

## 2017 IWC Masters Scholarships (International)

### Terms & Conditions

#### 1. Definitions

- 'IWC' refers to the International WaterCentre Pty Ltd
- 'UQ' refers to The University of Queensland
- 'Recipient/s' refers to the recipient/s of an IWC Masters Scholarship
- 'MIWM program' refers to the IWC Master of Integrated Water Management program (CRICOS 059263A) delivered at The University of Queensland
- 'International students' are students who do not hold an Australian or New Zealand citizenship or Australian permanent resident visa
- All figures are quoted in Australian dollars (AUD)

#### 2. Availability

IWC is offering the following scholarships for international candidates to study the MIWM program commencing in Semester 1, 2017:

Up to **three international scholarships** including:

- **Type A - Up to two full tuition fee and full living costs scholarships** for future water leaders from priority countries in the Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East (note - one scholarship will be reserved and awarded to a female candidate).
- **Type B - One full tuition fee scholarship** for a future water leader from selected countries in North America, Europe and parts of Asia.

Please note: the final number and value of scholarships awarded will remain at the discretion of IWC and will depend on the quality of applications received.

#### 3. Value

##### a. 'Type A' Scholarships

**Full tuition and full living costs scholarships for future water leaders in priority countries in Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East - (ie. see list of eligible countries:**

[http://watercentre.org/education/programs/attachments/2016-scholarships-countries-list-a/at\\_download/file](http://watercentre.org/education/programs/attachments/2016-scholarships-countries-list-a/at_download/file))

There will be up to two full scholarships available. Each scholarship will cover the following costs (up to the total value of **\$92,645**):

- Full tuition fees for full-time study of the IWC Master of Integrated Water Management program commencing in Semester 1, 2017 (up to \$52,500 for 18 months of study). Tuition fees will be paid by IWC directly to UQ.
- Living expenses stipend (valued at \$36,000 for 16 months, payable in equal monthly instalments – see additional conditions<sup>1</sup> below)
- Return air travel to Australia (pre-approved, economy class airfares up to the value of \$2,500 – see additional conditions<sup>2</sup> below)
- UQ Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) – valued at \$145. The SSAF will be paid by IWC directly to UQ.

- Cost of student visa for a single student (up to AU\$ 550). Student visa costs will be refunded to the Recipient's Australian bank account upon provision of receipt.
- Cost of the Overseas Student Health Cover for single student (valued at \$950 for 18 months). The OSHC will be paid by IWC directly to UQ.

### **Important - Specific Conditions for 'Type A' scholarships:**

#### **<sup>1</sup> Living expenses stipend**

The living expenses stipend is valued at up to \$36,000 for 16 months, payable in equal monthly instalments directly to the Recipient's Australian bank account. Monthly payments (\$2,250 each month) will start in February 2017 and end in May 2018. The stipend is based on estimated costs of living published on UQ website: <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/node/253>.

The stipend is intended to cover the costs of living for a single student living off-campus (without any dependents) whilst residing in Australia. It does not cover costs associated with bringing family members to Australia. It does not cover costs associated with overseas field work for the Recipient's final project. If Recipients want to undertake their final project overseas, their living expenses stipend may be suspended. Recipients need to seek IWC's written approval by sending a request to [admin@watercentre.org](mailto:admin@watercentre.org) before undertaking overseas field work.

#### **<sup>2</sup> Airfares refund**

This offer is valid for return economy class airfares to and from Brisbane via the most direct route and up to the maximum value of \$2,500 including all taxes. If Recipients can only book a one way ticket to Brisbane, any outstanding balance can be used for a return ticket if this ticket is purchased at a later date (for example, if \$1,200 are used towards a one-way ticket to Brisbane, the Recipient will be able to book, the following year, another one-way ticket back to their home country for up to the value of \$1,300).

Before booking their flights, scholarship recipients must send a copy of their itinerary and estimated costs to IWC Education Officer at [admin@watercentre.org](mailto:admin@watercentre.org) to seek approval. If approved, IWC will send an email notification to the Recipient who will then be able to proceed with their booking and pay for their flights. Original tickets and boarding passes will have to be provided to IWC upon arrival in Australia. Refunds will be processed after 31 March 2017 (ie. UQ census date for Semester 1).

The refund will be transferred to the Recipient's nominated Australian bank account, in Australian dollars equivalent, based on the foreign exchange rate on the day of the transfer. It is the responsibility of Recipients to obtain written pre-approval from IWC before booking their flights. IWC reserves the right to reject refund requests for flights that do not meet the above conditions.

