed by a NSW high school or TAFE college as being likely to have a good attendance record
- is an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- is not earning an income higher than the NSW social housing eligibility limits (if earning an income).

Students who have previously been awarded a Housing NSW Youth Scholarship are ineligible to apply.

How much is the scholarship?

Each scholarship is a one-off payment of $2,000 (incl. GST) made at the beginning of the academic year.

How will the funds be provided?

The student’s school or TAFE college will administer the funds and will provide Housing NSW with a Statement of Expenditure signed by the principal or TAFE college director and student at the end of the academic year.

What can the scholarship be used for?

The scholarship can be used to purchase items or services which help the student complete the HSC or TAFE equivalent.

Items or services which can be purchased with the scholarship include:

- private tuition or coaching
- text books, workbooks, study guides and stationery
- specialist equipment (eg. art, music or photographic materials)
- course costs (including materials), excursions, study camps, sport
- home computer or laptop (only if the student has not previously received one from the school/TAFE college)
- computer software and printer
- other support to remain in education, such as child care costs, transport and internet access.

What the scholarship cannot be used for

The scholarship cannot be used for items that can be provided through other financial assistance programs available from school or educational systems.

Items that cannot be paid for with the scholarship include:

- voluntary school fees
- non-educational activities (eg. school formal tickets or clothing)
- overseas travel
- driving lessons
- car or motorcycle costs.

How does a student apply for a scholarship?

Guidelines and the application form are available on the Housing NSW website at www.housing.nsw.gov.au

All compulsory sections of the application form must be completed or the application will not be considered.

The application form should be completed, signed and sent to Housing NSW by 5.00 pm on 27 July 2012.

The student (or their parent/guardian if the student is aged under 16 years) must complete the declaration and sign the application form listed in Section D.

All applications must include an individualised response by the school/TAFE college supporting the application according to the three questions listed in Section E.
Will applicants be contacted about the progress of their application?

All applicants will be notified by mail that their application was received and whether or not they were successful.

Assessment panels will be convened and successful applicants will be notified by mail before the end of the year.

It is illegal for an officer of Housing NSW to ask for money or favours or other benefits of any kind in exchange for helping you with your housing needs.

It is also illegal for you or anyone else to offer money or favours or other benefits of any kind to an officer of Housing NSW in exchange for helping you. If you have any information regarding this, please contact Business Assurance on 1300 HOUSING (1300 468 746). Housing NSW may refuse the provision of further housing services to anyone who has engaged or sought to engage in corrupt or illegal conduct.

More information

Youth Scholarship Program
Client Service Operations
Housing NSW
Reply Paid 76966
Ashfield, NSW 2131
General Enquiries:
1300 HOUSING (1300 468 746)
www.housing.nsw.gov.au