### **b. 'Type B' Scholarship**

#### **Full tuition scholarship for a future water leader from North America, Europe and parts of Asia**

(refer to list of eligible countries: [http://watercentre.org/education/programs/attachments/2016-scholarships-countries-list-b/at\\_download/file](http://watercentre.org/education/programs/attachments/2016-scholarships-countries-list-b/at_download/file))

There will be one full tuition scholarship. Its value will be up to **\$52,500** and cover the following:

- Full tuition fees for full-time study of the IWC Master of Integrated Water Management program commencing in 2017 (valued at \$52,500 for 18 months of study). Tuition fees will be paid by IWC directly to UQ.

These scholarships do not include travel, accommodation or living expenses and the Recipients will be responsible for paying all remaining study and living expenses: <https://future-students.uq.edu.au/node/253>.

#### 4. Program of study

IWC Masters Scholarships are available for high calibre candidates to study the Master of Integrated Water Management (MIWM) full-time program delivered by IWC at The University of Queensland (CRICOS 059263A).

These scholarships are not available for the IWC Graduate Diploma/Certificate or any other program. Scholarships are only available to new (commencing) students and not for current students already studying the MIWM program.

#### 5. Duration of funding

The MIWM program must be completed within a maximum of three consecutive semesters of full-time study (18 months). Recipients are required to complete the program within the duration specified in the Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE). The next intake will commence in Semester 1 (February) 2017 and finish in Semester 2 (July) 2018.

All scholarships are awarded on the basis that Recipients maintain an enrolled status in their course of study. Requests for extensions to the period of study or temporary suspension of the scholarship may be granted under exceptional circumstances and must be made in writing to IWC for review on a case-by-case basis.

#### 6. Minimum eligibility requirements

All scholarship candidates must meet the following requirements:

- A completed undergraduate degree in a related field of study from an internationally-recognised institution
- At least two years of professional experience (paid work or volunteering experience relevant to the program and following the completion of an undergraduate degree). Although not essential for entry in the MIWM program, candidates with more than two years of relevant professional experience have a higher chance of securing a scholarship – see Selection Criteria and Application Process below.
- International candidates must also demonstrate English language proficiency ([see UQ's requirements including minimum scores for English Language Proficiency tests](#)). A proof of English language proficiency needs to be uploaded during the online application process. If a candidate fails to upload a valid proof of English Language Proficiency they will not be considered for the scholarship and will automatically be rejected.

#### 7. Selection criteria

The Scholarship Selection Panel will assess all applications received that meet the minimum eligibility requirements (above). The Panel will then use the following **selection criteria** to rank competitive applications and to decide on the successful recipients:

- 1) **Leadership qualities** including collaboration and team work, flexibility, initiative, communication skills, integrity and vision through professional, educational, community and other achievements.
- 2) **Professional and volunteering record:** relevant employment and volunteering experience, achievements, membership of professional bodies and professional references.
- 3) **Academic record:** an excellent academic record and a likelihood of success in further study at Masters level.
- 4) **Commitment** to promoting and driving the implementation of collaborative, whole-of-water-cycle, integrated and interdisciplinary approaches to water management.
- 5) **Potential outcomes:** the likelihood of positive impacts on the individual and the water sector from participating in the MIWM program.

## 8. Application and selection process

### **2017 Application Dates (International round):**

**International candidates:** online applications are open from **1 May 2016**, 5:00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) until **1 August 2016**, 5:00pm AEST.

The application process for international candidates is as follows:

### **STEP 1. Online application (by 1 August)**

Scholarship candidates who meet the minimum eligibility requirements (see above) must **submit an online application form by 1 August 2016**. A link to an online application form will be available on the IWC website during the scholarship applications period: <http://www.watercentre.org/scholarships-international>

When filling the online application form, the following documents will need to be uploaded:

- Current Resume/CV
- Two reference letters
- Proof of English Language Proficiency (ELP) - eg. IELTS, TOEFL or PTE test or any other alternative evidence of ELP as per [UQ's Policy](#).

At this stage, candidates who fail to meet the minimum eligibility requirements including uploading a current proof of English Language Proficiency to their online application form will not be considered for the scholarship and will automatically receive an email to advise they have been unsuccessful.

Candidates do not need to submit an application for admission into the MIWM program at The University of Queensland (UQ) before 1 August. They will be invited to do so only if their application is shortlisted (refer to Step 2. below).

### **STEP 2. Shortlisting of applications and invitation to apply at The University of Queensland (UQ)**

The Scholarship Selection Panel will conduct a preliminary assessment of each application received. Each application must meet the minimum eligibility requirements and will be assessed according to the selection criteria aforementioned (see 'Selection Criteria' on page 3).

In early August, applications will be divided into two groups:

- 'Group 1' - shortlisted applications which will be invited to proceed to the next stage; and
- 'Group 2' - non-eligible and/or non-competitive applications (unsuccessful)

At this stage, the Scholarship Selection Panel will consider the **Personal Statement** provided by candidates in their online application form and the letters of reference they have attached. The Personal Statement is a very important part of a Scholarship application, and the IWC strongly advises applicants to invest significant effort to craft a focussed, thoughtful, reflective Statement.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email on **23 August 2016**.

Applicants who fall under the 'Group 2' will be contacted shortly after their application is submitted (and by 23 August at the latest) to advise they have been unsuccessful.

At this stage, only shortlisted applicants ('Group 1') will be invited to submit an application for admission into the MIWM program at UQ. They will be given until 23 September 2016 to do so. Following this date their application will be assessed by UQ. Therefore it is essential that all candidates submit a complete application by the 23 September 2016 (including all transcripts, current proof of English Language Proficiency and other documents required by UQ

International Admissions). Otherwise, past this date, they may not receive an unconditional offer of admission from UQ on time to be considered for the IWC Masters Scholarships.

**Note on UQ non-refundable application fee:**

UQ will charge a \$100 application fee for all online applications or \$150 for all paper-based applications for admission in the MIWM. The application fee will be waived for all 'Group 1' candidates who are shortlisted after the scholarship round closes and invited to apply for admission.

**STEP 3. Selection of successful scholarship recipients**

In early October, the Scholarships Selection Panel will liaise with UQ to ensure that all shortlisted applicants ('Group A') have received an **unconditional offer of admission** into the MIWM. An unconditional offer is granted when the applicant meets all entry requirements and has submitted *all* relevant documentation to UQ. At this stage, only candidates who have received an unconditional offer of admission into the MIWM program at UQ will be considered for the scholarships.

The Scholarship Selection Panel will then select successful recipients using the **selection criteria** aforementioned. The Panel may conduct reference checks by contacting the referees nominated in the scholarships application form. Selected candidates may be also contacted for a phone interview.

The Selection Panel adheres to IWC's policy of non-discrimination for this process. Decisions of the Scholarships Selection Panel are final and confidential.

**Final decision**

Successful recipients will be notified (via email) on **1 November 2016**. The value and conditions of their scholarship will be outlined in their scholarship offer letter from IWC.

## 9. Scholarship restrictions

Scholarships are available in the year of offer only and are only available for commencing students who choose to study the MIWM program starting in Semester 1, 2017.

Scholarship Recipients must maintain a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.5 or above throughout the MIWM program to continue to receive scholarship funding. If a Recipient's cumulative GPA falls below 5.5 at any time during the program, IWC reserves the right to forfeit the scholarship.

Important - the successful Recipients of a 'Type A Scholarship' (ie. Full tuition and full living costs scholarship) may be asked to comply with additional conditions. If this is the case, these conditions will be outlined in their letter of offer. These may relate to restrictions regarding topics/themes for Problem-Based Learning projects and/or final project, attendance to specific conferences or any other restrictions that may be imposed by external scholarship sponsors.

## 10. Activities during scholarship period

Scholarship Recipients may be expected to participate in extra-curricular activities beyond the MIWM Program regular coursework requirements, which may include but are not limited to:

- Collaborating with IWC's marketing department to provide photos, videos, interviews and/or written testimonials for promotional purposes.
- Providing up to three hours per week or intermittently for research activities, as required by the IWC Education Director
- Present research at selected conferences during the program, as designated by IWC

Failure to participate in the aforementioned activities - when required by IWC- may result in the forfeiture of the scholarship.

## **11. Fieldwork and final project**

Scholarship Recipients may choose to conduct fieldwork in Australia or overseas as part of the 'Final Project' and/or the 'Community, livelihoods, development and water' module. All costs related to travel and field works during the MIWM program are the responsibility of the Recipients. Recipients are solely responsible for obtaining relevant visas for overseas field work and for ensuring all activities are in compliance with all visa requirements.

## **12. Withdrawal or termination**

A scholarship will terminate if:

- the Recipient withdraws from the Program; or
- the Recipient does not conform to the present terms and conditions of the Scholarship; or
- the Recipient does not conform to The University of Queensland rules and policies; or
- the Recipient does not complete each semester with satisfactory progress (please refer to minimum GPA condition in the 'Scholarships restrictions' section above).
- the Recipient does not resume the Program at the conclusion of a period of approved leave of absence or does not make arrangements for the approval of an extension to the period of leave of absence.

The scholarships are tenable at The University of Queensland (UQ) and subject to satisfactory progress according to UQ's policies.